

**FRENCHTOWN CHARTER TOWNSHIP RESORT DISTRICT AUTHORITY**  
**Wednesday, September 13, 2023**

**I.** Chairperson Molly Luempert-Coy called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America at 3:00 p.m.

**II.** Roll call.

**Present were:** Molly Luempert-Coy- Chairperson; Chris Collins- Board Member; Donald Rushlow-Secretary; Gary Klemz-Vice Chairperson; Brian Dotson- Treasurer. Also present were Kerry Bondy, Legal Advisor; Brad Shelle, Engineer, Mannik & Smith Group; Larry Smith, Director; Janae Jones, Administrative Assistant.

There were 3 community residents present. Sheriff Troy Goodnough from the Monroe County Sheriff's Department was also present.

**III. Approval of Agenda:**

Motion was made to approve agenda by Mr. Dotson and supported by Mr. Klemz.  
Motion carried: 5-0 (voice vote)

**IV. Minutes:**

**Approval of August 9, 2023 Minutes**

Motion made to accept the above August minutes as distributed by Mr. Klemz and supported by Mr. Dotson.  
Motion carried: 5-0 (voice vote)

**IV. Public Participation:** Joseph Carrizales, of Frenchtown Harbor spoke addressing letter by Susan Wrobel, President of Frenchtown Harbor to the RDA on August 3, 2023. Director Smith let Mr. Carrizales know this was addressed at the August 8, 2023 RDA board meeting at length. Mr. Carrizales was given a copy of the August 8, 2023 RDA meeting minutes.

Greg Braunlich, President of Grand Beach Association thanked the RDA for their response with the cleanup from the Tornado damage to Grand Beach.

**VI. Correspondence:** None

**VII. Reports:**  
**Director's Report:**

**Lake Erie Level**

The water level has remained constant this summer instead of its normal drop, most likely due to the large amount of precipitation the watershed has gotten

**Rain Storm of August 23-24, 2023**

Monroe County received a severe rain storm, an estimated 8 inches in less than 12 hours, the night and morning of August 23-24, 2023 causing flooding and power outages in the area. The Director inspected the district in the morning and found all the auxiliary diesel generators running and no storm water back up anywhere, including Grand Beach, except for Dewey's, while the sanitary sewers were overflowing, bubbling up through manholes in Stony Point Peninsula and State Park Subdivisions. The problem with the Dewey pump was the system tried to start all four pumps simultaneously requiring too much amperage from the generator. The drain commissioner reset the pumps with time delay to stagger pump start up, rectifying the problem and the backed up water was quickly pumped out. This 500 year storm event demonstrated that the RDA storm water system is functioning at a very high level of efficiency.

**Engineering Report** (verbal)

Engineering design staff has completed the design plans for the Zone 2B/2C Stony Point Seawall and are undergoing final review before they go to EGLE and Army Corp of Engineers, and should be submitted by the end of September. Once plans are finalized and submitted, the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of landowner meetings will be starting with residents, reviewing

temporary construction easements and having them execute the easements. There are a few residents unsupportive of the project. MSG is working to quantify pay items, to have a better idea of engineering estimate of cost of construction, engineering and inspection. They currently estimate cost to be between 6.6-7.2 million to get to the critical point that has been identified at the association owned park. They need these numbers all finalized and get everything into place.

Director Smith advised that he will be taking a look at the cost total, and how the RDA revenue stream can afford to pay for the seawall project. He stated that due to inflation, they are anticipating that the cost will be up over 30%. He is hoping to have numbers at the next meeting to decide if the RDA will be going forward with launching the project in 2024 or holding off until 2025.

#### **Monroe County Sheriff Contract Activity Report for 8/1/23-8/31/23**

Sheriff Troy Goodnough reviewed and explained details of the RDA Sheriff Activity Reports. He wanted to point out that there were no breaking and entering calls during the month of August in the RDA out of the 280 calls for service in the township.

Motion was made to accept and place on file the Monroe County Sheriff Contract Activity Report for 8/1/23-8/31/23 by Mr. Klemz supported by Mr. Dotson. Motion carried: 5-0 (voice vote).

### **VIII. Old Business:**

#### **2023 Overband Crackfill Project Memo #13-23**

At the August RDA board meeting, the board approved the proposal to begin the Overband & Crackfill the districts roads that were microsealed earliest in the pavement asset management plan. Director Smith presented a proposal from Mannik & Smith to start the contract and bidding process, and to oversee the project. He asked for the board approval of the bid from Mannik & Smith not to exceed \$11,900 to oversee the project.

Motion was made to approve the bid from Mannik & Smith not to exceed \$11,900 to oversee the Overband & Crackfill project by Mr. Dotson and supported by Mr. Klemz. Motion carried: 5-0 (Ms. Luempert-Coy-yes; Mr. Rushlow-yes; Mr. Dotson-yes; Mr. Klemz-yes; Mr. Collins-yes).

### **IX. New Business:**

#### **First Draft Budget Memo #14-23**

The 2024 draft budget is similar to previous years with a couple of exceptions. 1) The revenue of property taxes is an estimate based on the Fermi II property tax settlement. 2) Building and grounds expenses, money was added for the relocation of the RDA offices, potentially moving in July 2024. 3) Added \$200 to the audit budget, this increase is per our contract with the auditors. 4) Police protection capital outlay, added \$12,000 to convert the new RDA police vehicle for police usage. 5) Public works construction, the project will probably be moved to 2025, but these funds may be used differently. This will be discussed at the next board meeting.

#### **Clay Berm Maintenance/2023 Budget Amendment Memo #12-23**

Director Smith asked the 2023 Clay Berm Maintenance budget be increased by \$1920.00, which is the amount for 1 cut. Our contractor last year failed to invoice us for the 5<sup>th</sup> and final cut in 2022. Their accountant caught this oversight, so it was sent to us at that time. This is money paid in 2023 that should have been paid in 2022.

Motion was made to approve the increase of \$1920.00 to the 2023 Clay Berm Maintenance budget by Mr. Dotson and supported by Mr. Klemz. Motion carried: 5-0 (Mr. Dotson-yes; Mr. Klemz- yes; Ms. Luempert-Coy-yes; Mr. Collins- yes; Mr. Rushlow-yes).

#### **Tree Removal and Trimming Budget Memo #15-23**

With the three storms and very unusual events this year, the Ice Storm in February; the EF1 tornado in June; and the 500 year unprecedented rain storm in August all within the RDA has caused significant tree damage and has exceeded the RDA tree removal and trimming budget. Early on we increased the \$60,000 budget by transferring the unspent snow removal funds to tree removal funds in May. Then an additional \$75,000 was transferred to the tree budget at a

special board meeting June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, which brought us up to \$169,235. To date we have spent \$147,000 of that leaving us with only \$21,000 and numerous outstanding requests pending. We have a lot of requests on hold for trees which qualify for action. Director Smith is requesting an additional \$20,000 be transferred to the tree removal budget from the construction budget that will not be used this year.

A motion was made to transfer \$20,000 from the construction budget to the tree removal budget by Mr. Dotson and supported by Mr. Rushlow. Motion carried; 5-0 (Mr. Rushlow- yes; Ms. Luempert-Coy-yes; Mr. Collins-yes; Mr. Klemz- yes; Mr. Dotson-yes).

**Approval of August Financial Report, Balance Sheet, Income & Expense Report, and Investment Reports**

Motion made to accept the August Financial Report, Balance Sheet and Income and Expense Report and place on file by Mr. Collins supported by Mr. Dotson. Motion carried: 5-0 (Mr. Klemz-yes; Mr. Dotson- yes; Mr. Rushlow- yes; Ms. Luempert-Coy- yes; Mr. Collins- yes).

**X. Other Items from Board Members:**

Mr. Dotson requested Seawall Committee meeting with Mannik & Smith sooner than later for final estimation costs, and regarding budget concerns. Director Smith hopes to have numbers to look at prior to next board meeting.

Ms. Luempert-Coy wanted recognize the hard work of the board during the storms, she appreciated the hard work and teamwork of the RDA.


**XI. Public Participation:**

Greg Braunlich questioned whether the Tornado siren went off during the July tornado? It was confirmed by Sheriff Goodnough that there was a human error in Central Dispatch that this particular siren did not go off for the Tornado in the RDA, and that this has been addressed.

**XII. Adjournment:**

Motion made to adjourn meeting by Mr. Collins supported by Mr. Dotson.  
Motion carried: 5-0 (voice vote)  
The meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

  
Gary Klemz, Co-Chairman

  
Donald Rushlow, Secretary

  
Janae Jones, Admin. Assistant