

Downtown Development Authority of the City of Eastman
Meeting Minutes for Monday, November 20, 2023
Eastman City Hall
4:30 p.m.

Authority Members Present: Andrea McCranie, Roy Grenade, Ron Daniels, Wynnon Pittman, Sammy Young and Willie Mae Nash.

Authority Member Absent: Paula McCain

Others in Attendance: Rita Llop, Spence Barron, Maya Clark, Graham Snyder, Diedra Barton, Pam McCranie and Lindsey Craven

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Andrea McCranie at 4:38 p.m.

The invocation was given by Sammy Young.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Andrea McCranie

A motion to approve the November 20, 2023 agenda was made by Roy Grenade and seconded by Ron Daniels. Motion is carried.

A motion to approve the October 16, 2023 regular meeting minutes and the October 30, 2023 called meeting minutes was made by Ron Daniels and seconded by Wynnon Pittman. Motion is carried.

The Downtown Development Authority presented a check in the amount of \$6,500 to Leave It Better for the King Street Park. The funds will go towards the Shuffle Board project for the park. Diedra Barton, Lindsey Craven and Pam McCranie were at the meeting to accept the check.

A motion to enter into Executive Session for property matters was made by Wynnon Pittman and seconded by Sammy Young. Motion is carried.

A motion to exit Executive Session was made by Wynnon Pittman and seconded by Ron Daniels.

The strategic plan for the DDA was discussed. No updates were available at this meeting. However, the DDA decided to hold a work session with the council at the beginning of 2024 to discuss jointly a strategic plan. A motion was made by Wynnon Pittman to schedule a work session with the 2024 council and invite representatives from the Carl Vinson Institute of UGA and the Fannin Institute to attend the work session and was seconded by Roy Grenade. Motion was carried with one oppose by authority member Ron Daniels.

Agreements with purchasers for items at the Wholesale Property were discussed. One agreement was signed by Richard Kemp. Signed agreements with Hardeman and Johnson are still pending as of this meeting.

A request to have a park bench at his business was made from Mark Doss. Discussion was held regarding the location of park benches in the downtown area. A motion to have Mark Studstill's company move benches to higher traffic areas was made by Wynnon Pittman and seconded by Ron Daniels.

Façade grant applications were received from Willie Mae Nash for two buildings on Main Street and from Leave It Better for the park on King Street. The applications presented were incomplete and could not be approved.

Chairman Andrea McCranie asked authority member Roy Grenade to contact applicants and work with them to assist with proper completion of the applications. A motion to table these applications was made by Ron Daniels and seconded by Wynnon Pittman. Motion is carried.

There were no committee reports given at this meeting.

The financial report was presented as information with a fund balance of \$26,265.12 as of October 31, 2023. A motion to accept as information was made by Ron Daniels and seconded by Wynnon Pittman. Motion is carried.

As information a check for advertising bids and called meeting notices totaling \$282.76 was issued to The Dodge County News.

In authority comments, Ron Daniels gave recognition to Scotty Whitten for the GA/FL event that was held in October in downtown Eastman.

Authority member Willie Mae Nash requested that all downtown businesses be notified when streets are closed for events.

There were no public comments.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 p.m. was made by Ron Daniels and seconded by Wynnon Pittman. Motion is carried.