

**RECORD OF
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY/GRAYLING MAIN STREET
PROCEEDINGS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON THE
8th DAY OF JANUARY 2026
1020 CITY BOULEVARD, GRAYLING, MICHIGAN**

I. Meeting called to order by Swander 8:30 AM

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Swander, Pettyjohn, Huber, LaFontaine, Podjaske

Absent: Teeter, Millikin, Wheeler

Also in attendance: Charity Niederer (GRCOC)

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Approval of Agenda

26-001

Moved by Pettyjohn, seconded by LaFontaine to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 3, Vacancies: 1.

Motion Carried.

V. Approval of Consent Agenda

A. DDA/GMS Regular Meeting Minutes for Thursday, November 11th, 2025, and Thursday, December 4th, 2025, as presented.

26-002

Moved by Huber, seconded by Pettyjohn to move approve the regular meeting minutes for Thursday, November 11th, 2025, and Thursday, December 4th, 2025, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 3, Vacancies: 1.

Motion Carried.

VI. Treasurer Report

Podjaske explained that he was waiting to find out from Wheeler how much was spent for the NYE party.

VII. City Manager Report

Podjaske explained that it has been somewhat slow but that he had a meeting with the developers again regarding the Crime Lab property.

VIII. Joint Administrator Update

Charity Niederer provided updates to include that she is putting together a schedule of events and will also look up the dates for her employment contract with the DDA.

IX. Unfinished Business – DDA

A. New Year's Eve Party Feedback

The board discussed that there were less people at the event. They also agreed that they would like to continue to do the canoe drop but would like to let the AAV carry out the NYE party themselves.

B. Canoe Drop Feedback

The board discussed the canoe and kayak drop as well as possibly adding fireworks after the canoe drop. They agreed to discontinue the kayak drop and use the canoe for a kids drop instead.

26-003

Moved by Huber, seconded by LaFontaine to purchase the canoe from Ferrigan and earmarking the GPA funds for that purpose when their budget is finalized.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 3, Vacancies: 1.

Motion Carried.

C. Open Board Seat follow up

No updates.

D. Work session to review the TIF Plan.

Swander explained that the TIF Plan needs to be reviewed to plan projects. The work session will be on February 3rd at 5:30 pm.

X. New Business – DDA

A. Historical Museum grant support

The Historical Society would like to work with the DDA on events to garner support that is needed for the grant that they would like to apply for to fix the foundation of the train depot. It appears that promotional support is needed. Pettyjohn will reach out to the Historical Society for additional details.

B. 2026 event dates for city permit submission

Permit applications need to be submitted for the following events: 4th of July, Canoe Marathon, Old 27 Car Show, Harvest Fest, Trunk or Treat and the Canoe Drop. Clough and Baum need to be asked to review.

C. Fourth of July

This is the 250th celebration. Pettyjohn is asking everyone for additional ideas and would like to obtain small flags to be able to hand out.

XI. Community Meetings Update

A. CCEDP (Crawford County Economic Development Program)

No updates.

B. Historical Museum

Pettyjohn will be the liaison.

C. GPA

No updates.

D. Rotary

Cote Dame Marie Ski Loppet will be on Saturday, January 17th.

E. Chamber of Commerce

Business After Hours will be on 01/22/2026 and the Gala is on 02/27/2026.

F. Camp Grayling

No updates.

G. Banner Program

No updates.

H. Visitor's Bureau

They are filming this weekend for tourism as well as at different businesses.

XII. Public Comment

None.

XIII. Member Comments

Huber & Pettyjohn discussed a calendar being used as a fundraiser for the DDA. Podjaske will be meeting with Jason at Primary Electric about the lampposts and GFIs. It was also suggested that we have red and white flowers this summer.

XIV. Correspondence

None.

XV. Adjournment

26-004

Moved by Podjaske, seconded by Pettyjohn to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 3, Vacancies: 1.

Motion Carried.

Swander adjourned the meeting at 9:54 AM