

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
South Drake Road Corridor Improvement Authority (SoDA)
April 15, 2014

SoDA Board meeting was held at the Township Hall. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Theresa Spurr at 3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Theresa Spurr, Chair
Deb Jung, Secretary
Dennis Patzer, Treasurer
John Disbro
Joe Gesmundo
Jackie Kimble

Also present were Planning Director Greg Milliken, Township Attorney James Porter, Township Clerk Deb Everett, acting as Recording Secretary, and Township Treasurer Nancy Culp.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Kimble, second by Gesmundo to approve the agenda as presented. Carried 6-0.

Minutes

Motion by Patzer, second by Disbro to approve the minutes of the March 28th meeting. Carried 6-0.

Public Comment

None.

Follow Up From March 28th Meeting/Additional Questions

Mr. Disbro inquired how much information regarding the development plan should be shared. Attorney Porter advised the SoDA Board meets under the requirements of the Open Meetings Act, meetings are open to the public, therefore, any discussion can be shared. He noted under the Open Meetings Act there are instances where the Board could enter into closed session, however, it must be posted and part of an open meeting, and only used for discussion of a personnel matter at an employee's request, litigation strategy and attorney opinion review, and purchase of real estate.

Consideration of Draft Development & Tax Increment Finance Plans

The draft development and financing plan was distributed at the March 28th meeting for Board review. Board member comments included concerns regarding the amount estimated for maintenance and snow removal; consensus was the amount should be raised to \$20,000 annually. There was also concern regarding safety with a non-motorized facility attracting more foot traffic; consensus was to add language regarding community engagement to address safety concerns.

Motion by Gesmundo, second by Kimble to approve the plan as modified and recommend approval to the Township Board. Carried 6-0.

Other Business

Planning Director Milliken advised the taxing entities affected by the SoDA TIF plan will have 60 days after the Township Board approves the plan to comment or opt out.

Mr. Milliken also advised the Costco site development has applied to the County Brownfield Authority for assistance in developing their site.

Consensus was the next meeting will be scheduled after the 60 day comment period has elapsed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:15 p.m.

Deb Everett
Recording Secretary