

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
South Drake Road Corridor Improvement Authority (SoDA)
Special Meeting
August 28, 2014

SoDA Board special meeting was held at the Township Hall. The meeting was called to order by Treasurer Dennis Patzer at approximately 11:00 am.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Dennis Patzer, Treasurer
Jackie Kimble
Joe Gesmundo
Corey Ashley
Libby Heiny-Cogswell, Township Supervisor

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

Public Comment

None.

AGREEMENT WITH KALAMAZOO COUNTY
SOUTH DRAKE ROAD CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY (SoDA)

Planning Director Milliken advised since Kalamazoo County has adopted a policy for tax increment financing (TIF) requests, a letter has been prepared requesting they accept a letter from the Township and SoDA as a letter of agreement to recognize the County's policy, rather than requiring the required noticing/hearing process be repeated.

Motion by Gesmundo, second by Ashley to authorize Mr. Patzer as the acting chair to sign the letter of agreement recognizing the County's TIF policy. Carried 5-0.

RESOLUTIONS OF SUPPORT

Planning Director Milliken advised the Township Board recently adopted Resolutions of Support for two potential funding opportunities for South Drake Road non-motorized projects. He reminded the Board the Township cannot act as an Act 51 agency and receive road funding directly; the Kalamazoo County Road Commission (KCRC) is the Act 51 agency that receives road funds for townships.

KCRC GRANT APPLICATION – SOUTH DRAKE ROAD

The Township requested the KCRC apply on the Township's behalf for approximately \$1 million in Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) funds to complete a shared use path on Drake Road from Stadium Drive to West Main. The Township continues to work with the KCRC on the project along with MDOT in hopes of receiving the grant although some of the tenets of the KCRC non-motorized policy have made this challenging.

Motion by Gesmundo, second by Kimble to adopt the Resolution of Support. Carried 4-1 with Ashley voting no.

CITY OF KALAMAZOO SAFETY PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION – SOUTH DRAKE ROAD

The City of Kalamazoo has identified a portion of Drake Road, from West Michigan to Green Meadow, eligible for \$320,800 in Local Safety Program grant funds and is prepared to apply for the grant funding toward the shared use path.

Motion by Kimble, second by Gesmundo to adopt the Resolution of Support. Carried 4-1 with Ashley voting no.

Mr. Ashley commented the ownership of his business, Group Marketing Services, is opposed to the non-motorized project.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Gesmundo, speaking as the developer of the corner of Drake/Stadium advised the current project is nearing being ready for sidewalk installation from Stadium to the new entrance to the Costco site and would be more cost effective to complete prior to landscaping. He inquired if there is an opportunity for reimbursement if/when the entire proposed non-motorized project comes to fruition. Mr. Milliken and Mr. Porter advised it would not be reimbursable through any grant, however, the SoDA could entertain his request.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:40 a.m.

Deb Everett
Recording Secretary