

APPROVED

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
MERIDIAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC)
MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 18, 2020

PRESENT: Chair Vagnozzi, Vice-Chair Lovell, Commissioners Potter, Deschaine, and Hackbarth (6:15 p.m.).

ABSENT: Commissioners Hudson and Kolbasa.

STAFF: Ken Plaga, Police Chief, Derek Perry, Director of Public Works and Engineering, Ken Lane, Director of Economic Development, Peter Menser, Principal Planner, Mark Kieselbach, Director of Community Planning and Development and Jerry Richards, Planning Commission Representative.

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Vagnozzi called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Deschaine moved to approve the agenda.

Seconded by Commissioner Potter.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Lovell moved to approve the minutes of January 23, 2020 as written.

Seconded by Commissioner Deschaine.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Deschaine moved to approve the minutes of February 6, 2020 as written.

Seconded by Vice-Chair Lovell.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

4. Communications

None

5. Public Remarks

Ken Lane, Economic Development Director introduced himself to the Commission.

6. Commission Discussion

A. Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA) Update

Chair Vagnozzi welcomed Andrew Brieschke, Deputy CEO, CATA.

Mr. Brieschke provided the Commission with a packet of information on Redi-Ride service in the Township for June 2018 to March 2020. The information included passenger type, booking analysis, extended hours ridership and student ridership. (A copy of the information is on file.)

- At the start of COVID-19 CATA suspended all service except for essential trips such as medical.
- May 4, limited service and limited schedule on fix routes, must wear a mask, free fare, 1,200 to 1,600 trips per day.
- May 26, full schedule for fix routes and Redi-Ride, free fare.
- June 15, all services are back, 8,000 trips per day, collecting fare
- Prior to COVID-19 14,000 trips per day
- CATA anticipates ridership will still be down 40-50 percent for June 2020.
- Persons with disabilities make up the largest percentage of users for Redi-Ride.
- Total rides booked were 41,904 and total rides taken were 34,778.
- Number of client refusals and no shows has decreased.
- Canceled rides were the highest in June 2019.
- For next update charts will show a 24 month period.
- Redi-Ride student ridership for extended hours, August 27, 2018 to March 31, 2020 was 874, rides taken 7:30-9:0 a.m. and 81 rides taken 5:00-6:30 p.m.
- Overall student ridership is down.
- New technology for real time dispatch, booking location and payment.
- Mobile booking and bus tracking still needs to be rolled out.
- Touchless fare payment with a card or by mobile device is being worked on.
- Older buses need to be retrofitted for touchless fare box.
- 15 new buses being purchased have touchless fare boxes already installed.

B. Local Road Update

Chair Vagnozzi welcomed Derek Perry, Deputy Township Manager and Director of Public Works and Engineering.

Director Perry went through the 2020 road construction plan which included 10.24 miles of rehabilitation work and 16.7 miles of preventative maintenance crack sealing work. (A copy of the information is on file.)

- Nine roads will be crushed and resurfaced.
- Resurfacing work includes crushing the existing asphalt, grading and preparing the new road base and placing new asphalt.
- Twenty four roads will be milled and resurfaced.
- Resurfacing includes replacing defective curb and upgrading sidewalk ramps, milling off the existing asphalt pavement and placing new asphalt.
- The rehabilitation work in 2020 will focus on the roads in the poorest condition.
- The 2020 budget is \$4,122,500.
- Township is partnering with the Ingham County Road Department (ICRD) to pave Hagadorn Road north of Lake Lansing Road and Birch Row.
- Township is partnering with the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's office to pave Shaw, Potter and Edson streets.
- The resurfacing of Central Park Drive and Newman Road has started. Both roads will be restriped to three lanes.
- The resurfacing and restriping to three lanes on Jolly Road will be in late summer.
- Forest and Beaumont roads will be resurfaced this summer.
- Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has proposed to move the resurfacing of Grand River Avenue from Marsh road to Oak Point from 2023 to 2021.
- Director Perry has been in discussion with MDOT on mid-block crosswalks on Grand River Avenue and the repair of the sidewalk across from Playmakers.
- Director Perry said he would keep the Commission informed on the work proposed along Grand River Avenue.
- 2020 local road projects are listed on the Township Website.
- Planning on having a crosswalk on Central Park Drive for the new Farmers Market.
- Crosswalk will have a RRFB (Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon) for pedestrians to use.
- The Commission members discussed having a joint meeting with the Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA). It was suggested the joint meeting be held at next Transportation Commission meeting on August 20, 2020. Director Lane will check with the CIA and confirm the meeting date.
- Bill McConnell commented it was good to have the update from CATA. He was also in favor of mid-block crossings on Grand River Avenue.

MTC Minutes Draft

June 18, 2020

Page 4

7. Commission Comments

Chair Vagnozzi thanked Commissioner Hackbarth for all the work he had done on behalf of the Commission. Commissioner Hackbarth was the first chair of the Transportation Commission and due to his effective leadership shaped the role of the Commission.

Commissioner Hackbarth thanked everyone and stated it had been a pleasure to serve on the Commission.

8. Next Meeting Dates

Transportation Commission's next meeting is August 20, 2020. The Township Board's next virtual meeting is July 7, 2020.

9. Adjournment

Chair Vagnozzi asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Deschaine moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Commissioner Potter.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.