



— OLD TOWN —
SPECIAL SERVICE
— AREA 48 —

**SSA 48 Old Town –Commission Meeting
Teleconference/Zoom Meeting--COVID-19
Wednesday, January 20, 2021
5:30pm**

Commissioners and Staff present: Ian M Tobin – Executive Director, Sam Waldorf – Associate Director, Rachel Rubinson – Marketing and Membership Coordinator, Alex Christenson, Judy Erwin, Don Klugman, Peter O’Brien, Mark Proesel, Paul Purewal, Jennifer Tremblay, and Bob Zadyak.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by Peter O’Brien.

2. Roll Call

Quorum

3. Introduction of Guests

Steve Golyzniak – Tovar Snow

Derrick Earls – Tovar Snow

4. Review of DRAFT MINUTES from SSA 48 Commission Meeting on 10/21/2020

- a. **MOTION TO APPROVE meeting minutes from SSA 48 Commission Meeting on 10/21/2020 by Ms. Erwin, seconded by Mr. Christenson. The motion carries.**

5. Financial Report

As of December 31, 2020:

Present Balance: \$266,075.37

Total Levy Collected: \$497,264.56

Advertising and Promotion: \$1,380

Operations & Administrative Support: \$59,074.09

Public Way Maintenance: \$128,563.02

Public Way Aesthetics: \$83,577.50

Economic Development: \$1,010

Parking/Transit/Accessibility: \$4,728

Safety Programs: \$106,311.02

Total Expenses: \$383,263.63

6. Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee – Mr. Peter O’Brien, Chairman

i. Discussion on Commissioner Appointments

Mr. O’Brien announced the arrival of two new commissioners. Mr. Tobin noted the commissioners have been approved by the city council.

ii. Discussion on Commissioner Appointments to OTMRA Zoning & Government Relations Committee

Mr. O’Brien discussed the scope of work for the zoning committee and listed the commissioners to be appointed: Mr. O’Brien and Ms. Tremblay.

1. MOTION TO APPOINT Peter O’Brien and Jennifer Tremblay to OTMRA Zoning & Government Relations Committee by Mr. Klugman, seconded by Mr. Zadylak. The motion carries.

iii. Discussion on 2021 Commission Meeting Schedule

Mr. O’Brien gave an overview of the Commission Meeting Schedule (included in the meeting packet). Mr. Tobin stated any changes to the schedule will be reported to the City.

1. MOTION TO APPROVE 2021 Meeting Schedule by Ms. Tremblay, seconded by Mr. Christenson. The motion carries.

iv. Discussion on 2020 Audit Services Contract

Mr. Tobin noted this contract will mark the third year the OTMRA has partnered with Elits & Associates, and the OTMRA has thus far been satisfied with their services in the past. Ms. Erwin noted the presentation by Elits & Associates far surpassed that of the other bids received this year.

1. MOTION TO APPROVE Elits & Associates’ 2020 Audit Services Contract by Ms. Tremblay, seconded by Mr. Christenson. The motion carries.

b. Public Way Committee – Mr. Alex Christenson, Committee Chair

i. Discussion on 2021 Snow Removal Service: Presentation by Tovar

Mr. Golzyniak provided a summary of Tovar’s snow removal services, as of the ‘midway’ point of winter. Mr. Golzyniak noted Old Town has only received about 5.9 inches of snow (“fairly light” by Chicago standards), and there have been 15 total snow events so far this year. Tovar anticipates a total of 7.5 inches for the season within the next few weeks. Mr. Golzyniak noted this is Tovar’s second year with the OTMRA; the company strives to do an excellent job and is always open to feedback and questions.

Mr. Golzyniak stated Tovar will be removing snow from Burton Place Park now and in the future.

ii. Discussion on Contract for Litter Abatement

Mr. Christenson noted the previous SSA meeting did not have quorum, so voting

was postponed until this meeting. Only one contractor put in a bid with an RFP; Mr. Christenson noted the SSA is currently partnering with this company already.

1. MOTION TO APPROVE 2021 Litter Abatement Contract by Ms. Erwin, seconded by Mr. Klugman. The motion carries.

iii. Discussion on New Sidewalk Cafe Rebate Program

Mr. Christenson described the Sidewalk Café Rebate Program as a resource to restaurants and businesses in Old Town struggling during the pandemic. Mr. Waldorf noted there are approximately 25 to 30 eligible restaurants for the program, and 20 will most likely be eligible immediately.

1. MOTION TO APPROVE Sidewalk Cafe Rebate Program by Ms. Erwin, seconded by Mr. Proesel. The motion carries.

c. Residential Committee – Mr. Mark Proesel, Committee Chair

i. Discussion on Security in Neighborhood

Mr. Proesel discussed the Neighborhood Walkthrough with the 18th District Chicago Police Department to meet and greet the owners and staff of Old Town businesses. Mr. Zadylak suggested a higher frequency of Walkthroughs with CPD; Ms. Tremblay suggested adding SSA commissioners to the Walkthrough as well.

ii. Discussion on Health & Sanitation Rebate Program

Mr. Proesel listed the businesses seeking reimbursement through the Health & Sanitation Rebate Program: 80Proof, Benchmark, Kamehachi, Cornerstone Children’s Learning Center. The requests were each for \$400, totaling \$1600.

1. MOTION TO APPROVE Disbursement of Health & Sanitation Rebates (5.02) by Ms. Tremblay, seconded by Mr. Christenson. The motion carries.

iii. Discussion on Boarded-Up Services Rebate Program

Mr. Proesel listed the businesses seeking reimbursement through the Board-Up Services Rebate Program: \$500 for The House of Glunz, \$500 for Rabbit Hole, and \$180 for Pure Barre.

1. MOTION TO APPROVE Disbursement of Boarded-Up Services Rebates (2.14) by Ms. Tremblay, seconded by Mr. Christenson. The motion carries.

d. Communications Committee – Mr. Don Klugman, Committee Chair

i. Discussion on Online Sales Investment Rebate Program

Mr. Tobin stated this Rebate Program was established to help small businesses, as recommended by the City. As of today, there was only one application to approve: \$500 from Kamehachi. Mr. Tobin noted the application was fully in line with the program requirements.

1. MOTION TO APPROVE Disbursement of Online Sales Investment Rebates (1.10) by Mr. Christenson, seconded by Ms. Tremblay. The motion carries.

e. Economic Development Committee – Ms. Caroline Schoenberger, Committee Chair

i. Discussion of 2021 Wells Street Plan

Mr. Tobin discussed the Corridor Plan approved by the commissioners in October. The meeting packet contains the project timeline and planning process. Mr. Tobin noted part of the planning process includes focus groups broken down by stakeholder type and will be led by the Lakota Group.

7. New Business

Mr. Klugman discussed the presence of rats in Old Town, and suggested a revamped rat abatement initiative from the OTMRA.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 pm.