



Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Transportation Commission
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, January 21, 2021- Minutes -APPROVED

Members

Present: Chair Vagnozzi, Vice-Chair Lovell, Commissioners Potter, Opsommer, Hudson and Robertson

Members

Absent: None

Others

Present: Deputy Manager Derek Perry, Police Chief Ken Plaga, Community Planning & Development Director Mark Kieselbach, Planning Commission Liaison Christina Snyder, and Bill McConnell.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Vagnozzi called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER OPSOMMER TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER HUDSON. MOTION PASSES 6-0.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES-NOVEMBER 19, 2020

MOTION BY VICE-CHAIR LOVELL TO APPROVE THE MINUTES. SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER OPSOMMER. MOTION PASSES 6-0.

4. COMMUNICATIONS - NONE

5. PUBLIC REMARKS - NONE

6. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

VICE-CHAIR LOVELL MOVED TO NOMINATE CHAIR VAGNOZZI AS CHAIR FOR 2021. SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER POTTER. MOTION PASSES 6-0.

COMMISSIONER HUDSON MOVED TO NOMINATE VICE-CHAIR LOVELL AS VICE-CHAIR FOR 2021. SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER POTTER. MOTION PASSES 6-0.

7. COMMISSION DISCUSSION

A. 2021 Local Road Program

(Presentation material on file.)

- Second year of the program.
- Approximately \$3.5 million to be spent on improvement.
- Total of 17.98 miles of road work.
- Resurfacing 8.87 miles, Cape Seal 1.50 miles and Crack Fill 7.61 miles.
- Cape Seal uses small chips with a slurry coating.
- Adds 8-10 years to the life of the road.
- Roads to be resurfaced are in poor condition or have failed.
- Road work is distributed across the Township as much as possible.
- Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER) analysis was completed in 2017.
- The goal of the 10 year program is to have all roads at a PASER rating of 8 (Good).
- Ingham County Road Department does chip seal over newly asphalted road to extend the life of the road.

B. Pathway Projects

(Presentation material on file.)

- The MSU to Lake Lansing pathway is planned in three phases.
- Funding from the Ingham County Trail millage was secured to pay for a portion of the pathway.
- Phase 1 will be the most difficult as there are multiple property owners along the route.
- An appraisal of each property must be done.
- Phase 2 will be sent out for bids within the next 30 days.
- Phase 2b is a ten foot wide pathway on the east side of Okemos Road from the Township Service Center, Gaylord C. Smith Court to the Inter Urban pathway.
- Phase 3 will connect to Lake Lansing and the Ingham County Park.
- Phase 3b is along Shaw Street from Haslett Road to Lake Lansing Park South.
- The pathway construction will be done in conjunction with the Ingham County Drain office Nemoka Drain project and the resurfacing of Shaw Street planned for 2021.
- The Township is working with East Lansing to construct a pathway on the west side of Towar Avenue from Lake Lansing Road north to connect with the East Lansing pathway and access to the East Lansing Sports Complex.
- There are approximately 75 miles of pathways.
- After a snowfall it takes 4-6 hours using multiple crews to clear the pathways.
- There can be negative affects when applying salt.
- Using beet juice deicer as a possible alternative.
- Concern there was no pathway on the south side of Lake Lansing Road east of Hagadorn Road to Highgate Avenue adjacent to Donley Elementary school.
- The last update to the Pathway Master Plan was 2016.
- A 2021 goal of the Township Board is to review and update the Pathway Master Plan.
- Need to identify and prioritize where pathways should be constructed.

- There have been “historic gaps” in the pathway system.

C. Okemos Road – Downtown

(Presentation material on file.)

- The new Okemos Road Bridge will have a similar design to the former camelback bridge.
- There will be a pedestrian pathway under the bridge on the north side of the river.
- Locations for rain gardens are possible adjacent to the new bridge.
- Bridge replacement will start late in 2021 with completion in 2022.
- A dedicated left turn signal will be installed at the Grand River Avenue / Dobie Road / Central Park Drive intersection in 2021.
- The left turn cycle from northbound Dobie Road to Grand River Avenue currently only allows 2-3 vehicles per cycle.
- MDOT has moved the resurfacing of Grand River Avenue to 2022 to allow additional time on the design to raise Grand River Avenue at the Okemos Road intersection.
- The Ingham County Road Department will be resurfacing Hagadorn Road from Mt. Hope Road to the Red Cedar Bridge in 2021.
- MDOT plans to resurface Saginaw Highway in 2024.
- A concept plan to connect Okemos Road to the roundabout at Marsh Road and Hamilton Road was discussed.
- The plan could help to alleviate traffic congestion at the Okemos Road and Hamilton Road intersection.

8. NEXT MEETING DATES

A. Township Board Meeting January 26, 2021. (Boards / Commissions)

B. Transportation Commission Meeting March 18, 2021

Chair Vagnozzi suggested the Pathway Master Plan be the discussion item for the March meeting.

9. ADJOURNMENT

CHAIR VAGNOZZI ASKED FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING, MOTION BY COMMISSIONER POTTER TO ADJOURN THE MEETING, SUPPORTED BY TRUSTEE OPSOMMER, MOTION PASSES 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.