

Special Beaver Creek Trustee's Meeting

Tuesday, September 20

2016

Ms. Graff called the Special Trustee Meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. Those present were Trustees: Carol Graff, Tom Kretz, and Jeff Roberts. Fiscal Officer Christy Ahrens was also present. Staff present: Township Administrator/Public Safety Director Alex Zaharieff.

City of Beaver Creek Council Members present: Bob Stone, Julie Vann, Zach Upton and Chad Whilding. Melissa Litteral, Deborah Wallace, and Brian Jarvis were absent. Staff present: City Manager Mike Cornell, Mike Thonnerieux, Jeff Moorman, Bill Kucera, and Police Chief Evers

Greene County Commissioners present: Bob Glaser and Tom Koogler. Staff present: County Administrator Brandon Huddleston.

The Purpose of this Special Meeting is to meet in Open Session with officials from the City of Beaver Creek and Greene County to discuss the US 35 Superstreet Project.

City Engineer Jeff Moorman gave an overview of the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) project plus the Shakertown Road project and handed out information regarding such. General discussion regarding the Super Street occurred: there is an improvement in safety; the schools do not have any problem with the concept; the Shakertown build will coincide with the Super Street project; signals will be synchronized to keep traffic moving; work to build in equipment so signals can be used for specific events; sensor controls; and traffic counts.

Mayor Stone stated that the first main issue to discuss was whether the Super Street concept is what we want.

Discussion occurred regarding: it's a band aid for forty years and we've been waiting for something for forty years already and accidents keep going up; concern that the Super Street will not stop rear end collisions; is it worth \$15 million; and the fact we finally have ODOT's attention and willingness to share in the funding, if we say no now, who's going to be able to pay for it in the future.

Mr. Glaser said that he would accept the design but continue to push ODOT and Regional Planning to work the project the way the three jurisdictions want it.

Mr. Whilding sees how it helps the east/west flow of traffic, but is unsure if the north/south flow will work for people.

Mr. Roberts said it will reduce crash points for all directions of traffic and therefore will be better than it is now.

Mr. Kretz said that this is an improvement over what is there now and can you put a cost on one life?

ODOT wants the local funding breakdown submitted no later than September 28, 2016.

The Trustees stated they have consensus to move forward with the Super Street Project, especially with a Pedestrian "Z" crossing. They agree the concept isn't new and designs will continue to get better; however, this is the best alternative we can afford.

The County Commissioners are happy the project has gotten this far and don't want to lose the momentum. Having the county, township and city work together on the Super Street is still key. They are together in moving forward on this project, but would like to have the three jurisdictions continue to work on overpasses for US 35 in the future when available.

Quick discussion occurred regarding Alpha and entrance/exit on to US 35.

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Discussion occurred regarding the County's plan that the local share amount is divided in thirds, with the county fronting the money for the other two jurisdictions, with a payment plan. The plan would consist of a ten year, zero interest loan for the township and the city. The City said they are already putting in the new Shakertown Road for \$900,000 and that brings momentum for the project. The County said that the Shakertown Road project was a different project and feel the projects need to separate in this discussion. The County doesn't mind fronting the money for the project, but feels it should be divided by the three. The City feels this is the entrance to Greene County and that it will help all of Greene County tremendously.

Ms. Graff said that we all knew when Beaver Creek put in the mall that sales tax would go up and that money would then go to the County. Now Beaver Creek brings sales tax not only from the mall, but also the Greene, and all the car dealerships on US 35; therefore, the County should pay for the local funding portion. Beaver Creek does not have an earning tax and property taxes are stable and therefore there is not a lot of ability to raise a lot of money, that's why we are asking the County assist and take on the local share from the sales tax money acquired from Beaver Creek. The Township passed out a general demographics report showing sales tax amounts generated in a one, three and five mile radius of Lofino Shopping Center. General discussion occurred.

The City and Township agree that they need the help and right now the County has the money. The County still believes all three jurisdictions need to have some kind of financial obligation. Both jurisdictions asked the Commissioners to talk about this further and come up with a plan by early next week.

Mr. Kretz stated that he agrees all three jurisdictions should have some kind of financial obligation and said that the township can add a permissive tax and allocate the money to go to this project, however, he feels the amount should be divided in quarters or fifths not thirds. General discussion occurred regarding the township being able to generate roughly \$25,000-\$35,000 per year and the time frame to collect the money if and when they move forward. The Trustees had consensus that they would pledge the earnings from the new tax to the County for the project, each year for the next ten years.

The City did not have consensus and were missing members therefore could not discuss what they were willing to do. The County asked the City to get together and let the County know how much they were willing to commit to, in the form of a number, so that the County can decide if they can take on the burden of the remaining balance. The County will discuss this on Thursday at their meeting and then have the County Administrator reach out and work with the Township Administrator and City Manager.

Everyone thanked everyone for working together on this project.

The City invited everyone to attend the public input session on Super Streets they are hosting Wednesday September 21, 4-6pm.

2016-383 Mr. Kretz made a motion to Adjourn at 6:19 P.M. Mr. Roberts seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Kretz, yes; Mr. Roberts, yes; and Ms. Graff, yes.

Trustee: _____

Fiscal Officer: _____