

APPROVED

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
MERIDIAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC)
MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2017

PRESENT: Commissioners: Chair Hackbarth, Vice-Chair Potter, Deschaine, Hudson, Kolbasa
and Vagnozzi

ABSENT: Commissioner Vaughn

STAFF: Ken Plaga, Assistant Chief of Police
Mark Kieselbach, Director of Community Planning and Development

1. Call Meeting to Order

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

2. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Deschaine moved to approve the agenda as written
Seconded by Commissioner Vagnozzi
VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

3. Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Potter moved to approve the minutes of February 23, 2017
Seconded by Commissioner Deschaine
VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

4. Communications

The Commission accepted the communications that had been received and placed on file.

5. Presentation/Discussion

Chair Hackbarth welcomed Keith Simons PE, PTOE, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Bill Conklin, Managing Director, Ingham County Road Department (ICRD). He explained how the MTC was established and its purpose.

Keith Simons MDOT

- Five-Year Transportation Program (2017-2021)
- Region wide call for projects
- Seven Regions in the State
- 22 Transportation Service Centers (TSC) statewide
- Ingham County is in the University Region
- Projects are selected on road conditions and traffic volume

- Regions compete against each other for selection of projects
- Five-Year Transportation Program part of the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
- State must have a STIP to receive Federal Transportation funding
- 80% of the money for State road projects comes from Federal Transportation funding
- MDOT staff monitor road conditions
- Best to call the Lansing TSC if there are road problems such as potholes
- 2017 projects, Grand River Avenue (M-43) Oak Pointe Court to Meridian Road crack treatment and Saginaw Highway (I-69 BL) Hagadorn to Lake Lansing crack treatment
- Saginaw Highway (I-69 BL) intersection improvements at Newton Road, Towner Road and Marsh Road design in 2018 with construction in 2019
- Construction on Grand River Avenue (M-43) is dependent on CATA's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project
- Would be difficult to install a mid-block pedestrian crossing on Grand River Avenue (M-43). Tom Fisher at TSC could answer questions regarding a mid-block crossing

Bill Conklin IRCD

- ICRD has two types of road classifications, Primary or Local
- Primary roads include roads such as Okemos, Marsh, Jolly and Haslett
- Improvements and maintenance of Primary roads are funded through Federal funding, State gas tax and vehicle registration fees
- Local Roads include roads such as Van Atta, Hatch, Cornell and Tihart
- Improvements and maintenance of Local roads are funded through State gas tax and vehicle registration fees
- Township can also contribute funding for improvements and maintenance of Local roads
- Federal and State funds come through Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC) as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties
- Tri-County Regional Planning Commission has an approved Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) 2017-2020
- Several funding sources such as Surface Transportation Program (STP), Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ), Transportation Alternatives (TA), Bridge Program and National Highway Performance Program
- 2017 project, Okemos/Jolly Road intersection improvements include construction of right turn lanes on three approaches of the intersection
- Construction will start mid-July and finish in Spring 2018
- During construction left turns at the intersection will be prohibited
- Jolly Oak Road, Woodlake Drive and University Park Drive will serve as alternate routes
- Construction cost is estimated at \$1.8 million
- A mid-block pedestrian crossing on Okemos Road south of Jolly Road would be difficult

- 2018 project, Jolly Road (Dobie to Meridian) re-construct and add four foot wide paved non-motorized surface on both sides of Jolly Road
- 2018 project, Lake Lansing Road (Hagadorn to Saginaw) resurface and add bike lanes. Possible road diet will reduce the 4 lanes of traffic to 3 lanes
- Road diets help reduce the speed of traffic and number of vehicle accidents
- 2019 project, Okemos Road (Mount Hope to Clinton) Replace two lane bridge with four lane bridge and associated road work
- Was not able to get necessary funding for bridge construction in 2019 but will reapply for 2020 funding
- Estimated construction cost for bridge and road was \$5,000,000
- If new bridge is constructed the existing camelback bridge could be used as a pedestrian bridge
- For potholes and other maintenance issues call the ICRD at 517-676-9722
- ICRD will provide approximately \$115,000 to the Township for local road funding in 2017
- Township is required to match the amount provided
- Township typically exceeds the match. 2017 Township Budget is \$250,000 from General Fund
- Township local road millage is expected to provide and additional \$407,500 for a total of \$657,500
- Only four miles of local roads can be resurfaced for \$657,500
- Township Board should consider increasing the .25 mil to 1 mil for the local road millage
- Local road millage was renewed in 2012 and runs until 2023
- With the increase in the gas tax and vehicle registration fees, the funding from ICRD could double in 2018
- The Road Department would support a full signal at Woodlake Drive/Jolly Road to aide pedestrians and bicyclists safely crossing

7. Public Remarks

- Leonard Provencher, stated the Commission represents the citizens of the Township. He asked that the packet information be available on the Township web page the Friday prior to the Commission meeting. He also asked the Commission to be more responsive to people with disabilities.
- Dianna Paiz Engle, asked about a document provided by Commissioner Hudson at the February 23, 2017 Transportation Commission meeting. She spoke to the communication from Donna Rose dated February 28, 2017. Ms. Engle gave two examples of trying to schedule a Redi-Ride with a four hour notice. She was successful in January but not successful in February.

8. Commission Comments

Commissioner Hudson moved to have public remarks at the beginning and end of each meeting

Seconded by Commissioner Kolbasa

- A person could speak twice to items of interest
- Public remarks should be limited to 3 minutes per person

- Support for having public remarks once either at the beginning or end of the meeting

Commissioner Hudson moved to amend her motion and have public remarks at the beginning of the meeting

Seconded by Commissioner Vagnozzi

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is April 27, 2017 in the Meridian Municipal Building Town Hall Room

10. Adjournment

Chair Hackbarth called for a motion to adjourn the meeting

Commissioner Deschaine moved to adjourn the meeting

Seconded by Vice-Chair Potter

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.