

TOWN OF PORTER
Redevelopment Commission
303 Franklin Street
July 22, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: President Jeannine Virtue, Vice President Erik Wagner, Joe Simanski, Rob Pomeroy, and Greg Stinson

Also present: Attorney Gregg Sobkowski, Director of Development Mike Barry, School Board Liaison John Marshall, and Secretary Karen Spanier.

Approval of Minutes

Joe Simanski made the motion to approve the May 27, 2014 minutes as written with Greg Stinson making the second.

Motion carried 5-0.

Consideration of Claims

Motion to approve the July claims was made by Greg Stinson. Rob Pomeroy made the second.

Motion carried 5-0.

Audience Participation

None

Reports

Director of Development Mike Barry gave the following reports:

The Orchard Pedestrian Trail is almost complete; SEH has completed 90% of the drawings for the missing portion of Trail by Orchard Apartments. Once RDA funding approval is received we will entertain bids.

Triangle Lift Station is working great and only needs back-up generator installed for it to be complete.

The DK Trail between U.S. 12 and Porter County's portion will be put out to bid within the next few weeks; this will also be funded through the RDA.

Attorney Sobkowski had nothing to report.

Old Business

None

New Business

Franklin Alley Project, Phase 2

The first phase of the Franklin Alley project was completed; however the second phase was temporarily delayed due to cost. Because the Pedestrian Way Trail has taken parking access from the street the last homeowner is requesting the project be completed.

Barry stated the question is whether to begin work this fall or wait until the spring.

Stinson made the motion to authorize Haas & Associates to complete designs only and not to exceed \$5,500.00. Joe Simanski made the second.

Motion carried 5-0.

M.O.U. -Memorandum of Understanding Concerning Distribution of Transportation Enhancement Grant between Porter County and the Town of Porter

President Virtue stated because of the upgrades to the Calumet Trail the Town vacated a duplicate trail along Munson Ditch resulting in a cost saving around 1 million dollars. This Trail was to be financed by the RDA and could not be used for anything other than trails. The RDA has approved the request to reallocate a portion of the cost savings (\$400,000.000) to Porter County's portion of the Calumet Trail.

Attorney Sobkowski reviewed the M.O.U. and approved the changes that were made since the last meeting.

Motion to approve M.O.U. with Porter County was made by Greg Stinson with Erik Wagner making the second.

Motion carried 5-0.

Commission Comments

Virtue welcomed School Board Representative John Marshall to the Commission. Marshall replaced Ron Stone in January as a non-voting member.

Marshall asked that a member of the Commission meet with School Board Representatives to discuss the possibility of sharing a certain percentage of TIF revenues or perhaps an annual payment to the schools to replace revenue they can't collect because of Porter's TIF District.

Marshall noted similar requests have been made to other Communities and that Burns Harbor's RDC agreed to a contract providing Duneland Schools \$135,000.00 for 10 years.

Indiana Code allows an RDC to spend up to 15% (on an annual basis) of tax proceeds towards educational programs.

Virtue thanked Marshall, and advised members will check their schedules and determine who will be available to attend the meeting.

Adjournment

Greg Stinson made the motion to adjourn, with Joe Simanski making the second.
Meeting Adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Jeannine Virtue, President

Erik Wagner, Vice-President

Joseph Simanski

Rob Pomeroy

Greg Stinson

Attest:

Karen Spanier, Secretary