

Subject: Re: Acknowledgment requested

From: James Koskela [REDACTED]@hollyvillage.org>

Date: 4/22/2026, 5:05 PM

To: Holly DDA Executive Director <[REDACTED]@hollyvillage.org>

CC: "linda [REDACTED]"

Sir,

Thank you for your response.

To note: I am not aware of any directive from our DDA board prohibiting the DDA director from engaging in *communication*. I have not directed you to do anything. I *have* requested public information and rationale behind decisions to spend taxpayer money. This is solely your decision to stifle communication, and it is disappointing.

With your request, however, I will need to request an agenda item for our special meeting to discuss this further as I am not able to unilaterally direct Manager Price to follow up on items that are of singularly concern to me.

President Brandon: Would you please place a DDA item on the special meeting agenda to direct Manager Price to follow up on several of these items. I can present more details on Monday.

Thank you,

Jim Koskela

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From: Holly DDA Executive Director <ddadirector@hollyvillage.org>

Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2026 4:23:30 PM

To: James Koskela [REDACTED]; Timothy Price [REDACTED]

Cc: linda [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Acknowledgment requested

Councilman Koskela,

I appreciate that you feel my response was slow, but please note that a) the majority of your emails (six were sent over six days—3 of those within less than 2 hours) were sent while I was out of state or out of the office and unavailable to respond, and b) My first official day back in the office was Monday, and I have been catching up since then. Improving relationships and cooperation takes time, and judging my performance based on your limited view is not a constructive approach for enhancing the DDA-Village Council relationship. I have always been polite and respectful in our interactions and would expect the same in return.

Please note that as the Executive Director of the DDA, I report directly to the DDA Board of Directors, not the Village Council or individual Council Members, nor the Village Manager with whom I work, but not for. For operational information requests, please direct them through the village manager or the DDA board process. This helps maintain clear lines of authority and respects the governance structure of both boards.

Regarding the Holly Post check, it was voided due to age and reissued and approved by both the village treasurer and

the village president.

Tech Funds are a grant applied for through Main Street Oakland County and within the legal purview of the DDA to use as dictated by the grant.

Bylaws are being discussed between Tim Price and myself.

The 501c3 is a separate legal entity established by the DDA, with its own EIN and funding limited to grants and private donations (no TIF funds). Its governance and bylaws are under the nonprofit board's purview.

Regards,

Kevin A. Stephison

Main Street Holly DDA Executive Director

[REDACTED]@hollyvillage.org

Office: [REDACTED]

From: James Koskela <[REDACTED]@hollyvillage.org>

Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2026 2:36 PM

To: Holly DDA Executive Director <[REDACTED]@hollyvillage.org>; Timothy Price <[REDACTED]@hollyvillage.org>

Subject: Acknowledgment requested

Good Afternoon,

I am following up regarding my prior inquiries, as I have not yet received a response.

I want to be candid that this lack of communication is disappointing, particularly given the recent messaging about turning a new leaf and working cooperatively from your office. From my perspective, the current level of engagement does not reflect that commitment. If I can't receive even simple communication, I worry what our residents are seeing.

For transparency, I am including Manager Price on this email. Sir, I would ask that you confirm with Mr. Stephison, verbally if necessary, whether Mr. Stephison intends to have any type of engagement on these matters moving forward. Please share his response by email on this chain so I can provide council documentation.

I also want to note that much of the information I requested could largely be obtained through FOIA on a personal matter or via council action. However, given that we are all working within the same organization, it *should* not be necessary to rely on formal requests to obtain basic information from one another.

Additionally, your lack of response has already resulted in unnecessary waste of Village time at public meetings, specifically regarding the Dickens Festival budget amendment that I alerted you of prior to the last council meeting. As I had indicated days prior to the meeting, that amendment was not going to pass, and earlier communication from your office could have avoided that situation.

I did receive your recent email, and subsequent recall attempt, regarding the flower bed to my personal email. Thanks you. While I appreciate the update, it is difficult to pay attention to minor items while we see a lack of response on more substantive matters involving intergovernmental coordination. I nonetheless look forward to the corrected flowerbed email.

Thank you,
Jim Koskela