

TOWN OF PORTER
Redevelopment Commission
303 Franklin Street

May 22, 2012

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Vice-President Al Raffin

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Al Raffin, Greg Stinson, Joe Simanski, Jeannine Virtue

Absent: Elka Nelson, Ron Stone

Also present: Attorney Gregg Sobkowski, Director of Development Mike Barry, Haas Consultant Warren Thiede and Secretary Karen Spanier.

Approval of Minutes

Greg Stinson made the motion to approve the April 24, 2012 minutes with Joe Simanski making the second.

Motion carried 4-0.

Consideration of Claims

Motion to approve the claim docket as submitted was made by Greg Stinson. Jeannine Virtue made the second.

Motion carried 4-0.

Audience Participation

None

Reports

Director of Development Mike Barry reported the Brickyard Trail Project is moving along with the exception of a few minor soil issues.

The Downtown Sewer Relining is going well, and Haas consultant Warren Thiede stated the Sewer Relining project is on schedule and should be completed by the end of August.

Stinson reported he has heard great feedback from the business owners on how accommodating Performance Pipeline has been on the Downtown Project as to not disrupt normal business activity for them.

Attorney Sobkowski has nothing new to report.

Old Business

Munson Ditch Acquisitions – Al Raffin asked if the Commission wished to proceed after the public input Session that was held on May 15th.

Raffin stated he felt the session was a great success with a great deal of public participation and valuable input.

Simanski noted certain issues brought up during the session raised serious concerns for him over how the trail is to precede, specifically the proposed roundabout and having safety concerns crossing over 49 with the traffic. He stated that perhaps an alternative route should be considered.

Virtue said although she was out of Town for the input session, there seems to be a lot of concerns over the Munson Ditch Trail route and serious consideration needs to be taken prior to moving forward.

Stinson agreed with concerns that were raised; however said the issue now is to move forward with acquisitions or forgo federal grant money. His preference would be to forgo money stating he would hate to move forward with acquisitions after purchasing land and end up not proceeding with project.

Attorney Sobkowski affirmed the all the property owner's involved in the acquisitions had questions and concerns and wasn't sure how uncomplicated the acquisitions would be.

Motion not to proceed forward with Munson Ditch Acquisitions was made by Jeannine Virtue.

Joe Simanski made the second.

Motion carried 4-0.

New Business

Dunes Kankakee Trail Alternate Routes – Director of Development Mike Barry and Public Works Director Brenda Brueckheimer have been looking into possible alternative routes perhaps along Waverly Road to north of Hwy 20 then east crossing 49 somewhere near Hjelm Road or Bailey Drive. Barry and Brueckheimer will coordinate their efforts with SEH Consultants to discuss and find alternate routes.

Commission Comments

None

Adjournment

Greg Stinson made the motion to adjourn, with Jeannine Virtue making the second.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Albert Raffin, Vice-President

Jeannine Virtue

Joseph Simanski

Greg Stinson

Attest:

Karen Spanier, Secretary

