

## **DDA MINUTES**

### **Special meeting**

**September 10, 2012**

**7:00pm**

### **Tuscarora Township Hall**

**Call to order by Cindy Poquette at 7:10pm**

#### **Roll call**

Present: Brett Lindgren, Diana Mallory, Jim O'Donnell, Cindy Poquette, Mike Ridley

Guests: Scott Swanson, Louis Paolino, Paula Paolino, John Vance and Janet Vance

Absent: Dan Nivelt, Mike Saker, Scott Lange, Matt Whitener

**Approval of August Minutes:** Mike Ridley *motioned to accept the minutes*, Diana Mallory seconded.

**Pathway Project update:** Cindy announced we do not have financials yet. She did talk to John Duvall, and he thought it would be best to run prints by Mike to make sure he knew what was going on, and that once Mike sees them, it will be ready for bidding. Two permission slips will be needed, one from the school and one from the DNR. Once those are obtained Cindy would go with John to meet with Mike Roper. There is no asphalt that can be put down before May 20<sup>th</sup>, but could put out for bid and they could start on the project prior to the May 20<sup>th</sup> date with the deadline of having it done by mid-June. We may know in the next two weeks when it is going out for bid. Still concerns regarding getting Consumers to do what is needed to get the streetscape going, and was advised that the only entity that Consumers would jump for is MDOT.

**Lighting update:** Mike did get forms from Hollophane that they will reimburse us for paying the local contractors for their work. 6-8 weeks expected for the reimbursement. LIGHTS ARE ALL WORKING ON THE BRIDGE ☺. The new ballasts did work. Banner arms are a concern whether they are on the correct side of the light poles. Mike advised they are mounted correctly according to the drawings. Cindy posed the question, is that the way we want them all the way through town?? Mike called and asked were they actually belong and was advised that they are correct to be placed on the back side of the pole. The Christmas wreaths are a concern, and where they will be mounted on the light poles.

Diana offered to have Dan Mallory of South Side Auto, Inc. make up a correct sized banner/flag to put up there to see what they would look like. (Dan was contacted and advised when he had a chance would get down there to measure to see what size the banners would be.)

**Street Scape and Sewer Project timing:** Mike reported that using the alleys behind the businesses would be cost effective to run utility lines. Cindy is concerned why this is being talked about now, and Mike advised that it has been mentioned several times in the past. Cindy was under the impression that if we did the projects at the same time it would save a million dollars towards the sewer project. Mike advised in 2006 during the feasibility study that this was part of the proposal. Over the last couple of years the concern was about tearing up Main Street to complete these two projects. So this was an alternative option. Pros and cons were discussed; cost effectiveness was the main concern. This is still in the preliminary plans. Not tearing up the entire main street and doing the streetscape project on its own schedule, was another “pro”. It would impact the business owners less if the streetscape could be started after Labor Day. Cindy is afraid that if we put it off it won’t get done at all. The pavement/useful life were a concern. Mike also addressed Scott Swanson regarding the article in the Straitsland Resorter that was incorrect and stated that we would go to the taxpayers to collect the million dollars, the proposal/estimate was \$900,000(15 yrs.) to 1.2 million (30 yrs.), so there was a \$300,000 gap, we started discussing the estimate and somehow ended up talking about the cost of burying the utilities. Mike advised the proposed estimate was for \$2.6 million, if the projects were combined, and done at the same time, ultimately saving a million dollars. And if it was done together that it would save a million dollars. More discussion was posed about the cost to business owners if the alleys we used or if everything was constructed through Main Street. Maintenance in the future was a concern of Jim O’Donnell’s, because of the possibility of tearing up main street for the purpose of future maintenance. Mike discussed getting the asphalt/repaving separated from these projects also. Business loop options were discussed, but it is not a state trunk line. We would have to make our own signage. This had been discussed for a dozen years. Timing is still the issue for these projects. Mike stated we hope to have a shovel in the ground next month for the sewer project if not by November. Spring timeline for laying pipes etc. The final finish date is unknown. More discussion about getting the utility companies at the next meeting and hammer the details out with them. We need to know how much money we need and what we are doing, but they are not playing ball. Mike will make the calls. Mike is going to try to find out where the contract for consumers is and what it states. State laws for hookups were discussed, and who they could be buried by, for example licensed contractors.

**Public Comment:** Mike Ridley mentioned the low flying helicopters in our area and the citizen complaints.

Next meeting: September 24<sup>th</sup>

Meeting adjourned by Mike Ridley, seconded by Brett Lindgren at 7:50p.m.