

**Wednesday, October 23, 2024, 6:00 pm**

In-PERSON/VIRTUAL MEETING

Room 2044, City Hall

**By Phone or Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join>

For the Public, Members of the media and the public may attend by

calling: (US) +1 (646)931-3860

Meeting ID: 617-065-5357

Pass Code: 959083

All public participants' phones will be muted during the meeting except during the public comment period where applicable.

**RDA STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

1) ~~400 W. Main St. block demolition, Town Square design etc., and publicizing town square project for possible funding from sources other than the City.~~

2) Facilitating quality development in downtown, and

3) Creating an approach and working to attract development projects downtown.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
  - A. Present: Becker, Board, Nowatka, Lampe, Maas
  - B. Virtual: Zimmermann joined at 6:04pm.
  - C. Absent: Wagner, Hurtgen (excused)
  - D. Other attendees Kaddesh and Watertown Daily Times (virtual): RINKA, resident
3. Determination of Quorum and Call to Order at 6:03 pm
4. Approval of meeting minutes
  - A. Regular Board Minutes 9.18.24  
**Board motioned to approve**  
**Nowatka seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**
  - B. Special Board Minutes 10.2.24.-noted the date on agenda was incorrect, stated on the 3<sup>rd</sup> not 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
**Nowatka motioned to approve**  
**Board seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**
5. No public comment
6. Old Business:
  - A. Eric Mayne from RINKA gave a recap on the recent project renaming discussion and how the steering committee decided on "Rock River District Vision". Talked about how Kapur will be laying out funding opportunities and reviewed items that will be presented to Plan Commission next week.
  - B. One application was received and is pending with a recommendation to approve at a future meeting hopefully. One application was not moved forward and applicant was asked to fix application and resubmit in early 2025. A downtown business inquired about the grant but hasn't submitted an application yet.
  - C. Becker shared that a developer has submitted a proposal for a predevelopment agreement with the city on 111 S. Water St. and part of the N. First St. parking lot. This should go to the Finance Committee in November.
7. New Business:

- A. Becker gave a summary of the WEDA conference that he emailed to the board. He discussed some of the concepts highlighted at the conference and the site entitlement process in Watertown. He also thanked the board for funding his attendance.
8. Status Reports:
- A. Becker highlighted a summary of applications received to date. A resident stopped today to inquire about applying.
  - B. There were no comments on the social media report. Becker noted he would like to focus on educational messaging on the new TID #9.
  - C. Members of the RDA are hoping to view the Historic Art Wall panels at Sign Art Studio in Mount Horeb next week. Becker, Zimmerman and Maas Bros personnel will attend.
  - D. Lampe discussed some budget items relating to the Bentzin Family Town Square and the Future Fund, as well as budgeting for the RDA Executive Director's salary and mill rate. Board mentioned the presentation by Richard Keddington of Watertown Regional Medical Center (at the council meeting) and how educational it was. He suggested inviting other major employers in the city to present at future council meetings.
  - E. Lampe mentioned asking Wagner how he would like to solicit feedback from board members to pass along to the mayor for the SIDC's performance review in 2025. Next meeting time will be Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> at 6pm with Jay Shambeau and Jess Wildes from the City of West Bend as guests. RINKA's preliminary presentation to the Plan Commission will be on Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>.
9. Adjournment at 6:57 pm

**Lampe motioned to adjourn.**

**Nowatka seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned.**