

LARA minutes

January 10, 2024

Present

Mark Weaver, Perry Beachum, Dave Austin, Tom Gossiaux, Amanda Rogers, Janine Mork

Guests:

Dave Austin, Janalee Grischke

Absent

Mark Anderson, open City Council member

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm

Approval of Agenda: Tom Gossiaux moved to approve the agenda as presented, Weaver seconds.
Motion carried

Approval of December 13, 2023 minutes: Gossiaux moved to approve as presented, Weaver seconds.
Motion carried

Treasurer report: Rogers had the following bills for payment approval:

City of Lowell/Williams & Works:	\$4525.00
	\$3130.64
Williams & Works	\$664.00
Chamber annual dues	\$110.00

Gossiaux moved to pay bills as presented, Weaver seconds. Motion carried.

The auditor would like to present his report at the February meeting.

Beachum would like to pass an amendment/resolution to allow chairperson to approve payment of bills if the meeting is cancelled or there is not a quorum. Checks would still require two signatures and would be approved at the next regular meeting. Rogers checked with the auditor and that is not a problem. We would need a formal vote to pass the amendment. Rogers will have something for the next meeting to approve.

New Business

The City of Lowell needs a replacement board representative since Cliff Yankovich is no longer on City Council. Beachum reached out to the city manager but had not heard back by meeting time. He will follow up.

Dave Austin – Update on GRG easement, trail update

GR Gravel –We gave Grand Rapids Gravel a \$41,651 good faith offer. They returned with a \$105,000 counter. There was no good basis for the counter offer amount.

Dave met with them in December. They would like to do additional mining in the trail area. There would be a charge. They were not planning to mine for 2 years. To expedite it, they would use trucks to move the gravel instead of conveyor belts. This would be an additional \$25,000 cost. Not covered under grants. It would come from match money. GRG is required to fill in the area after mining is done. This is part of the \$25,000.

We need to make a decision on how to respond to their counteroffer. \$105k plus \$25k. Agreement will need language for timeline and some consequence if they don't finish in time.

Anderson and Beachum discussion – Offer our original \$41,651 plus 25,000. Site access is negotiated by contractors. That cost will be passed on to us.

Timeframe, condition of easement will be worked into agreement.

Appraised value for easement, plus \$25k for accelerated mining. Suggest we add to it for temporary grading permit on east side of property.

Grading permit is approximately \$3000 using MDOT calculations.

Weaver motions to offer original appraised amount, 25K and MDOT rate for access. Rogers seconds. Motion carried.

Meeting is adjourn at 7:52 pm per motion by Gossieux. Rogers seconds. Motion carried.

Next meeting 2/21/24. Changed from 2/14 due to holiday conflicts.