

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF THE REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF BERKS**

June 23, 2009

Vice Chair, Eileen Kastura called the meeting of the Board of the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Berks to order at 4:30 P.M. on June 23, 2009, in the Neversink Room, 14th Floor of the County Services Center, 633 Court Street, Reading, Pennsylvania.

The following Board members were present:

Eileen Kastura, Vice Chair
Shirley Ludwig, Treasurer
Pellegrino Orlando, Asst. Treasurer

The Chairman declared a quorum of Board members present.

Also in attendance were:

Pamela J. Cala, Esquire of Kozloff Stoudt, Solicitor
Kenneth Pick, Executive Director
David Hummel, Housing & Community Development Specialist
Kathy Heckman, Office Support

Upon motion made by Shirley Ludwig and seconded by Pellegrino Orlando, all members of the Board present voted to approve the May 26, 2009 minutes of the Board of this Authority.

Kenneth Pick presented the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending May 31, 2009. A copy of this Report is attached to these Minutes. Upon motion by Eileen Kastura, seconded by Shirley Ludwig, all Board members present voted to approve the said Financial Report.

Kenneth Pick then reviewed with the Board the invoices for payments to creditors for the period through June 23, 2009. A motion was made by Shirley Ludwig and seconded by Pellegrino Orlando that the invoices stated in said report be approved for payment. Upon roll call vote, all Board members present voted in the affirmative.

Mr. David Hummel presented to the Board an update on the ADD Program. Since the last Board update, this Authority has purchased two (2) properties at the “free and clear” tax sale. In addition, Mr. Hummel presented to this Board the results of the bids for property maintenance services for the ADD properties. David Hummel informed the Board that the lowest responsible bidder for such services was Keith Singleton of 1315 Birch Street, Reading, Pennsylvania. Upon motion made by Pellegrino Orlando, seconded by Shirley Ludwig, all members present voted to approve the acceptance of the bid from Keith Singleton for maintenance services for a one (1) year term. Lastly, Mr. Hummel informed the Board that the application made by the City of Reading for a request for allocations from the Neighborhood Stabilization Program for a variety of activities, which application included a request for \$600,000.00 for demolition purposes for the benefit of this Authority, was denied at this time.

David Hummel then presented an update on the Hamburg Redevelopment Area (also known as the Second Street Redevelopment Area), including the project involving the extension of Grand Street. Mr. Hummel informed the Board that the portion of Grand Street that lies in the Borough of Hamburg will commence once the HOP is issued by Penn Dot.

Mr. Pick then presented a brief report on the Penn Avenue Redevelopment Area. He reminded the Board that the new assessment for the Candlewood Suites motel project, located at the former Penn View site, will occur on July 1, 2009, at which time the TIF revenue resulting from the completion of these improvements can be calculated

Kenneth Pick reported to the Board that the Borough of Fleetwood acquired the 5’ strip of land for the widening of the alley way which is adjacent to the former tannery site in the Fleetwood Redevelopment Area (also known as the Tannery Redevelopment Area).

Ken Pick then gave a progress report on the Armorcast Redevelopment Area located partially in the Borough of Birdsboro and partially in the Township of Union. Mr. Pick informed this Board that he has reviewed over thirty proposals in response to the Request for Proposals for Phase I and Phase II Environmental Assessments for the former Armorcast site. Mr. Pick advised the Board that he would further review the top three (3) proposals and make his recommendation to the Board for Board approval. Mr. Pick then presented to the Board the Redevelopment Plan Proposal for the Armorcast Redevelopment Area. Upon motion made by Pellegrino Orlando, seconded by Shirley Ludwig, all Board members present voted to approve said Redevelopment Plan Proposal.

Kenneth Pick then gave a brief report to the Board on the Borough of Sinking Spring Redevelopment Area. Mr. Pick informed the Board that the first meeting of the newly created TIF committee will occur on July 1, 2009.

Ken Pick then presented to the Board a recommendation to assist the Gigggleworks, a non-profit association, with a feasibility study for the proposed interactive children's' museum to be known as the "Gigggleworks". Mr. Pick informed the Board that the feasibility study would be performed by Olsen Design Group at a cost of \$52,600.00. Upon motion made by Shirley Ludwig, seconded by Pellegrino Orlando, all members present voted to approve the funding of \$20,000.00 of said feasibility study.

.There being no further business, Vice Chair Eileen Kastura made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Shirley Ludwig and all members of this Authority voted in the affirmative. The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Barry Rohrbach, Secretary