

MINUTES
PORT AUTHORITY REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22 2020
4:30 P.M.
LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM

Members Present: Commissioners Jerry McCarthy, Lee Bjorndal (4:35 p.m.), Laura Helle, Michael Bednar, Chuck Moline, and Jerry Mohrfeld.

Members Absent: Commissioner Jeff Austin.

Staff Present: Port Authority Executive Director Craig Clark and Port Authority Secretary Tom Dankert.

Others Present: Public (1).

President McCarthy called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Item #2. – Approval of minutes of the December 30, 2019 special meeting: Motion by Commissioner Moline, seconded by Commissioner Helle to approve the minutes of the December 30, 2019 special meeting. Carried 5-0.

Item #3. – Claims for Payment: Mr. Dankert discussed the claims paid from October 4, 2019 through January 9, 2020 noting in total, payments made were \$39,168.16. Mr. Dankert noted some of the large unusual payments as follows:

- \$5,000 to the Austin HRA for payment on the \$50,000 Oak Park Mall redevelopment 0% interest loan.
- \$18,365.50 to F&F Properties for the BEEP downtown revitalization loan for the back side of B&J Bar and Grill.
- \$11,478.50 to Mark Nagle for the BEEP downtown revitalization loan for the back side of South Central Athlete.

Motion by Commissioner Bednar, seconded by Commissioner Moline to approve the claims for payment as presented. Carried 6-0.

Item #4. – Election of Officers: Mr. Dankert noted this is the annual meeting for which officers need to be elected. Motion by Commissioner Moline, seconded by Commissioner Mohrfeld to approve the officers for 2020 as follows:

President	Jerry McCarthy
Vice President	Jeff Austin
Treasurer	Lee Bjorndal
Secretary and Assistant Treasurer	Tom Dankert

Carried 6-0.

Item #5. – Executive Director Report: Mr. Clark noted the 20-day objection period has expired for the transfer of the former Gold Cross building to the Austin HRA. Staff will now record the official deed for the transfer.

President McCarthy requested Mr. Dankert update the Port Authority Board on an email he sent regarding the Hormel Institute expansion. Mr. Dankert noted that he received a final report from staff at the Hormel Institute indicating 152 new hires at an annual wage cost of over \$7.3 million since the expansion in 2016. The goal for the bonding bill was 125 new employees, so the project has greatly exceeded expectations.

Commissioner Bjorndal questioned the status of the hotel Craig Hoium had proposed for the 4th Avenue site. Mr. Clark noted Hoium’s exclusivity to the property has expired, so now it could go to any developer if a good project comes forward. However, the hotel could still come if they get all of the financing in place.

Item #6. – Any other business: None.

Item #7. Adjournment: With no further business, motion by Commissioner Helle, seconded by Commissioner Mohrfeld to adjourn the meeting at 4:42 pm. Carried 6-0.

Approved: _____

President: _____

Secretary: _____