

# Redevelopment Authority of Lawrence County Meeting Minutes

**December 19, 2024**

The regular monthly meeting of the Redevelopment Authority of Lawrence County was held at the Commissioner's Meeting Room located at 430 Court Street, New Castle, PA at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

## **Attendance:**

<b>Redevelopment Authority:</b>	Robert Donadio, Chairman Dennis Alduk, Vice Chairman Frank Telesz, Secretary Jim Gagliano
<b>Staff:</b>	Amy McKinney, Executive Director Rebecca Shaffer, Deputy Director of Community Development Mary Glass, Office Manager/CDBG Administrator Ryan Long, Solicitor
<b>Public:</b>	None

## **Call to Order**

The December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meeting of the Redevelopment Authority of Lawrence County was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Robert Donadio.

## **Reorganization –**

Jim Gagliano made a motion for the following officers, seconded by Dennis Alduk: Dennis Alduk, Chairman, Frank Telesz, Vice-Chairman, Jim Gagliano, Secretary. Jon Natale Treasurer, Robert Donadio, Assistant Secretary Treasurer. Motion carried, 4-0.

## **Public Comments**

None

## **Regular Agenda**

- a. **Approval of minutes** – Jim Gagliano moved, seconded by Robert Donadio, to approve the minutes from the November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meeting. Motion carried, 4-0
- b. **Secretary/Treasurer Report** – Balance of RALC accounts as of 11/30/2024 was \$1,433,614.32
  - Currently the majority of our funding comes from the State PHARE funds, however, we also have ACT 47 funding which is used for rehabilitation and ACT 152 which can only be used for demolitions. Amy will be talking with the county solicitor regarding ACT 48, which is an additional funding source for rehabilitation and demolition activities. Under this act, the Commissioner's can adopt an ordinance whereas a fee of \$250 can be added to any property transfer and those funds would be allocated to a line item to be used for demolition and housing rehabilitation. If approved, this could take effect January 1, 2026. Dennis Alduk requested a breakdown of funding/sources.
- c. **New Business –**
  - **By-Laws** – A change has been made under Section 11 stating that "Authority and shall hold office for two years." The board would like this revised to state, "Authority and shall

hold office for two years on a rotating basis.” They have also requested an example be added to show that the positions will rotate up, i.e. Vice-Chairman to Chairman.

- **Non-Profit Application** – We have received a Vacant Lot purchase application from Flywheel Sports Based Youth Development for the purchase of ten (10) repository lots adjacent to Gaston Park. Flywheel’s Tennis Learning Center at Gaston Park Project will utilize the land for logistical support, such as storage and vehicle parking to facilitate the smooth operation of a tennis center and other potential enrichment activities especially for girls and girls of color. They have submitted three grants on behalf of the City of New Castle to the National Recreation and Parks Association. The grants, in conjunction with the United States Tennis Association (USTA) project and court renovations on the south side of Gaston Park, will enhance the park’s overall appeal and functionality.

d. **Old Business –**

- **Countywide Blight Removal Program Update -**
  - **Demolitions completed-**
    - First Merit demolition has been completed. We are waiting for documentation regarding final payment.
    - Metrovitalization has submitted all documentation for demolition reimbursement of 119 E. Washington Street, New Castle.
  - **Procurement Policy** - A procurement policy was presented for review. It was previously suggested that some language be changed but upon further discussion, it was decided that it was not necessary.

**Action Agenda**

- a. Approval of Bills – Checks were presented for payment and signature. Jim Gagliano moved; Frank Telesz seconded the approval of Payment of Bills.  
Motion carried 4-0.
- b. Frank Telesz moved; Robert Donadio seconded that Resolution R-2024-36 be removed from the table.  
Motion carried 4-0.
- c. Jim Gagliano moved; Frank Telesz seconded the approval of Resolution R-2024-36 approving the Procurement Policy.  
Motion carried 4-0
- d. Frank Telesz moved; Robert Donadio seconded the approval of Resolution R-2024-40 approving updates to the By-Laws.  
Motion carried 4-0
- e. Frank Telesz moved; Robert Donadio seconded the approval of Resolution R-2024-41 approving the transfer of ten (10) vacant lots from Tax Claim (repository) to RALC. RALC simultaneously transfers side lots to applicant:
  - FLYWHEEL SPORTS BASED YOUTH DEVELOPMENTMotion carried 4-0

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, at 12:00 pm in the Commissioner’s Meeting room located on the 1<sup>ST</sup> floor of the Lawrence County Government Center located at 430 Court Street, New Castle, PA.

**Adjournment** – Jim Gagliano moved; Frank Telesz seconded the meeting adjourn at 12:42 PM.  
Motion carried 4-0