

Lee Township
Special Meeting Minutes
May 29, 2013

The Special Meeting of the Lee Township Board was called to order at 6:50 pm at the Lee Township Hall, 877 56th Street, Pullman, MI 49450

Members Present: Trustee Black, Trustee Galdikas, Treasurer Lowery, Supervisor Owen and Clerk King

Purpose of the Special Meeting was to discuss the approval of the request for a mobile home to be brought into the township, decision on where to spend the 2013 road millage and discussion regarding the combining of the First Responders with the Fire Department.

The board started with the request from R. Stickley to bring his mobile home into the township. Pictures were provided to the board members. Supervisor Owen had done some research and discovered that the township's code was outdated and should not be used anymore. Previously the rule indicated mobile homes older than 15 years needed to be inspected and be approved before entering the township. It was discussed that we should encourage bringing in new residents.

Motion was made Owen and seconded by Black to accept the Stickley home to be placed in Lee Township. All voted "Aye". Motion carried.

The next issue to be discussed was disbursement of the township millage collected for 2012. The board received a list of recommendations from Road Committee member, Chuck Pugh. The list contained 13 different sections of township roads in order of need. The first on the list was 54th from 110th to 112th, which is a 1 mile section that currently needs repairing. The recommendations estimated the repair to cost up to \$120,000.00. This section was the worse in the township and if not repaired soon might not be able to be saved. The other roads for consideration are as follows:

Nadeau Drive- 1 mile
105th from 56th to 58th – 1 mile
52nd-53rd Street from 104th to 105th – 1 mile
50th from 102nd to 104th Street – 1 mile
54th Street from Baseline to 102nd - 1 mile
51st Street from 101st to 103rd – 1 ¼ mile
55th Street from 109th to 111th to 54th Street – 1 ½ mile
53rd Street from Nadeau Drive to 110th to 54th Street – 1 ½ mile
102nd Street from 49th to 50th Street – ½ mile
55th Street from Baseline to 102nd Street – 1 mile
Laurence Drive (Osterhout Lake) – ½ mile
Sophia Way – (off 105th near railroad tracks) – ½ mile

The anticipated amount to be collected is \$108,600.00. Chuck wondered what was left from the collection of last year's millage amount. Both Treasurer Lowery and Clerk King did not think that there was much left after last year's repairs were done. Questions were asked regarding the amounts require to do a mile of road with chip & seal which is estimated to be \$25,000.00 per mile. It was asked the life of a road when repaired by chip & seal. Chuck said that drainage was a big factor but roughly 5 year could be hoped for.

The board discussed the most effective way to use the funds collected. The condition of 54th Street is by far the worst in the township and is going to continue to deteriorate until it cannot be repair and will have to be changed into gravel. The problem is that to complete the repair is more than what is expected in tax

collection. That would only be one road done, and no others repaired. It was decided that it should be considered to do only ½ or ¾ of a mile of 54th Street and any remaining funds should be applied to the next road on the list.

Motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to use the millage money to do 54th Street from 110th to 111th St and use any remaining money to chip & seal coat the next road on the list which is Nadeau Drive. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Galdikas, Lowery, Owen and King. Motion carried.

Last to be discussed was the proposed combination of the First Responders and First Department. It was brought to the attention of the board that there were some misunderstandings with the decision to not add renewal language to the ballot in August. The reason that the language was not reviewed and added to the ballot was because of the decision to seek the possibility to combine departments. Once the millage language is added, the ballots are set to be voted in August. The deadline was May 28th for ballot language and the board had been approached earlier about combining departments and there are still many questions to be answered along with a presentation from the Assistant Chief before a decision could be made. Currently we know that the funds already collected need to be spent before the departments could be combined. There is currently about \$200,000.00 in the fund. Other concerns are that the original language used for the fire district would cover using the money for first responders. Currently the ballot language is being researched since the establishment of the Fire District was prior to 1986. Other concerns are the amount that has been suggested be added to the Fire District would only be 1 mill collecting an estimated \$50,000.00 which is under the amount that is currently budgeted for wages, AMR and other expense. This would greatly depend on what expenses could be combined with the Fire Department. Much more discussion is needed and more research will need to be done.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 pm. All voted “Aye” and motion carried.

Minutes Submitted by:
Jacquelyn King, Clerk