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**Village of Elmira Heights Meeting Room  
August 4, 2020  
7:00 p.m.**

**Present:** T. Amberg, Mayor M. Smith, G. Patelunas, C. Southard  
**Absent:** H. Blish  
**Excused:**  
**Staff:** Julie Chevalier, Executive Director, Lisa Novitsky, Program Director

Julie Chevalier, Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Board of Director's Meeting Minutes –July 07, 2020:**

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

G. Patelunas, made a motion to accept the Meeting Minutes as presented,  
C. Southard, seconded; motion carried.

**Financial Statements ending July 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,  
G. Patelunas, seconded; motion carried.

**Approve Audit of Expenditures: Audit # 2020-0804 Dated 8-04-2020 Checks #1511 and 373**

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 – August 04, 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



## **Other Business:**

### **Economic Development**

#### **Pierce Landing 1984**

Painting complete and first level of the building is fully occupied. However, the COVID-19 pandemic Mandatory Closing of all gyms is affecting the Fitness Center financially. Currently, the Graham's are working with the owner to try to keep her afloat. Apparently, she never applied for the PPP funding made available through the Small Business Development Center. The Graham's are planning on hosting a grand opening in the very near future and would like all Village Officials to be on hand.

#### **Feasibility Study Status with ESD**

Julie talked with a representative from Empire State Development and they will not permit full funding for the Feasibility Study. They require a 50% match. The Village only budgeted \$4,000 for the study. Urban Renewal has money, but will never get that back. Julie thinks it is worth it for the Village to spend the extra money on the report as having the study will greatly increase their chances to receive future grants. Julie informed Mr. Patelunas that the funding is secured. He expressed concern because of New York State's budget deficit and felt as though it may not be a good investment during this COVID-19 Pandemic. He fears the Governor will pull grant monies to use for other things. Mr. Southard stated that the investment would definitely be worth the money, because if the village does receive grants it will pay for itself in the end. The funding offer from ESD expires in April 2022. Mr. Amberg stated said that there was still time and that it could be re-visited before the next budget in 2021. Mr. Patelunas would like Julie to find out if the grant funding is secure and able to be distributed when the Village is ready to move forward.

#### **NY Main Street Award/Contract**

Hesselson's has received their application and are currently working to get Julie the required documentation in order to participate in the program. They also need to firm things up with their architect and get Julie a Scope of Work in order to submit the project to the NYS Historic Preservation Office for approval.

The theatre owner and manager have expressed interest to the Mayor that they would like to host a Farmer's Market in the same location as the Streetscape project is planned; adjacent to the theater. They don't want the market to interfere with the future planning of the Streetscape project. Julie has agreed to meet with them to discuss their plans. Mr. Southard agreed to join the meeting that is scheduled for Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

#### **Revolving Loans**

All loans are paid up-to-date.

#### **Comprehensive Plan**

Still need to get a committee together to begin the planning process.



**CDBG Target Area**

Julie reached out to Code Enforcement Officer, Don Roby, at Mr. Patelunas' request to see if he had time to ride around the Village to identify areas that had the most deteriorated homes. Instead, Mr. Roby provided Julie with identification of three (3) streets that he believes would benefit greatly from CDBG funding, if secured;

Lounsbury Ave. and Owens Ave., W. 15<sup>th</sup> and W. 16<sup>th</sup> and Harrison St. and Cleveland St. Once Julie has completed a schematic, she will then move forward with getting letters out to homeowners to see if there will be enough interest to submit a grant application.

**Recognition of Persons Addressing the Agency:**

None

**Remarks:**

Mr. Patelunas expressed concern over the lack of handicap accessibility at the Oakwood Ave. side entrance of the new restaurant in the 1984 building. Julie stated that she would follow up with the Grahams and report back as to how they intend to remedy the situation and accommodate ADA regulations.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on September 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

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

G. Patelunas, seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*(On file)*

Lisa Novitsky

Program Director