



**MEETING OF THE WESTLAND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**City of Westland**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, March 23, 2023**

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Members Present: Cabildo, Freese, Murray, Rea, Scott, Londeau

Members Excused: Kelly, Saab

Also Present: Aubrey Merhib, Director of Economic Development  
Kayla Cobetto, Business Retention and Expansion Coordinator  
Brendan Schroder, Economic Development Administration  
Dan Block, Budget Director  
James Godbout, City Council Member  
Ryan Eberheart, President of the Westland Historical Commission

The meeting was called to order at 8:07 a.m.

A motion was made by Freese and supported by Cabildo to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on March 2, 2023.

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Murray and supported by Freese to approve the payments of the vouchers in the amount of \$29,322.95.

First National Bank Omaha	\$952.78
First National Bank Omaha	\$62.50
First National Bank Omaha	\$1,652.50
Highland Landscaping	\$3,706.00
Highland Landscaping	\$3,715.00
Highland Landscaping	\$2,975.00
Highland Landscaping	\$3,735.00
Rain Drop Products, LLC	\$12,524.17

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Freese and supported by Rea to approve the DDA Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Freese with support by Murray to approve a one-year contract extension with TruGreen in the amount of not to exceed \$1,476.08.

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Murray and supported by Cabildo to approve the façade grant application from the Wayne Ford Civic League in the amount of not to exceed \$25,000.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Training Discussion:** None

**Director Comments:** Merhib informed the board of the opening of the new Dairy Queen within the district. She also debriefed the board on a Realtors' Breakfast held in partnership with Wayne-Westland schools on Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> to promote Westland as a city to work and live in. She also informed the board on progress for planning summer events that will take place within the district.

**Citizen Comments:** Eberheart introduced himself to the board and proposed working together with the board to make improvements to the Westland Historical Museum and Village.

Godbout gave an update on the progress of the Common Citizen business development in the district. He also invited the board to the Westland Community Foundation and Chamber of Commerce's joint golfing event on May 18<sup>th</sup>, and encouraged business partners to lend their support to the event.

**Board Members Comments:** Londeau talked about the success of the City's Commercial Area Revitalization Strategy and projects he hopes will be pursued going forward. He also gave an update on a Crain's News article highlighting the City of Westland as one of the hottest housing markets in the Metro Detroit area.

Cabildo inquired about a DDA-owned property located next to the Westland Historical Museum and Village and the potential opportunity for that property's involvement in any future collaboration with the Westland Historical Commission.

A motion was made by Freese and supported by Londeau to adjourn at 8:40 a.m.

Motion carried unanimously.