

CITY OF CASEVILLE
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
May 19, 2026 8:30a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Amy Redwantz, Ken Rathje, Lou Johnson, Lauren Formicola, Jill Rogers, Michael Klaiber, Amy Lee, Kevin Stachowiak, Rob Pillsworth and Patrice Sinclair.

Also present: Jamie Learman and Kristen Maust, Secretary

Redwantz welcomed the new DDA members.

Motion was made by Stachowiak and second by Klaiber to approve the informational meeting minutes from April 21, 2026. **10-0 Approved.**

Motion was made by Rathje and second by Stachowiak to approve the regular meeting minutes from April 21, 2026. **10-0 Approved.**

CORRESPONDENCE: Michigan Downtown Association sent a pamphlet for a summer workshop happening in South Haven on June 3rd and 4th. Redwantz encourages members to attend if they can.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The bank balances were discussed: 2MIL \$32,427.39; TIFA \$ 277,372.08.

Motion was made by Stachowiak second by Rathje to approve the treasurer's report. **10-0 Approved.**

BUDGET PLAN:

Redwantz discussed 2 mills increase to \$16,000, \$3,500 for flower budget, \$100,000 for façade grants and \$4,000 for marketing brochures for Caseville Chamber of Commerce. Formicola recommended lowering the façade grants and use funds for other future projects.

Motion was made by Formicola and second by Sinclair to approve the budget plan for Fiscal Year 2026-2027. **10-0 Approved.**

OLD BUSINESS:

Redwantz asked if there were any designs approved for the Christmas ornaments, Learman said he is waiting to hear back from DPW Supervisor in the fall, for design and pricing. Redwantz said the DDA will pay Charlotte Ignash \$5,000 for her completed façade grant for 2025. Members discussed amending the 2025 grant application for Patrice Sinclair.

Motion was made by Johnson and second by Formicola to amend Patrice Sinclair's 2025 grant application, to remove two awnings and outdoor soffit painting and install two benches and a mini library. She will continue with mural and landscaping and will submit an updated application reflecting changes and pricing. **9-0 Approved. (Sinclair abstained).**

NEW BUSINESS:

Redwantz attended a Michigan Downtown Association event in Cass City on April 29, 2026 and expressed it was an overall good meeting to attend. She explained the MDA has several referrals for sources and assistance we may need for new lighting in the DDA downtown area. She thinks it would be beneficial to the DDA to renew the membership to the Michigan Downtown Association, MDA. Redwantz expressed that the DDA needs to continue supporting businesses with events apart from the chamber. Formicola mentioned looking into hiring a consultant in helping with project goals and a sense of identity for the DDA area. She will discuss more at the July meeting. Amy Lee presented some new information on sculpture art, including some pricing and samples of ideas. More will be discussed after knowing how many businesses would be interested in participating and where the placement of the sculptures would be. Formicola said having the sculptures around town would make a statement. Klaiber likes the idea of the sculptures being placed in the South end of the DDA district to spread out the tourism. Learman received some quotes on fixing the uneven bricks and sidewalks throughout the DDA district. He also got a quote to

sealcoat, fix cracks and stripe Malosky parking lot. He said that doing the repairs versus re-doing the whole parking lot is more economical. Formicola asked if there were any ordinances for vacant buildings, noting one in particular looks in disrepair. Pillsworth agreed that something needs to be done. Redwanz suggested having the Council look into this matter.

Motion was made by Johnson and second by Rathje to renew the MDA membership for 2026 in the amount of \$250.00. **9-0 Approved. (Stachowiak left meeting).**

Motion was made by Formicola and second by Rathje to pay Kris Leipprandt up to \$500 for mural maps and labor costs. **9-0 Approved.**

Motion was made by Pillsworth and second by Rathje to use up to \$ 40,000 toward spot fixing the sidewalks and repairing bricks in the downtown area. **9-0 Approved.**

Motion was made by Rogers and second by Rathje to approve up to \$20,000 to seal coat, repair cracks and stripe Malosky parking lot. **9-0 Approved.**

Next meeting: (Budget approval meeting) June 8, 2026 @5:15 p.m.

Motion made by Rathje second by Klaiber to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m. **9-0 Approved.**


Kristin Maust, Secretary