

**CITY OF IRON RIVER  
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
BUDGET WORK SESSION MINUTES  
April 27, 2022  
8 A.M.**

Chairman Terry Tarsi called the meeting to order at 8 a.m. in the Council Chambers.

Roll Call: Rick Kinsey, Jeanine Garcia, Kelly Dvorak, Mark Saigh, Dennis Powell, Ed Lindwall, and Tarsi.

Absent: Patricia Buck.

Also Present: City Manager Rachel Andreski, City Treasurer Amanda Tukesbrey and City Clerk Bernadette Coates.

Public in Attendance – None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**BUDGET**

The purpose of this work session was for new Members to get acquainted with the DDA Budget and to ask any questions they may have moving forward. Tarsi said he wanted Members to understand the budget and not just vote on an item that is presented without knowing how that item would affect the budget. Being over budget as of now, funds would need to be appropriated from the Fund Balance.

Tarsi handed the meeting over to Tukesbrey. She said she was going to start with the basics so that all could understand what the DDA Budget consists of. She plead for all to ask questions to obtain an understanding.

Tukesbrey began by saying the City has a balanced budget, meaning, all funds coming in as revenue, is expensed out, to the penny. She said overages can happen, but then those funds need to be appropriated accordingly.

She explained the income comes from the taxes of the businesses within the DDA District. She said her spreadsheet, has the description of all items that create that amount. The DDA only receives income from City Captured Tax, County Captured Tax, City Millage, Investment Interest and Reimbursements.

Tukesbrey then went on to explain the expenditures. She said they are made up of Administration, Winter Maintenance, Maintenance, Property Tax Services, Debt Services and DDA/TIF Fund.

An item of concern for Members was the DPW Winter Maintenance, which has been the topic of discussion for many months. Although Members had voted for snow removal, and it was a light year for snowfall, they felt the amount paid to the City for that service was high.

Kinsey questioned the amount in the Fund Balance and why more couldn't be spent each year to spruce up the downtown area. Tukesbrey then referred to the FY22-23 to show the difference a year could make in DDA income. That difference is approximately \$15,000 less.

Tukesbrey said the budget is a forethought and should be planned out ahead of time. To keep from going over budget, some items that have been brought up, should be prioritized, and postponed to the next year to keep from going over budget.

Tarsi asked if there was a five-year plan and said that list is how the DDA prioritized budget items previously. Tukesbrey added there are projects that are not completed yet, such as the engineering for the Tailings Disc Golf Course parking lot that should also be thought of when planning the budget. She said potentially, there could very well be more charges for that.

Tarsi said it is hard to continue when requests are added to an agenda at a meeting. He said for Members to become familiar with the information and budget contained in each meeting packet. He said to reach out to City staff if they had questions or concerns. He said when motions are made, he hopes they are made with the understanding of understanding and not just to agree to a vote.

Saigh said in his opinion, this year's budget shortfall is blamed on the snow removal costs and each year moving forward, could potentially be the same. Tarsi asked what would happen if the DDA did not agree to pay for the snow removal. Kinsey agreed and said snowfall was light but said the downtown area was a lot easier for elderly to maneuver with the snow being removed when it was.

Lindwall suggested weathering the storm for the next two years and to put some thought into what projects the DDA would like to concentrate on.

Lindwall left the meeting at 8:57 a.m.

In closing, Tarsi said the DDA has already done a lot of good in Iron River, and with careful planning it will continue. He thanked Tukesbrey for her time preparing the agenda information and attending the meeting.

Andreski said she is researching the possibility of the Beautification Committee applying for the CoVantage Cares Grant. All agreed this was a great idea.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **DDA MEMBER COMMENTS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Powell moved with support from Saigh to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 a.m. Absent: Buck and Lindwall. Motion carried.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bernadette Coates". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Bernadette Coates, City Clerk