

SPECIAL RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS, 2000 25 8094 FORM NO 10148

July 9,

19

Held

20

The Granger Township Board of Trustees met in Special Session on Tuesday, July 9, 2019, at 4:00 PM at the Granger Township Administration Building, 3717 Ridge Road. Present were Trustees: John H. Ginley, Jr., Chair, Teri A. Berry and Richard L. Pace and Fiscal Officer Donald L. Baker.

The Special Meeting was called to discuss the SR 18 corridor with representatives of the Ohio Department of Transportation ("ODOT").

Representing ODOT was Robert Weaver, District 3 Deputy Director; Matthew Walter, Capital Program Administrator; Leslie Farley, Planning Engineer; and, Julie Cichello, Traffic Planning Engineer.

The meeting was called to order by Trustee John Ginley at 4:00 PM.

Mr. Pace thanked the ODOT representatives for meeting with the Board. The meeting had been requested because of the Akron/Medina Corporate Park ("AMCP") park expansion and for a general discussion of ODOT's plan for SR 18.

Ms. Cichello announced that ODOT planned to replace six traffic signals and right turn lanes at eastbound on SR 18 at SR 18 and at SR 18 at the north and south approaches to Windfall Road. Ms. Farley noted this was scheduled to start in April 2021.

Chief Paulett asked if ODOT knew anything about Summit County's road work on Medina Line Road. Nobody in attendance could offer any comments about this work.

Mrs. Berry asked if the new signals were being installed because of the new lanes. Ms. Cichello advised this was mostly the case. Mrs. Berry inquired when non-operating signals would be turned on. These signals will be made operational when warranted by a traffic study. Traffic studies are conducted periodically and may be specifically requested.

Mr. Pace asked if platooning would be used for synchronizing the signal. Ms. Cichello said no because of the distance between the signals. She noted that the consultant had looked at this.

Mr. Pace noted there were long traffic lines at 5:00 PM at the AMCP and now a new building is being added. There will be a signal added when the connector road is completed and the west-most drive is closed, but will this work?

Ms. Cichello replied that this may warrant the signal being activated based on the owner's study when the western road is closed. She also noted that Fire Department access concerns could be addressed by the addition of a "grid" road. A "grid" road is basically reinforced turf. Ms. Cichello Julie stated that AMCP initially included a reinforced turf driveway as part of their ODOT submission. Mrs. Berry commented the owner did not want to install a "grid" road because of the potential cost and the public using it.

It was noted there were several curb cuts in the Portside area. Why are they so limited for the AMCP? Ms. Cichello answered that this was due to the owner's plan. In order to justify a signal, the owner had always planned to close the western drive. Mrs. Berry asked what ODOT would like to see. Ms. Cichello responded that funneling is the preferred method to get a signal. However ODOT cannot force this.

Mr. Pace advised ODOT that the Township has received a conceptual plan for a project at SR18 and Medina Line Road. That plan called for two signals. Ms. Cichello replied this would probably not be warranted.

Mr. Ginley asked if this potential project would alter ODOT's 2021 plan. Ms. Cichello said it is a developer's responsibility to contact ODOT, but it would unlikely change any plans.

Mr. Ginley asked if the new retirement project in Sharon Township would result in an additional signal. Ms. Cichello replied no.

Mr. Pace asked as new projects come up, when does ODOT become involved? ODOT tries to get involved as soon as possible. Mr. Pace asked that the Zoning Department let ODOT know when new projects come up.

Mr. Pace asked what ODOT's view on sign location and size was. Ms. Cichello said they had no particular view and follow the law fairly closely. Review turnaround time is usually pretty quick.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

SPECIAL

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS, 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

19

Held

20

Chief Paulett noted that the Sheriff has been enforcing the speed limits in the no tolerance areas of SR 18. When can the speed be lowered on this road? Ms. Cichello replied that depends mostly on roadside development. There have been fewer accidents. Mr. Pace asked what has changed that caused this accident decline. Ms. Cichello noted that center rumble strips have been installed and there has been stepped up enforcement. Mrs. Berry advised Granger Road is seeing increased activity which may be due in part to motorists avoiding the SR 18 enforcement area.

Mr. Pace advised ODOT regarding the embankment on SR 94 as you approach the round-a-bout going north. It is hard to see traffic because of the hill.

Zoning inspector Davis asked if increased signals on SR 18 would reduce speed on this road. Ms. Cichello answered no because signals are synchronized.

Mr. Ginley advised ODOT that semi's are running red lights at SR 18 and Beach Road.

Mr. Pace summarized the meeting:

1. In 2021 there will be new lanes at SR 18 and Medina Line Road, SR 94 and Windfall Road.
2. ODOT should receive early notice about potential projects or signs.
3. Encourage shared drives to limit curb cuts.
4. Warrants for signals - Ms. Cichello advised typically they must meet the eight hour threshold criteria.

Ms. Cichello advised new traffic counts will be conducted as business develops on SR 18.

Mr. Ginley asked if ODOT could program signals at peak hour and to flash at other times. ODOT does not do this.

MIKE TEXTORIS of 936 North Medina Line Road addressed the board about the potential Menard's. Mr. Pace noted the only thing that has occurred to date was the pre-application meeting which is a non-binding discussion. Nothing else has been received.

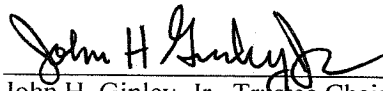
Mr. Textoris asked who owns the property and was advised this was a matter of public record and he could look it up. He then asked if there was an appetite to lower the two acre minimum in the Township. Mr. Pace said in his view there was no support to do this. Mr. Textoris then asked for the Trustees view of this potential project. Mr. Ginley said that he was happy to discuss this with him after the meeting, but this was not the purpose of the meeting.

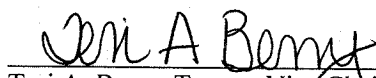
Deputy Director Robert Weaver introduced the ODOT attendees and noted they are always happy to meet with local officials.


JAMES SHERMAN of 5258 State Road asked if the Portside signal would ever become operational again. Ms. Cichello said they would be made operational when warranted.


With no further business to discuss, a **MOTION** was set forth and moved for adjournment.

We, the Granger Township Board of Trustees do hereby certify the foregoing Minutes to be a true and correct copy of the proceedings before this Board at its Special Meeting on Tuesday, July 9, 2019.


John H. Ginley, Jr., Trustee Chairperson


Teri A. Berry, Trustee Vice Chairperson


Richard L. Pace, Trustee


Donald L. Baker, Fiscal Officer