

MINUTES OF SPECIAL TAX INCREMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY MEETING
MARCH 13, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jungquist at 11:43 a.m. in the Council Chambers of the East Tawas City Hall.

Members Present: Brewer, Fountain, Jungquist, Mooney, O'Connor and Council Representative McMurray.
Members Absent: Ruster
Members Excused: Elliott.
Staff Present: City Manager Leslie and Director Pasakarnis.
Others Present: Bruce Buchinger, Councilwoman Lisa Bolen and Councilman Joe Cano.

The purpose of the special meeting was to discuss the Streetscape project and decide whether or not the brick paver crosswalks and compass rose would be installed as part of the Streetscape project.

Chairman Jungquist explained that Director Pasakarnis and Bruce Buchinger had concerns as to whether or not the bricks in the crosswalks and compass rose would be able to withstand vehicular traffic and winter maintenance. They had visited East Grand Rapids and Frankenmuth and had provided pictures showing the wear of the bricks. The bricks in East Grand Rapids have been in for three years and the bricks in Frankenmuth have been in for almost seven years. These projects were designed by M.C. Smith and used the same process for installation of the pavers as would be used in our project.

Bruce Buchinger explained that he had recently learned that Frankenmuth is currently in the process of contacting contractors to have the brick paver crosswalks redone.

The recommendation from Director Pasakarnis and Bruce Buchinger was to omit the brick paver crosswalks and compass rose and replace the pavers with asphalt. Director Pasakarnis mentioned that she knew of fourteen communities that were taking out brick pavers.

Councilman McMurray asked about the scheduling of the project and about returning the brick pavers. Bruce Buchinger explained that the project, without the pavers in the intersections, should be completed by Memorial Day. He will provide an updated schedule after he meets with the contractors. He also explained that any additional work, such as the parking lots, would take additional time. He indicated that there might be a charge to return the brick pavers that have already been purchased. The compass rose bricks have not been ordered. He also explained that contractors must do the work to get paid.

Alternatives to the brick pavers were discussed including cement, stamped concrete and stamped blacktop. All were dismissed as not good alternatives.

It was noted that TIFA board members Robert Elliott and Pat Ruster, although not present, wanted the board to know that they were in favor of removal of the brick pavers in the intersections and favored blacktop instead. This feeling was also expressed by Mayor Bruce Bolen who was not available to attend the meeting.

Fountain moved, Brewer seconded, CARRIED, to delete the compass rose and brick paver crosswalks from the Streetscape project and install blacktop instead. Yes: Brewer, Fountain, Jungquist, Mooney and O'Connor.

A short discussion was held on what could be done with the money saved from deleting the brick paver crosswalks and compass rose. Bruce will work on a budget for the board. He will explore the cost for completion of the parts of the project that were previously removed.

Meeting adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

Ronald J. Leslie
City Manager