

Corridor Improvement Authority

09/07/2026

Keeler Township Hall

Chairman Rod Pletz called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

Members present: Don Blackmond, Pat Hickey, Harold Schaus, Rod Pletz and Mari Herrell.

Members absent: Vicki Pletz, Mike Spain, and Tom Neary.

Quorum has been achieved.

Motion made to approve the minutes of 08/04/2026 by Don Blackmond. Seconded by Pat Hickey.  
Motion passed.

Chairman Pletz gave a financial report showing the general fund has a balance of \$1,840.39. Don Blackmond Stated that the Michigan Class account has \$106,719.18.

Discussion about the lease agreement for the La Perla sign. The only objections to the lease were the length of the lease agreement and the out clause.

Pat Hickey made a motion to accept a lease agreement with a 20-year term and a solution to recoup the investment with the out clause. Mari Herrell seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mari Herrell thanked Pat Hickey for sending out an AI generated Word document as a starting point for the policy and procedure or rules on the information that can be displayed on the sign.  
Discussion ensued.

Pat Hickey made a motion that the sign be referred to as the La Perla Plaza sign (as opposed to the Greater Sister Lakes Business Association sign at the La Perla property). Mari Herrell seconded.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Pletz stated the Don Blackmond sent out a message stating that we were denied the DNR passport grant. A litany of changes that would have to be made to apply for another was mentioned.

Chairman Pletz stated that a contract was signed with Superior Fence to repair storm damage and move the northeast corner post for \$1,488. \$2,500 was approved at the July meeting. Work should start at the end of September or early October.

Chairman Platts stated that he met with the Township Clerk and the Township Treasurer to formalize the procedure of receiving Brick orders from the Post Office box. Checks will be deposited and the form will be scanned and e-mailed to the CIA e-mail. Orders will be compiled and ordered in a lot of 10 or more to avoid the extra charge.

Chairman Pletz stated that the gratitude sign has been installed on the picnic table at the pavilion. It is not the sign that we ordered but rather an embossed sign at a cost of \$198.

Discussion about putting a sign to encourage brick donations at the pavilion site. Don Blackmond made a motion to approve up to \$1000 to purchase a sign that meets all zoning requirements. Seconded by Mary Harrell. Motion carried.

Don Blackmond provided an update on the T.I.F. committee. He has contacted attorneys and identified several engineering and planning firms that could prepare a development plan. However, no one has responded yet, and the cost and timeline remain unknown. The corridor improvement authority still needs to come up with a project and decide what public input would be required.

Chairman Pletz reviewed the budget for ongoing projects and expenses against available funds. Discussion included playground equipment for the Lions Club leased property, maintenance costs, shared-lane markings (“sharrows”), pedestrian sign maintenance, the proposed cost of the La Perla Plaza sign, and attorney, engineering, or planning costs related to continuing or establishing a new tax increment financing district. No decision was made.

Chairman Pletz opened the meeting up to public comment at 6:50 PM.

Discussion about the virtues of rubberized mulch as opposed to the cedar mulch was made. The need for possibly a solar light at the pavilion was mentioned. The addition of a garbage receptacle was also made. The idea of installing permanent BBQ grilling facilities was mentioned.

The meeting was closed to public comment.

Pat Hickey made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Harold Schaus. Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary R. Patrick Hickey

*R. Patrick Hickey*

Next meeting is October 5th, 2026.