

Meeting Minutes
Cascade Charter Township
Pathways Committee
Thursday, December 12, 2022
10:00 am
5920 Tahoe Dr

ARTICLE 1. Chair Rissi called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.

Members Present: John Driscoll, Kris Taylor, Mike Reese, Rik Brown, Scott Rissi, Township Manager (TM) Ben Swayze, Building and Grounds (B&G) Supervisor Jim MacDonald, Planning Director Brian Hilbrands, Township Engineer Aric Thorne, and Management Office Admin Assistant Jessica Stine
Arrived Late: Township Supervisor Grace Lesperance and Jeff Coffey

ARTICLE 2. Approve the current Agenda

Motion was made by Member Brown to approve the current Agenda. Supported by Member Reese. Motion carried 5 to 0.

ARTICLE 3. Acknowledge visitors and those wishing to speak to non-agenda items.

There weren't any visitors who wished to speak at this time.

Supervisor Lesperance arrived at the meeting.

ARTICLE 4. 2023 Reconstruction Bids

Chair Rissi congratulated Engineer Thorne on writing an RFP that attracted five bids. Engineer Thorne presented his opinion on the bids. One of the bids, Brenner Excavating, came in at a significantly lower price point than the rest. Engineer Thorne has worked with them before and it was a positive experience. If he was making the decision, he would choose Brenner Excavating on both price and quality. He believes the reason their bid is most cost friendly is because they have a team dedicated to pathways.

Chair Rissi brought up line 20 that lists their estimate for path grating, noting that they budgeted approximately \$300,000 less than the other bids. Engineer Thorne believed this is likely due to their dedicated pathways team.

Chair Rissi asked if the contracted company would be supervised to make sure they are actually repairing the road and changing the grade, not just adding mill and fill. Member Taylor said that he and his wife frequently rode their bikes on a path repaired by Brenner Engineering and they felt Brenner did a great job. Engineer Thorne said that he will likely supervise the construction a portion of the time and their engineering consultant will supervise the rest of the time, writing the day-to-day reports. He said that, from what he has seen, the budget requirement for grading generally grows as the work is completed and areas of disrepair are unearthed, so it is good that it is starting low.

Member Reese said that he didn't see any red flags in the bid that would be cause for concern later in the project.

Engineer Thorne explained that there is approximately 4 inches of aggregate base below the paths and he believes the paths will be better, stronger, and thicker than what is currently in place.

Member Rissi liked the idea of TM Swayze calling Ada Township (where Brenner Engineering completed a project within the last few years) as a reference. TM Swayze said he would reach out later that day.

Motion was made by Member Driscoll to recommend acceptance of the bid by Brenner Excavating to repair the pathways targeted for 2023, pending a positive reference from Ada Township. Supported by Member Brown. Motion carried 6 to 0.

The Township Board will vote on this proposal at their December 14 meeting.

TM Swayze asked Engineer Thorne if it would be appropriate to update the asset management plan to reflect the prices of the recommended bid. Engineer Thorne suggested holding off because the prices in future years may not reflect the prices in the current bid.

Supervisor Lesperance shared that she believes the bid will be easily approved by the Township Board, especially since they originally approved the project at 1.8 million and the committee is now only asking for 1.4 million. Engineer Thorne will present at the Township Board meeting and the Pathways Committee will attend as support and to answer any questions.

ARTICLE 5. Acknowledge visitors and those wishing to speak

There weren't any visitors who wished to speak at that time.

ARTICLE 6. Any Other Business

The next meeting will take place Thursday, January 5th, 2023.

ARTICLE 7. Adjournment

Motion was made by Member Reese to adjourn. Supported by Member Brown. Motion carried 6 to 0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:20am.

Member Coffey arrived at the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rik Brown, Secretary