

Redevelopment Authority of Lawrence County  
Meeting Minutes  
August 24, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Redevelopment Authority of Lawrence County was held at the Lawrence County Government Center, located at 430 Court Street, New Castle, PA, at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**Attendance:**

**Redevelopment Authority:** Robert Donadio, Chairman  
Dennis Alduk, Vice Chairman  
Frank Telesz, Secretary  
Jim Gagliano  
Jon Natale

**Staff:** Amy McKinney, Executive Director  
Rebecca Shaffer, Dept. Director of Community Development  
Mary Glass, Office Manager  
Ryan Long, Solicitor (via Zoom)

**Public:** Loretta Spielvogel, County Commissioner  
Brian Burick, County Commissioner  
Janine Malloy, R.A.R. Engineering Group  
Nicholas Vercilla, New Castle News  
Al Burick, Shenango Township  
Justin Data, Shenango Township  
Lee Keizler, SA Recycling

**Call to Order**

The August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, meeting of the Redevelopment Authority of Lawrence County was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Robert Donadio.

**Additions/Deletions to Agenda**

None

**Public Comments**

None

**Regular Agenda**

- a. **Approval of minutes** – Jon Natale moved, seconded by Jim Gagliano, to approve the minutes from the July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, meeting. Motion carried, 5-0
- b. **Secretary/Treasurer Report** – Balance of RALC account as of 07/31/2023 was \$1,226,129.48.
- c. **New Business** – Amy addressed the Board regarding the Local Share application. Demolition is eligible and there is no match requirement. The application is due by the end of October 2023. The Board would like to move ahead with the application.
- d. **Old Business** –
  1. **Countywide Blight Removal Program Update -**

- **City of New Castle** - We have been working closely with R.A.R. Engineering Group, the City of New Castle and DORE & Associates over the past month and are presenting agreements of contract with each for the demolition of 25 N. Mill Street, (FirstMerit Plaza).
  - **Countywide Blight Removal** - We received a new application from Shenango Township for the demolition of 2627 Ellwood Road. The updated Repository list should be released any day. We will review and present a list of properties to the Board at the September meeting.
2. **Facade Update** -
- We received one application since the 07/26/2023 meeting. The property is located in the City of New Castle.
3. **PHARE Contract – PHARE Application**
- The new application is due in November. We will let the Board know how much we are applying for at the September 2023 meeting.

### Action Agenda

- a. Approval of Bills – Checks were presented for payment and signature. Frank Telesz moved; Jim Gagliano seconded approval of Payment of Bills.  
Motion carried 5-0.
- b. Dennis Alduk moved; Jon Natale seconded the approval of Resolution R-2023-21 approving the transfer of four side lots from Tax Claim (repository) to RALC. RALC simultaneously transfers side lots to applicant:
- GONZALEZ-PAULA, LOIDY
  - CLAYPOOLE, DOROTHY
- Motion carried 5-0
- c. Jim Gagliano moved; Jon Natale seconded the approval of Resolution R-2023-22 approving five Façade grant applications for the following locations:
- 322 Main Street, Wampum, PA
  - 324 Main Street, Wampum, PA
  - 328 Main Street, Wampum, PA
  - 330 Main Street, Wampum, PA
  - 346 East Washington Street, New Castle, PA
- Motion carried 5-0
- d. Jon Natale moved; Frank Telesz seconded the approval of Resolution R-2023-23 entering into agreement with Shenango Township for demolition reimbursement of a structure located at 2627 Ellwood Road, New Castle, PA.  
Motion carried 5-0
- e. Frank Telesz moved; Jim Gagliano seconded the approval of Resolution R-2023-24 entering into agreement with R.A.R. Engineering Group Inc., for engineering services and oversight of the demolition of 25 North Mill Street, New Castle, PA (FirstMerit Plaza).  
Motion carried 5-0
- f. Jim Gagliano moved; Dennis Alduk seconded the approval of Resolution R-2023-25 entering into agreement with the City of New Castle for shared costs of the demolition of 25 North Mill Street, New Castle, PA (FirstMerit Plaza).  
Motion carried 5-0
- g. Jim Gagliano moved; Dennis Alduk seconded the approval of Resolution R-2023-26 entering into agreement with DORE & Associates, Inc. for the demolition of 25 North Mill Street, New Castle, PA (FirstMerit Plaza).

Motion carried 4-1 with Frank Telesz casting a dissenting vote as it is his opinion that we should have prioritized with a county or state business, therefore giving jobs to local people and keeping our tax dollars in our county.

- h. Frank Telesz moved; Jon Natale seconded the approval of Resolution R-2023-27 Neshannock Townships withdrawal of their application for the demolition of 3355 Clover Lane.

Motion carried 5-0

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, at 12:00 pm at the Ellwood City Historical Society located at 310 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Ellwood City, PA.

### **Adjournment**

Dennis Alduk moved, seconded by Frank Telesz, to adjourn the meeting at 12:26 p.m. Motion carried, 5-0.