

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
OWOSSO MAIN STREET & DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
CITY OF OWOSSO**

**March 5, 2025, AT 7:30 A.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Bill Gilbert at 7:35 A.M.

**ROLL CALL:** Taken by Lizzie Fredrick

**PRESENT:** Chair Bill Gilbert, Vice-Chair Lance Omer, Mayor Robert J. Teich Jr., and Commissioners, Jill Davis, and Josh Ardelean. Commissioner Daylen Howard arrived at 7:43 A.M. Commissioner Ardelean left at 8:10 A.M.

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Dakota Woodworth

**STAFF PRESENT:** Lizzie Fredrick, OMS & DDA Director

**AGENDA:**

**MOVED BY TEICH SUPPORTED BY ARDELEAN TO APPROVE THE MARCH 5, 2025, OWOSSO MAIN STREET AND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AGENDA AS PRESENTED.**

**AYES: ALL  
MOTION CARRIED**

**MINUTES:**

**MOVED BY DAVIS, SUPPORTED BY TEICH TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 5, 2025, OWOSSO MAIN STREET AND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.**

**AYE: ALL  
MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Camille Guillen from the Steam Railroading Institute introduced herself to the Board.

Glen Erdman, an Owosso resident, introduced himself to the Board and stated his interest in learning more about OMS & DDA.

**REPORTS:** Fredrick presented the monthly financial reports highlighting revenue and usage of the Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.

Omer noted the busiest dates in the month of February and asked what days of the week they occurred.

Fredrick confirmed that February 4<sup>th</sup> was a Tuesday and February 27<sup>th</sup> was a Thursday.

Fredrick reviewed the Main Street America and Michigan Main Street 2024 OMS Assessment Summary, which identified detailed work plans aligning with the selected Transformation Strategy that outlines programming across the Main Street Four Points is a baseline program requirement that needs attention.

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS:**

1. **Shook Riverside Development Grant Application:** Board reviewed the Shook Riverside Development Grant Application for the Revolving Loan & Grant Program.

Board discussed the importance of fire suppression installation in the downtown buildings and the difficulties insuring buildings without it.

**MOVED BY ARDELEAN, SUPPORTED BY HOWARD TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE A REIMBURSEMENT GRANT AWARD OF \$25,000 TO SHOOK RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENT LLC FROM THE REVOLVING LOAN & GRANT PROGRAM FOR FIRE SUPPRESSION AT 312 W. MAIN STREET.**

**AYE: ALL**

**MOTION CARRIED**

2. **Fiscal Year 2025-2026 OMS Work Plans:** Fredrick presented a breakdown of each committee's Fiscal Year 2025-2026 projects, programs, and work plans for the Board's review.

Fredrick summarized each item and highlighted how they support the OMS Strategic Plan and City of Owosso Master Plan.

Fredrick noted that the Promotion Committee's Storefront Competition and the Organization Committee's Volunteer Rewards Program do not currently have work plans or project scopes.

### **COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

1. **Organization:** Ardelean reviewed the Committee's budget discussion which prioritized volunteer rewards and tabled plans for a merchandise program for a future year.

Ardelean provided updates on the Sponsorship Program including webpage updates and plans for sponsorship acknowledgement signage.

2. **Promotion:** Davis noted that the Committee meeting centered on the Chocolate Walk event and March 6<sup>th</sup> downtown business meeting dedicated to discussing the future of the event.

Davis shared that she has received feedback from downtown businesses asking for the event to remain at a 300-attendee capacity due to the financial strain of providing additional chocolate and that the Committee has concerns regarding the event's ability to grow in attendance, transform, or be considered a unique offering to attract visitors when neighboring communities offer the same event.

3. **Economic Vitality:** Howard reviewed the Committee's budget discussion for the upcoming fiscal year and announced that Holistic Beginnings is the March Business of the Month.

Fredrick notified the Board that the Committee will be scoring a fire suppression and elevator grant application for the Revolving Loan & Grant Program at the March Committee meeting and that the grant application would come to the Board for review in April if approved by the Committee.

4. **Design:** Fredrick confirmed that the Fountain Park Seasonal Expansion will remain in the Committee's planning stage unless it has a program chair and committee to oversee the project.

Fredrick notified the Board that the Lebowsky Center canceled the historic preservation public art installation that was going to be funded by the Chocolate Walk event proceeds.

**DIRECTOR UPDATES:** Fredrick reminded the Board that she will be out of state in early April for the national conference for Main Street America and that she'll bring information to each of the Committees on what she learned at the February Michigan Main Street conference.

**BOARD COMMENTS:** Gilbert thanked Omer for leading the February Board Meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOVED BY OMER, SUPPORTED BY TEICH TO ADJOURN AT 8:27 A.M.  
AYES: ALL  
MOTION CARRIED**

**NEXT MEETING APRIL 2, 2025.**