

Local Development Finance Authority
June 19, 2023 – Noon
Lakeshore Center #104
Houghton, MI 49931

Present: Dan Crane, Robert Megowen, Whitney Warstler, Jim Hainault, George McNulty, Glenn Anderson, Steve Patchin
Absent: Mike Needham, Robert Backon, Mike Hauswirth, Anders Hill
Guests: Mary Babcock, Eric Waara, Scott MacInnes
Staff: David Rowe, Cheryl LeClaire, Jason Mack, Amanda Jackson

Chairman Dan Crane opened the June 19, 2023 public hearing of the Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) at 12:00 pm.

1. Public Comment –

1st attempt for public comment 12:00 p.m. - none
2nd attempt for public comment 12:02 p.m. - none
3rd attempt for public comment 12:04 p.m. - none

2. Public Hearing -

- a. **Approve 2022-2023 Budget Adjustments** – Robert Megowen made a motion to approve the 2022-2023 Budget adjustments as presented. Whitney Warstler supported. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- b. **Approve LDFA 2023 – 2024 Proposed Budget** – Jim Hainault made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Budget as presented. Robert Megowen supported. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Robert Megowen made a motion to close the LDFA public hearing at 12:07 pm. Whitney Warstler supported. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Chairman Dan Crane opened the June 19, 2023, quarterly meeting of the Local Development Finance Authority at 12:09 pm.

3. Quarterly Meeting

- a. **Approve April 26, 2023, Meeting Minutes** – Robert Megowen made a motion to approve the April 26, 2023, LDFA meeting minutes supported. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- b. **Approve LDFA to MTEC Transfer** – Robert Megowen made a motion to approve a transfer to MTEC in the amount to leave an equity balance of \$2,000 in the LDFA and to approve a budget amendment as needed. Jim Hainault supported. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

4. MTEC Update - Reports and Goals and Direction of the LDFA

a. David Rowe update

Recent grant application included language regarding building ownership. MTEC did not receive the grant due to not being listed as the owner of the building. Scott MacInnes suggested checking MTEC's bylaws to confirm.

Updates on the Jutila Center

- MTEC has a plan to winterize the 6th and 7th floor, at the cost of \$10,000 - \$12,000.
- Priority will be given to MTEC's tenants and finding them space or keeping the 4th floor of the Jutila open. There are other tenants at the Jutila Center that are interested in staying in the building. David Rowe showed space to an entity that has immediate need for office space. There are other MTEC clients/businesses that would be interested in taking additional space, if it became available.

- David Rowe spoke with Patrick O'Keefe, the receiver working on Finlandia's assets this morning. Mr. O'Keefe has confirmed that there is no interested buyer in the Jutila Center and that there is no meeting set with the Department of Education. He thought it would be helpful if anyone can talk to the Dept. of Education. Mr. O'Keefe confirmed that he will continue active space through September 1, 2023. He said to give them another 30 days to find a buyer and then they will talk again to begin a transition and what that would look like.
- Whitney Warstler cautioned spending much LDFA money on this, not knowing what the outcome would be.

Steve Patchin made a motion to support an option to pursue bringing this to circuit court through a Varnum Law engagement with MTEC. Robert Megowen supported. Ayes: All. Nays: Whitney Warstler. Motion carried.

5. Adjourn

Whitney Warstler made a motion to adjourn the June 19, 2023, meeting of the Local Development Finance Authority. Glenn Anderson supported. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Cheryl LeClaire
Secretary, Pro-Tem