

Hamilton Township

Private Road Special Assessment Public Hearing Minutes

Date: Saturday, May 27, 2023 Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Hamilton Township Hall, 3042 N Rodgers, Harrison, MI 48625

Board Members Present: Mike Conway, Mike Iutzi, Dave Wright, Valdine Erskine Absent: Mickie Duby Residents: 42 Guests: 1

CALLED TO ORDER: by Wright at 9:00 AM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

Wright made a statement to open the meeting, with the understanding the meeting was to continue the, other wise expired, special assessment to maintain private roads. The special assessment was meant, in no way, to pave private roads. The Assessor brought it to the attention of the Board of Trustees that the current special assessment for private roads will expire in August, 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Several residents voiced opinion concerning the paving of private roads, some in support of paving, others against paving. Some complained about the way roads are plowed. Some residents were happy with the service.

Wright explained that an attempt to pave the roads failed approval by residents, in about 1997. Now the County Road Commission is not interested in taking the roads over.

Erskine explained that the meeting was to assess interest in continuing the current practice of paying a special assessment. If 20% of the residents did not wish to continue paying the special assessment, those names must be collected and the residents must then circulate a petition, collecting valid signatures from more than 50% of the residents, to petition the Township to continue collecting a special assessment for the purpose of maintaining and improving private roads. If fewer than 20% of residents withheld support, the Township would move forward.

Road Committee members, Debbie and Aaron Haskin said they were happy with the service and response time from Steve Keysor of Keysor Builders, who has a current contract for the road maintenance and improvement. No other bids were received. The Township Board of Trustees are in agreement to continue honoring the contract thru August 31, 2028.

Only 3 people stated opposition to the special assessment. They are:

1. Written complaint via US mail received on May 23, 2023 from Tracy McGuirt, whose property address is 2737 Margaret, "strongly objects to any funds being raised by special assessment", and threatened legal action.
2. Complaint logged during the Public Hearing by Dennis Lizotte, whose property address is 6800 Sawmill Road. Lizotte is "Not happy with the current services for road maintenance."
3. Complaint logged during the Public Hearing by Tim Diamond, whose property address is 2386 Courtney, believes he pays too much, based on his lot size.

ADJOURNED: Conway made a motion to adjourn at 9: 50 AM, supported by Erskine; all in favor. **MC**