

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
South Drake Road Corridor Improvement Authority (SoDA)
March 28, 2014

SoDA Board meeting was held at the Township Hall at 10:30 a.m.

PRESENT:
Corey Ashley
Kelly Bringman
Libby Heiny-Cogswell
John Disbro
Deb Jung
Jackie Kimble
Theresa Spurr

Also present were Planning Director Greg Milliken, Township Attorney James Porter, Township Engineer Marc Elliott, and Clerk Deb Everett.

Introductions/Background

Introductions of those present were made. Planning Director Milliken and Attorney Porter reviewed the formation of SoDA initiated by the Township Board, through Public Act 280 of 2005, the purpose is to assist communities with funding infrastructure improvements in commercial corridors, similar to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) by capturing tax revenue on increases in taxable value; it was noted property assessments would not be affected by being included in the Authority boundaries, thus it does not involve a tax increase to the property owner above what would normally occur, while there is a Corridor Improvement Authority Board, the Township Board would approve proposed plans or any change in the boundaries. The proposed corridor would include properties abutting the west side of Drake Road from West Main to Stadium Drive within 500 feet and properties abutting the north and south sides within 500 feet of KL Avenue between Drake Road and South 11th Street.

Consideration of Draft By-Laws

Attorney Porter reviewed the proposed by-laws.

Motion by Disbro, second by Spurr to approve the by-laws as presented. Carried 7-0.

Election of Officers

Chairperson – Motion by Ashley, second by Kimble to elect Theresa Spurr. Carried 7-0.

Vice-Chairperson – Kelly Bringman volunteered to serve. Consensus to approve.

Secretary – Deb Jung volunteered to serve. Consensus to approve.

Treasurer – Motion by Heiny-Cogswell, second by Kimble to elect Dennis Patzer. Carried. 7-0.

Discussion – Draft Development Plan & Tax Increment Finance Plan

Planning Director Milliken reviewed the draft development and tax increment financing plan, advising it is a 30 year plan, can be amended and he asked the Board to focus on the proposed list of projects included in the plan. He advised the plan must be approved by the Township Board and proposed having it on the Township Board's April 22nd agenda.

Discussion included maintenance for non-motorized projects and the possibility of working with the City of Kalamazoo on joint projects since Drake Road is a border road. Mr. Milliken asked Board members to review the plan and provide feedback. Consensus was to meet for further discussion and consider approval of the plan to meet the April 22nd Township Board date.

Other Business

Consensus was to schedule the next meeting on April 15th at 3:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.

Deb Everett
Recording Secretary