

APPROVED

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
MERIDIAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC)
MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 27, 2019

PRESENT: Chair Hackbarth, Vice-Chair Vagnozzi, Commissioners Deschaine, Potter and Lovell.

ABSENT: Commissioner Hudson and Kolbasa.

STAFF: Frank Walsh, Township Manager, Derek Perry, Director of Public Works and Engineering, Ken Plaga, Chief of Police, Jerry Richards, Planning Commission Representative and Mark Kieselbach, Director of Community Planning and Development.

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Hackbarth called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Vice-Chair Vagnozzi moved to approve the agenda.

Seconded by Commissioner Lovell.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Deschaine moved to approve the minutes of May 23, 2019 as written.

Seconded by Vice-Chair Vagnozzi.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Remarks

A resident was given permission to comment on the Okemos Road bridge replacement during discussion Item 6A.

5. Communications

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

6. Commission Discussion

A. Update on Okemos Road bridge replacement.

Chair Hackbarth welcomed Bill Conklin, Managing Director Ingham County Road Department and Kelly Jones, Director of Engineering Ingham County Road Department.

Ms. Jones gave an update on the public information meeting held on April 25, 2019. The public that attended the meeting were in favor of Alternative 3 and removal of the camelback bridge. Since the public information meeting Alternative 3 was modified to convert the left lane into a grass median between Mt. Hope Road and the Red Cedar River.

A portion of the left turn lane between the Red Cedar River and Clinton Street was also converted to a grass median. Alternative 4 was modified to include on-street bike lanes. (A copy of the information is on file).

- Alternatives 3 and 4 and removal of the camelback bridge would improve the hydrology of the Red Cedar River.
- Alternatives 3 and 4 were the best design for non-motorized traffic.
- Some Township Board members preferred Alternative 4 because of the additional green space.
- Possible pathway under new bridge would connect parks.
- Alternative 4 had the highest construction cost of approximately \$7.6 million (did not include acquisition cost).
- The Road Department would need the Township to help pay for the additional cost of approximately \$2 million.
- Township has paid for the non-motorized cost in other projects.

Commissioner Lovell moved the Transportation Commission recommend to the Township Board an alternative design that included the removal of the camelback bridge.

Seconded by Vice-Chair Vagnozzi.

VOICE VOTE: motion carried unanimously

- Cost to remove camelback bridge is approximately \$100,000.
- Bike lanes could be eliminated from bridge deck.

Chair Hackbarth moved that Township staff and staff from the Road Department work together on an alternative (s) design for the Transportation Commission's consideration.

Seconded by Vice-Chair Vagnozzi.

VOICE VOTE: motion carried unanimously

- Township needs to know how much money the Road Department has budgeted for the project.

B. Review/Recap of Community Conversation Meeting

- Commission members suggested they would staff a table at the Farmers' Market to promote the road bond proposal and the Redi-Ride millage.
- The Commission decided to discuss the road bond proposal at its August meeting.

C. Review of material from CATA.

- The Commission decided to discuss the updated information from CATA at its August meeting.

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7. Commission Comments

None.

8. Next Meeting Dates

Transportation Commission's next meeting is August 22, 2019 at the Central Fire Station Community Room. Township Board's next meeting is July 9, 2019.

9. Adjournment

Chair Hackbarth moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Commissioner Deschaine.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.