

MINUTES

Cascade Charter Township
Downtown Development Authority
November 18, 2025, at 5:30pm
Cascade Library Wisner Center
2870 Jacksmith Ave. SE

ARTICLE 1. Chair Kleyla called the meeting to order at 5:29pm.
Members Present: Vogel, Carlson, Preston, Stephan, Kleyla, Bingham, Lesperance
Late: Makkar
Others Present: Township Manager Jade Smith, Executive Assistant Jessica Stine, DDA
Director Ryan Sennett

ARTICLE 2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion was made by Member Stephan to approve the agenda. Supported by Supervisor Lesperance. Motion carried 7 to 0.

ARTICLE 3. Approval of the Minutes of the September 16, 2025 Meeting

Motion was made by Member Vogel to approve the minutes as written. Supported by Member Preston. Motion carried 7 to 0.

ARTICLE 4. Sherriff's Office Presentation-Deputy Dieppa

Deputies Dieppa and Jackson presented on crime in the DDA district.

Member Makkar arrived at 5:35pm.

Deputy Dieppa used the two recent break-ins at Rishi's International Beverage as a case study of what responsible business owners can do to work with the sheriff's department and prevent, or limit, future crime.

Member Vogel said that there appears to be much less crime now, as compared to before the Hotel Ordinance was enacted, and that he and his team at Nothing Bundt Cakes feel much safer. The severity of crime in the Township has decreased. The Kent County Sherriff's Office website includes a crime dashboard that Deputy Dieppa walked the board through. He did not have any other suggestions of specific ways the DDA could directly work to reduce crime.

ARTICLE 5. Troyer Group – Village Park Plan

Mike Reese (Troyer Group), John Moxley (Fleis and Vanderbrink), and Wes Landon (Native Edge) discussed the Tassell Park plan. They included information on preserving what is currently there, integrating activity into the park, and creating a gateway to the park and village

Supervisor Lesperance left at 6:25pm.

ARTICLE 6. Consider Approval of Resolution No. 2025-1

The DDA Board discussed issuance of bonds for the updates to Tassell Park and the surrounding village area.

Motion was made by Member Makkar to approve Resolution 2025-1, a Resolution to Approve Certain Reimbursements. Supported by Member Carlson. Motion carried 7 to 0.

Member Makkar left at 7:08pm

ARTICLE 7. Staff Updates

Director Sennett updated the board on the Christmas lighting in the Village and said that they will be done decorating by the end of the week.

The Centennial Park medians have been completed and the only negative feedback from residents was that the Township needs to add some reflectors like the ones previously in place.

The DDA sidewalk projects for 2025 have been completed.

There is a questionnaire on the website and public meetings are scheduled to discuss changes to the Township's Zoning Ordinance. Residents and members of the board are invited to attend.

There are new holiday banners hung up on the pedestrian bridge.

ARTICLE 8. Any Other Business

There was not any other business to discuss at that time.

ARTICLE 9. Acknowledge Visitors & Public Comment

Michelle Lower (2992 Overlook Summit) shared her views on the changes to Tassell Park and Zoning Ordinance. She also thanked the board for all of their hard work and said she was related to the late Gordon Reynolds who previously served as a DDA member.

ARTICLE 10. Adjournment

Motion was made by Member Vogel to adjourn the meeting. Supported by Member Vogel. Motion carried 6 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Vogel, Secretary