

**Minutes of the Downtown Development Authority
City of Portland**

Held on Tuesday, June 3, 2025
In the Council Chambers at City Hall

Members Present: Williamson, Mayor Barnes, City Manager Dymczyk, Schneider, Vogl, Briggs

Members Absent: Ward, Sandborn

Staff: Director ConnerWellman, City Clerk Miller

Guests: Merry Hass, Owner of The Port; Bill Fabiano; Mike Taylor, Owner of River House Grill

Chair Williamson called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

Motion by Barnes, supported by Briggs, to approve the agenda as presented.
All in favor. Adopted.

Under Public Comment, Bill Fabiano, former owner of Fabiano's River House Grill, commented that as part of the donation agreement for the property at 103 E. Grand River Ave., the dumpster enclosure for the restaurant would be in the new park. He stated the City has been in contact with the new owner about relocating the dumpster enclosure to either the City parking lot between Don Jose Mexican Restaurant and ADM Alliance Nutrition or the parking lot of the restaurant. He stated his feelings that the dumpster enclosure should stay as agreed in the new park.

City Manager Dymczyk addressed Mr. Fabiano's concerns.

There was a dialogue between City Manager Dymczyk and Mr. Fabiano.

Mike Taylor, the new owner of River House Grill, introduced himself and noted he would like the dumpster enclosure to be located in the park.

Motion by Vogl, supported by Barnes, to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2025, regular meeting.

All in favor. Adopted.

Motion by Schneider, supported by Vogl, to approve the Treasurer's Report.

All in favor. Adopted.

Under Team Reports, Director ConnerWellman noted she is working to see if an alternate location can be secured in the case of inclement weather for the Sounds of Summer concert series.

Chair Williamson noted everything is on track for the fireworks scheduled to take place on Friday, June 27, 2025.

Director ConnerWellman stated plans are progressing for the Brews & Pours event scheduled for Saturday, August 9, 2025.

Director ConnerWellman stated that furnishings for the Looking Glass Plaza at 103 E. Grand River Ave. have been delivered. They are on the 2nd floor of City Hall being put together.

City Manager Dymczyk noted the plaza work at 103 E. Grand River Ave. is scheduled to begin early July. The goal is to have Grand River Ave. and Water St. open to traffic by Friday, June 27, 2025 for the fireworks.

Member Vogl noted there is nothing new regarding the sidewalk guidelines.

Under Old Business, Director ConnerWellman presented information on the visits to businesses and distribution of the DDA onboarding materials.

Chair Williamson noted the sub-committee recommendations included in the packet. He asked the board members to review the materials and be ready to discuss at the next DDA meeting.

Under New Business, Director ConnerWellman noted Member Wards' term on the DDA expires at the end of June.

Director ConnerWellman reported on what she learned at the Rural Development Conference held in Lapeer, MI.

Director ConnerWellman presented a request to reschedule the June DDA meeting from Monday, June 23, 2025, to Monday, June 30, 2025.

Motion by Barnes, supported by Williamson, to reschedule the June DDA meeting from Monday, June 23, 2025, to Monday, June 30, 2025.

All in favor. Adopted.

Director ConnerWellman provided the Director's Report.

There was discussion.

Under Board Member Comments, Chair Williamson noted his office will hold a food drive for the Local Food Bank.

Member Schneider noted the VFW will host a Soup & Salad Fundraiser on Friday, June 6, 2025, for the Lightner Family who recently lost their home to a devastating fire.

Motion by Vogl, supported by Schneider, to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 P.M.

All in favor. Adopted

Respectfully submitted,

Margery Briggs, Secretary