

MEETING MINUTES
BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
APRIL 1, 2024
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
COMMUNITY ROOM
31555 W ELEVEN MILE ROAD
FARMINGTON HILLS, MICHIGAN

CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN KURT BRAUER AT 11:08 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: BRAUER, MEKJIAN, BRICKNER, SKROBOLA, WILKINSON, MEYERS, BOLEWARE

EXCUSED: CURRAN

ALSO PRESENT: Karen Mondora, Assistant City Manager, Cristia Brockway, Economic Development Director

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Brickner, supported by Meyers to approve the agenda as submitted.
Unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Brickner, supported by Mekjian to approve the minutes of December 18, 2023, as amended.
Unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025 BUDGET

Motion by Brickner, supported by Meyers to approve the 2024/2025 budget.
Unanimously approved.

Cristia Brockway, Economic Development Director shared a presentation regarding the “project dollars” line item to be used for potential brownfield project grant dollars. She shared that \$200,000 has been set aside to form some type of grant for redevelopment. The funds could potentially be used for Act 381-related activities and large, transformational projects that would greatly benefit the surrounding economy. Some areas in the City will most likely need costly improvements such as environmental and/or infrastructure-related. The board would have to create a policy to establish a decision-making process on case-by-case applications for a grant like this.

Tom Wilkinson asked if other cities in Michigan, or otherwise, have used their grant dollars in a similar fashion. Mrs. Brockway replied that Detroit, Southfield, and Troy have used their brownfield dollars and have creatively expanded upon the use of that incentive.

Gary Mekjian shared that if these funds are to be allocated that the first projects to be considered are the large, transformative ones. Barry Brickner commented that certain strip malls might be eligible if their facades were built with asbestos filler.

Gary Mekjian asked how a grant like this would assist in recouping costs in the future. Kurt Brauer responded that if the property ends up being placed in the brownfield plan, the City could extend the activities under act 381, then could place recovery costs in the grant agreement over the life of the brownfield plan, should it become one.

BUSINESS

- a) Cristia Brockway shared some Economic Development Department updates relating to the Grand River Corridor, 12 Mile Road, Hunter's Square, and The Emerson.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- a) Chairman Brauer inquired to the Finance Director if there should be an evaluation on whether a \$9,000 contribution to the General Fund is enough.
- b) Alex Meyers requested that some numbers be reviewed on the budget for clerical errors.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Brickner, supported by Wilkinson to adjourn the meeting at 12:03 p.m.
Unanimously approved.

Minutes Drafted by Cristia Brockway, Economic Development Director