

Downtown Development Authority of the City of Perry  
Minutes - November 27, 2023

1. Call To Order: Chairman Rhodes called the meeting to order at 5:01pm.

Roll: Chairman Rhodes; Directors Cossart, George, Kinnas, Gordon, and Tuggle were present. Director Yasin was absent.

Staff: Alicia Hartley – Downtown Manager, Holly Wharton – Economic Development Director, and Christine Sewell – Recording Clerk

2. Invocation – was given by Chairman Rhodes

3. Guests/Speakers - None

4. Citizens with Input – None

5. Old Business

- a. Mixed Use Building Project Update – Ms. Hartley advised a preliminary construction cost figure of \$15million was received from All State Construction. City Council has been provided with this information, but at this time would like to pause any potential allocation(s) for the project as their current priority is the new wastewater treatment plant. Ms. Hartley advised, Council supports the project, but is just not comfortable at the moment to extend funding due to other city capital projects. Ms. Wharton advised the DDA has funding to pursue a design concept. Director George inquired could the property be sold if a buyer was found; Ms. Wharton advised it could be with stipulations on what is to be constructed.

6. New Business

- a. Approve minutes of October 23, 2023, meeting

Director Kinnas motioned to approve as submitted; Director Gordon seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.

- b. Approve October 2023 Financials

Director George motioned to approve as submitted; Director Cossart seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.

7. Other Business – None

8. Member Items – None

9. Main Street Report – Director Cossart advised Small Business Saturday was a success and First Friday is on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

10. Downtown Update

- a. Downtown Projects Update – Ms. Hartley advised there has been a change of course on the speaker project. The vendor is retiring at the end of the year and may not be able to provide support; another vendor has been found out of Macon and will be meeting with them later in the week.

Schultze's and Patio 901 have been sold. Letter of Interest has been submitted for the Georgia Economic Placemaking Initiative; if selected will focus on placemaking efforts for public art and suggestions solicited for committee appointees.

Provided for approval to be signed by the Chairman for downtown businesses to encourage their employees not to park in front of their businesses. The board agreed but suggested a copy of the parking map be included.

Parking lot by the railroad has been placed on pause until a funding source is found.

- b. Strategic Plan Update – Ms. Hartley requested a retreat with the board to review the plan and strategize for 2024; it was the consensus of the board to hold as their January meeting.

11. Chairman Items – None

12. Adjourn: there being no further business to come before the board the meeting was adjourned at 5:40pm.

*Approved 01.22.24*