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**Village of Elmira Heights Meeting Room
December 8, 2020
7:00 p.m.**

Present: T. Amberg, Mayor M. Smith, J. Aiosa, C. Southard and
G. Patelunas, via phone

Absent:

Excused: Julie Chevalier, Executive Director

Staff: Lisa Novitsky, Program Director

Mayor Smith, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes –November 10, 2020:

Board members reviewed the Meeting Minutes. There were no additions and/or corrections.

G. Patelunas, made a motion to accept the Meeting Minutes,
T. Amberg, seconded; motion carried.

Financial Statements ending November 2020:

Board members reviewed the Financial Statements. There were no additions and/or corrections.

C. Southard, made a motion to accept the Financial Statements as presented,
T. Amberg, seconded; motion carried.

Approve Audit of Expenditures: Audit # 2020-1208; Dated 12-08-2020 Checks #381, 382 & 1515

Board members reviewed the Expenditures. There were no additions and/or corrections.

T. Amberg, made a motion to approve the Audit of Expenditures as presented,
G. Patelunas, seconded; motion carried.

Urban Renewal Agency Report – December 2020:

Board members reviewed the Agency Report. There were no additions and/or corrections.

G. Patelunas, made a motion to accept the Urban Renewal Agency Report as presented,
T. Amberg, seconded; motion carried.



Urban Renewal Proposed Loan Relief Fund – December 2020:

There was a great amount of conversation centered around providing local businesses throughout the Village of Elmira Heights with Relief Funds to assist them through the COVID pandemic, with the village being one of the entities included in the “Orange Zone.” Although there are relief funds offered through the Chemung County, the Board was in agreement that they wanted to utilize the Agency’s internal funds to offer solely to local businesses within the Village of Elmira Heights. G. Patelunas stated that he was upset with J. Chevalier for not getting the loan information out sooner to local business owners. J. Chevalier then expressed her trepidation to protect the allocation of loan funds with proper guidelines and lending criteria, so as to not put the Agency funding at risk. She further stated that there needed to be some form of security, a document, to secure the loan funds. Further discussion ensued. The Board unanimously agreed that a Personal Guarantee would be used to secure the Relief Loans, instead of a Note and Mortgage. It was also decided that local officials, who were also village business owners, would not be eligible to apply. The remainder of the meeting was spent defining the loan guidelines. Several changes and revisions were made to the proposed Lending Guidelines that J. Chevalier provided to the Board. Instead of mailing letters out to each business owner, it was decided to put notices on the Village and Urban Renewal Agency’s websites, on Facebook and possibly on the Fire Station sign. Mayor Smith would look into to cost of the Fire Station sign. T. Amberg and J. Aiosa both agreed to sit on the Loan Review Committee with J. Chevalier.

G. Patelunas, made a motion to accept the Relief Loan Lending Guidelines with the discussed and agreed upon changes,

T. Amberg, seconded; motion carried.

Recreational Playground Funds:

J. Chevalier acknowledged that approximately \$13,330 in funding was still budgeted for recreational improvements at Thurston Street Park. T. Amberg stated that he would like to see the funds utilized to re-surface the existing basketball court, which is 33’x 48’, with up to 2” of asphalt, install a new fence on the side where existing, overgrown brush is. The current poles would remain, but new backboards are needed. The court would also need to be striped.

Recognition of Persons Addressing the Agency:

None

Remarks:

T. Amberg acknowledged the efforts made by Mike Woodard, owner of BC Hots, to provide free meals to area residents for Thanksgiving. He stated that there were hundreds of meals issued.

T. Amberg also stated that if anyone hasn’t visited Renko’s on 14th Street that they should. The owner recently increased his product line and has a great variety of goods to offer.



Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on January 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

T. Amberg, made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

G. Patelunas, seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

(On file)

Lisa Novitsky

Program Director