

Downtown Development Authority of the City of Perry
Minutes – January 27, 2025

1. Call To Order: Director Tuggle called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Roll: Directors Cossart, Forrester, Rhodes, Mosley and Tuggle were present.
Chairman George was absent.

Staff: Holly Wharton – Economic Development Director and Joni Ary – Recording Clerk

2. Invocation – was given by Director Rhodes
3. Citizens with Input – None
4. Guests/Speakers – None
5. Old Business
 - a. Ms. Wharton stated the feasibility study should be ready for review at the next meeting.
6. New Business
 - a. Election of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer for 2025

Chairman 2025 - Director Tuggle nominated Curtis George for Chair. Director Rhodes motioned to approve the nomination; Director Cossart seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.

Vice Chairman 2025 – Director Tom Tuggle was nominated for Vice Chairman. Director Cossart motioned to approve the nomination; Director Mosley seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.

Secretary/Treasurer 2025 – Director Ryan Mosley was nominated for Secretary/Treasurer. Director Cossart motioned to approve the nomination; Director Forrester seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.

- b. Approve minutes of November 25, 2024 meeting

Director Cossart motioned to approve as submitted; Director Forrester seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.

- c. Approve November and December 2024 Financials

Director Forrester motioned to approve as submitted; Director Rhodes seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.

- d. Review FY 24 Audit

Ms. Wharton advised the Downtown Development Authority FY 24 Audit was complete with no findings.

e. Ghost Runner Pizza Natural Gas Grant Reimbursement

Ms. Wharton reviewed the application request from Ghost Runner Pizza to be reimbursed 50% of total purchase (\$1,855.91) and installation costs of certain natural gas appliances.

Director Cossart motioned to approve the reimbursement request as presented; Director Mosley seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.

f. Review Draft Northside Drive Small Area Plan

Ms. Wharton reviewed the draft of Northside Drive Small Area Plan that she and Ms. Hartley have been working on. They have met with the stakeholders and property owners and on the flyer are the results/recommendations. Ms. Wharton asked the board to review the plan and submit any feedback/ideas for her to work on recommendations to present to City Council for implementation.

g. Downtown Umbrellas and Picnic Tables

Ms. Wharton asked for the board's direction relative to the umbrellas and picnic tables in the downtown area; if they should be removed and/or replaced. The Board concurred to keep the umbrellas and picnic tables and replace any that are damaged.

7. Staff Update

Ms. Wharton shared the City of Perry was recognized as a recipient of the 2025 Visionary City Award. This award celebrated the city's Natural Gas Grant program that has bolstered the City's economic growth by supporting local entrepreneurship and revitalizing the downtown district.

Ms. Wharton reviewed the Placer AI reports that shows traffic in the downtown area during City events vs normal day. Placer AI is a great tool to generate different reports to look at visitors downtown.

Ms. Wharton stated across from the Bank of Dudley on Washington Street, a cottage court style residential development is proposed and will provide housing for the downtown district.

Ms. Wharton stated Walgreen's will be closing on February 27, 2025.

Ms. Wharton stated if the board concurs, she will speak with the City Attorney relative to the Boost Grant money (\$900.00) to determine what can be done; the board concurred.

8. Member Items – Vice Chairman Tuggle asked for an update from the joint meeting with the Historic Preservation Commission and the downtown report of designation. Ms. Wharton advised management requested nothing further be done until after the first of the year.

Director Cossart asked about the brewery; Director Forrester stated they are moving forward.

9. Chairman Items: None

10. Executive Session: None

11. Adjourn: there being no further business to come before the board Director Forrester motioned to adjourn the meeting; Director Mosley seconded all was in favor and meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Approved 02.24.25