GENESEE TOWNSHIP SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 20, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 5:14 pm by Supervisor Fuhr.

All present gave Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present: Fuhr, Bates, Mannor, Burrus, Jean, Witte

Absent: Sutton

Also Present: Katie Johnson, Michigan Fitness Foundation; Meg Thomas Ackerman, Director of Safe Route to School; Ali Harris, Coordinator of Crim Fitness Foundation; Lauren Halley, Activity Living Director, Crim; Theresa Roach, Communication and Outreach Manager, Crim Fitness Foundation; Kevin Green, Superintendent Genesee Schools.

Moved by Bates supported by Witte to approve the agenda as presented. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Discussion open in regards to **Resolution 14-15**, Safe Route to School grant.

Mr. Fuhr stated that this project will run between $300,000.00 to $400,000.00 that Genesee Township has to pay 20% of engineering cost that is $68,000.00. The township does not have funds. If it goes over 5% if it’s a $300,000.00 project, the township does not have the $15,000.00 or so to cover it.

Katie Johnson, MI Fitness Foundation, she stated that the Crim Foundation has been talking about assisting townships in fund raising for this project, for preliminary construction and preliminary engineering cost. Been checking into community foundation grants and working with some engineering firms to see if they have a set cost. They work really hard not to have any over run cost; it has happened once that she knows of. The engineering should be done around spring 2016, but that can change if townships are not ready with their funds, with construction to begin in summer 2016.

Kevin Green, Superintendent Genesee Schools stated the district will not receive $400,000.00 until they raise the $80,000.00 for engineering fees. The township would not be on the hook until then. If there is an over run on the project, the school is in no position to handle $80,000.00 either. They will be looking into grants and fundraisers to help fund the project. There is no time line to raise money needed.

Meg Thomas Ackerman stated these are federal funds, through transportational alternative, no back end deadline. This is a conditional commitment. There is a twp on the west side of state that are just now getting their funds and starting the project, taking them three years. This project is coming in over budget so they will change some priorities and re-budget. This is the only program under transportational alternatives.

Mr. Fuhr inquired if Ken Johnson, Genesee County Road Commission, is he doing the engineering for this project. Ms. Johnson stated that Ken Johnson is assisting in putting the budget together and getting the cross sections together to put in the application for the project. The road commission was not looking to do engineering for the entire project, but giving estimates and documents needed to get applications.

Mr. Fuhr voiced concern in regards to the engineering cost in regards to emails he has received.

Ms. Johnson stated that Ken Johnson was just helping with preliminaries pro bono; the cost usually falls to the communities.

Mr. Mannor inquired about sidewalks on both side of the streets, crosswalks, and the expense.

There are not pedestrians on both sides of the road in the township.

Ms. Johnson stated that Safe Route to School project requires sidewalks on both side of the street. Just south of Mott Lake is the only place where they are not requiring sidewalks. They are proposing cross walks at McDonalds and at Green Arbor with a center island down by McDonalds.

Mr. Bates voiced concern about not being able to raise funds who is responsible to them. They said if the funds are not raised the project would not take place.

Ms. Ackerman stated that they have seen in other communities is that an agreement between the township and the other parties, puts things together as to who is responsible for what. One meeting she attended the township said they were willing to put in a portion of the funds. Mr. Fuhr stated when this project was first brought to his attention by Mr. Jean he said the township possibly could come up with $10,000.00, but not $60,000.00. Ms. Ackerman said if something could be arranged by the parties involved that who was responsible for raising money and the township was responsible for committing to certain funds. Mr. Fuhr stated that sounded fine to him, rescind the current resolution and another one drafted the language stating who is responsible for what by the parties involved.

Ms. Halley stated it was best to get the application in now since it is a match project; if applied later the cost will be more.

Moved by Bates supported by Burrus to rescind Resolution 14-15. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Moved by Bates supported by Mannor to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m. Vote taken. Motion carried.