

Corridor Improvement Authority  
7/10/23, 6:00pm  
Keeler Township Hall

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

Members Present:

Rod Pletz, Pat Hickey, Brian Morin, Don Blackmond, Mike Spain, Dan LaFond, Kelly Smit

Members Absent:

Bill Boston

Guests Present:

None

Discussion:

1. Approval of June Meeting Minutes:
  - a. Pat motioned to approve minutes, Mike 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - b. Motion passes unanimously.
2. Bills: Mowing at Lions Park
  - a. June 8: \$125
  - b. Kelly motioned to pay \$125, Pat 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - c. Motion passes unanimously.
3. Pedestrian Pathways
  - a. Van Buren County Road Commission (VBCRC) sent official letter indicating project is cost prohibitive to moving forward at this time.
  - b. Group discussed ideas of what to do going forward.
  - c. Group discussed attending a future VBCRC meeting to ask them how we can work together to make the road safer.
    - i. Two major options discussed:
      1. Asking VBCRC to respond to their letter asking what they think the contribution from the CIA would need to be to make it possible and what the timeline would be.
      2. Going back to original VBCRC proposal to resurface road and paint pedestrian markings, sharrows, signage, and ask township to enforce parking restrictions.
    - ii. Group decided to start with an informal discussion with Barry Antilla from the VBCRC.
  - d. Brian motioned to rescind resolution to contribute \$100,000 to VBCRC to resurface, Don 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - i. Roll Call Vote:
      1. Dan: Support
      2. Don: Support
      3. Brian: Support
      4. Mike: Support
      5. Kelly: Support
      6. Pat: Support
      7. Rod: Support

- e. Rod will reach out to Barry to set up a meeting about where we go from here.
- 4. Radar sign discussion
  - a. Brian brought proposal forth to purchase a radar sign to place in corridor to help calm traffic.
  - b. Group agreed this was a good idea and was interested in adding a second sign to warn traffic going the other direction.
  - c. Group discussed potential of splitting the cost between the CIA, Round Lake Association, and Keeler Township Board.
  - d. Rod motions to allocate up to \$1500 for one sign or up to \$3,000 for a second sign. Pat 2nd.
    - 1. Dan: Support
    - 2. Don: Support
    - 3. Brian: Support
    - 4. Mike: Support
    - 5. Kelly: Support
    - 6. Pat: Support
    - 7. Rod: Support
  - e. Mike Spain agreed to talk with the Crooked Lakes Association at their next meeting to discuss a contribution from that organization.
- 5. Tax Increment Funding (TIF) Plan
  - a. Board has put forth effort to build a park on Lion's Club property
    - i. TIF funds cannot currently be used to build a park because it wasn't in the board's original charter.
    - ii. Charter would need to be amended to include additional scope of work and be approved by the Township Board.
- 6. Rod was approached by Dee Barry, who is interested in reviving the Sister Lakes Triathlon
  - a. She is interested in putting together a group to help the CIA organize the triathlon
  - b. The board did not have interest in reviving the triathlon at this time.
- 7. Public Meeting- August 5, 2023
  - a. Rod motioned to cancel public Meeting, Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - i. Motion passes unanimously
- 8. Open spot on the board
  - a. Don talked with Justin Barden from Sister Lakes Gym. He is interested but has too much going on right now.
- 9. Don met with Van Buren County Parks Board
  - a. He showed them corner lot near Township Hall, lot on CR690 across from The Strand, and Lion's Park property leased by CIA
    - i. The group showed some interest in working with the Township to develop parks in the area.
- 10. Public Comment Solicited at 7:23p
  - 1. None heard
- 11. Don motioned to adjourn, Pat 2nd. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.

Next meeting: August 7, 2023, Keeler Township Hall