

**DDA AGENDA MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
September 19th, 2011 6 pm
TUSCARORA TWP. HALL**

Call to Order (6:07pm)

Roll Call

- Present: Dan Nivelt, Scott Lange, Kelly Ashford, Cindy Poquette, Dawn Bodnar, Mike Ridley, Matt Whitener, Jim O'Donnell, Mike Saker
- Guests: Brian Boals and Joe Elliott

Agenda

Addition: add updates to New Business

Motion to accept: M Ridley, Support: D.Nivelt, Carried

Minutes

Motion to accept: C. Poquette, Support: M. Saker, Carried

Treasurer's report:

- *IMMA Savings acct.*

Interest received \$51.13

Withdrawal to checking \$10,000

Ending balance: **\$238,209.58**

- *Checking Acct.*

IMMA Savings Acct. Transfer \$10,000

Bills that have posted this month are:

Northern Power Sweeping	\$425.00
Tusc. Twp. Inv. # 08040011	\$289.98
Fleis & Vanderbrink	\$5,302.29

Ending Balance: **\$8,398.76**

\$100,000 in a CD

Currently have bills for...

Broken Ordinance Sign (will be reimbursed) \$875.00
F & V for \$5,280.00

Motion to pay bills: D. Nivelt, Support: M. Ridley; Carried

Pathways Project: This brings us up to 67% on pre-design grant administration
55% on the design work completed

New Business

- **Updates**

C. Poquette reported that she and two representatives from F& V (John & Harry) went to speak to Mr. Jankowski with the Indian River Motel and Cottages. After a lengthy discussion, it appears that Mr. Jankowski will be more willing to work with the DDA in the implementation of the Pathways project. (More discussion pending)

- **Discussion of Streetscape Plans**

M. Ridley conveyed that L. Houlton will not support angle in or perpendicular parking. He will only support parallel and angle out. M. Ridley suggested that we have pockets of both parallel and angle out parking on the east side of S. Straits Hwy.

The numbers of curb cuts in town were discussed; less is preferred.

Public Presentation

Brian Boals (Gordie Frasier) gave a presentation explaining the “current” conceptual plan for the Streetscape project.

Public Comments

Although there is no policy in place, L. Houlton reiterated that he would only approve and support parallel or angle out parking and cited many safety reasons for his decision.

K. Swanson inquired if the pockets of angled parking would present a problem for snow removal. L. Houlton responded that the Rd. Comm. would do their best but there would be spots where it would be impossible to get the trucks into. The township would have to clean these areas out as well as the sidewalks on both sides of the streets.

Angled parking vs parallel would yield 3/2 parking places.

It was decided to combine pockets of angle out parking with parallel on the east side of the street.

R. Jacobs stated that the town would actually lose parking places do to the “bump-outs” on the corners.

M. Ridley/ B. Boals conveyed that the construction would happen next year, either in the spring or immediately following Labor Day.

The question was asked if the power lines would be buried. M. Ridley responded that we are trying to work with Consumers Energy to achieve this. The power company will have to relocate the majority of the existing poles when the streetscape is done. It is being suggested that the lines are buried. This will be safer, as the system would be a “Y” system as opposed the antiquated Delta service we currently have. If not buried, would it be possible to have all the poles on the same side?

M. Ridley will check into the cost for landowners to hook up to the new power system. Does one exist? He will report back with his findings at the next DDA meeting.

R. Jacobs stated that traffic through town is down 50%. L. Houlton replied with statistics supporting the opposing opinion.

If the sewer petition passes, both projects will happen simultaneously, resulting in a reduction of total cost (by a million dollars). Sewer petitions to go out to the landowners in the next few weeks.

Continual left turn lane is supported by the Chamber’s survey. S. Snyder asked why we need a left hand turn lane when we are eliminating curb cuts. It provides a queue for the left turn lane, so that more than one person can get out of the way of traffic. It is the Road Comm. manager’s opinion that a continual center lane would be the preferred method.

The concern was raised that the bump-outs will eliminate some of the “on the street” parking. In reality, there shouldn’t be any eliminated.

It was suggested that the speed limit should be lowered. L. Houlton responded that “environment” actually drives the speed in which motorists drive. Bump outs are traffic calming measures, as well as a tree-lined roadway. Stop signs and stoplights are not speed controls. People drive by instinct.

There will be crosswalks at intersections (these tend to slow traffic, as well).

While this is a cooperative effort, the Road Commission, ultimately has the final approval on the plan; as the final agreement will be between Gordie Frasier and the County Road Commission.

There is concern about the curb cuts and how they will affect deliveries in town. Do we need to address and administer a plan to use the side streets?

Are bump-outs “too much” on the short blocks? Some feel this is overkill.

Discussion ensued as to “how” the money which supports the DDA is captured.

It was decided that the DDA would compile all of the info gathered at this meeting and present an updated “conceptual plan” in the near future.

End of Public Meeting

We need to address parking issues for people towing trailers...Should there be designated parking?

Delivery Truck parking....Should they use the side streets? Center lane?

Has Handicapped Parking throughout the downtown area been addressed?

C. Poquette motioned to integrate pockets of angle out parking with parallel parking along the east side of the road; M. Ridley supported.

D. Nivelt~ yes
S. Lange~ no
K. Ashford~ yes
M. Saker~ yes
M. Whitener~ yes
C. Poquette~ yes
D. Bodnar~ yes
M. Ridley~ yes
J. O'Donnell~ yes

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn @ 9:30pm: D. Nivelt, Support: M. Ridley

Next meeting: Monday, October 17th, 2011 7 pm. Twp Hall