

CEDAR CREEK TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING October 13, 2020.

Supervisor, Linda Aerts called the meeting to order at the Holton High School Cafeteria at 6:30 P.M., Tuesday, October 13, 2020. Peggy Foster led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, and roll call was taken.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION

Motion by Young, supported by Wright to approve the Agenda. **PASSED**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Heather Jarvis, Stephanie Kuziak, Bob Wright, Linda Aerts, Kim Young.

GUEST: Mark Nettleton, Attorney from Mika Myers, Craig Noland, Attorney from McGraw, Morris.

RESIDENTS PRESENT: 20

Before I open the Special Assessment Hearing, I would like to introduce our Township Attorney, Mark Nettleton, from Mika Meyers. I would like to thank Mark for working on this project with us as it was not an easy one – the roads in Don Snow Camp are not quite what they appear to be on GIS or Google Earth. Martha Hicks, Cedar Creek Assessor, and I drove the roads to provide Mr. Nettleton with a better understanding of road and property matches. I attended an MTA seminar on special assessment districts, and I can assure you that Mr. Nettleton knows his craft very well.

With that said, I would like to call for a motion to open the public hearing of the Don Snow Camp Sub-Division for the purpose of snow plowing and subsequent cost for these improvements.

MOTION

Motion by Wright, supported by Jarvis to open Public Hearing at 6:45pm. **Passed.**

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING – DON SNOW CAMP

Attorney Nettleton explained that at the last Board Meeting, the Board Adopted a Resolution with the intent to establish a district for Special Assessment for Plowing the Don Snow Camp subdivision. We now need to hold a public hearing to establish:

1. Need of the project
2. The estimated cost of the project
3. The properties to be included in the district.

Notice was sent to everyone in the district and that is why you are here tonight. If you have any questions, you may ask them now. Please give your name and address as the clerk has to keep record of this. After the close of this public hearing, the Board will consider adopting Resolution #2 and Resolution #3. If both resolutions are adopted, then there will be another public hearing at the next Board Meeting on Nov. 10th. If

Resolution # 4 is adopted on Nov 10th, this will establish the district, the cost and will complete the Special Assessment.

QUESTIONS:

Bill Homrich, 5820 Beach St.

I have 3 questions:

1. Where did the estimated cost of \$47.87 come from, I was told it would be \$17.00 per hour.

The Cost includes the Gas, the Maintenance and administration fees.

2. If there is an adjustment, we are charged for 52 plows but only 40 were done, how will it show on their tax bill?

There will be a special line item on the tax bill, will most likely say Don Snow, and it will be adjusted accordingly each year to the actual cost.

3. Why does this have to be done again and why do the residents have to pay all the cost again?

By law, the township has to restart the whole project again after the 10-year special assessment if done.

Monte Wehr, 5933 Don Snow Camp

1. What if we move, sell or die?

This assessment is not a set amount, it would carry onto the new property owner; however the new mortgage company may require it to be paid in full. Since each year it is an estimated cost, if there becomes a deficiency the new property owner would be responsible for the cost.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION

Motion by Kuziak, supported by Wright to close public hearing at 7:11pm. **Passed**

- **Consideration of Special Assessment Resolution No. 2**

MOTION

Motion by Kuziak, supported by Wright to adopt Resolution No. 2. **Roll Call 5 yes**

- **Filing of Special Assessment Roll**

Supervisor has prepared the roll and has given it to the Clerk.

- **Consideration of Special Assessment Resolution No. 3**

MOTION

Motion by Jarvis, supported by Wright to adopt Resolution No. 3. **Roll Call 5 yes**

MINUTES:

MOTION

Motion by Wright, supported by Jarvis to accept the minutes from Sept. 8 and Special Meeting Sept. 14. **ALL IN FAVOR. PASSED.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer read her report. This report will be placed on file as presented.

DISBURSEMENTS

MOTION

Motion by Jarvis, supported by Wright to pay all regular bills for the month. **PASSED.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS None

CORRESPONDENCE None

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Jackie Evanauski requested that the Special Use Application for the 90-panel solar array be tabled because of the large magnitude of the project. It could impact the entire township and its future.

Jackie was thanked for her comment.

OLD BUSINESS

UPDATE RECYLING PROGRAM

The bin is expected the middle of next week. It is beautiful and big! Jim Uganski is working with me to place a logo on it.

Our signage is stuck in prison both figuratively and literally as we are having them made by MI Prison Industries at Bellamy Prison in Ionia and they are in shut-down due to Covid-19. We will have to muddle through without the signs for a bit. You have in your packet the Cedar Creek Township Recycling Guidelines Flier.

We anticipate having our dry run this weekend to get the kinks out. We have set the date for a special event – “Mask Up Cedar Creek” – at the Transfer Station and Recycling Center for Saturday, October 31st from 1-3pm for families and especially children. We hope to see you there in costume to get your treat!

UPDATE ON DTE GAS PROJECT

Cortney from DTE called me to advise that the roads (Holton Duck Lake, Crocker, Ryerson, (Clear Lake 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, Brown) E. River (some), Don Snow Camp Road, Tyler, and Schow Road) slated for the projected have been accepted. Residents will begin receiving a postcard the week of October 19th advising them of this and to alert them that a sales team will follow up shortly thereafter. The project is slated to begin sometime during the spring-summer of 2021.

I was asked not to broadcast this via email as not all roads in Cedar Creek Township were included in the project and they did not want to disappoint our residents who were excluded due to topographical and distance issues. There are three roads within the project that may not go through if they do not have 50% participation (Tyler, Schow and

Don Snow Road). The Don Snow Camp Sub-division is under contract with Ameri-gas propane and cannot be included in this project.

I mentioned to Cortney that I was going to lobby her one more time (this would make my third attempt) for Sweeter Road. I explained that I could not understand why it was not included in this project. Cortney thought for a bit then said that this was her project; she had driven all the roads herself. Then she remembered that Sweeter road was closed at the time due to construction. She is going to give it a look the next time she is in this area. She will not promise anything; however, it is at least on the table for consideration – so potential good news!

NEW BUSINESS

➤ **Special Use Application for a 90-panel solar array at 2147 Sonya Dr. in Twin Lake**

You have in your packet the information that went before the Planning Commission as they met to review property owner Randy Weihl's application for a 90-panel solar array at 2147 Sonya Drive in Cedar Creek Township. It is my understanding that a considerable amount of investigation and research was done on this before arriving at the recommendation to approve the project contingent upon screening the panels with trees and combining the four lots, which was already the recommendation of our assessor, Martha Hicks. I frequently drive past Mr. Weihl's property, which is secluded and removed from view traveling on River Road. You received a copy of the supporting documents in your packet.

Bob gave the Board an overview of the project and advised that the PC approved. Stephanie asked Bob if the PC Vote was unanimous; Bob's response was yes, they felt it was a good project for the community. Peggy Foster, also a PC Member, picked up all the material prior to the PC meeting and research and looked everything over. Linda asked Peggy if she had any problems with the what she learned. Peggy reflected that she felt that her research indicated it was a good project.

MOTION

Motion by Kuziak, supported by Jarvis to approve the recommendation from the Planning Commission to allow the project to go forward.

➤ **Lawsuit against Cedar Creek Township, Supervisor Aerts and Clerk Kuziak by former employee Jackie Evanauski**

MOTION

Motion by Young, supported by Jarvis to go into a closed session with the Township Attorneys. Roll call, Bob – NO, Heather, Linda, Stephanie and Kim – Yes. Board went into a closed session for 15 minutes.

MOTION by Young, supported by Jarvis to open meeting back to the public.

PASSED

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Commissioner Foster gave a brief update on the County. Linda thanked the Commissioner for his work on helping to pass the extension of the Senior Millage Program until the end of the year.

BOARD COMMENT

Stephanie thanked Linda for her efforts to have DTE look at Sweeter Rd.

Kim mentioned that next month's meeting will be her last meeting, she is not running for the next term. She thanked everyone for all their hard work and taking this little rural township to positive and bigger things and wished us all luck. The entire Board thanked Kim for her services.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chuck Skinner worked the census and said he really enjoyed it. He has been told that it is 99% done.

Chuck asked how things were going on the well for the Parks and Rec.


Linda explained that the well is a never-ending nightmare. Consumers is on Board, but this needs to come off one of our resident's pole and he is not a particular fan of Consumers Energy. It will cost the Township thousands more if we have to go further down the street. Linda is working with the resident in hopes he will help the township.

Stephanie asked Peggy Foster why the board, Heather, Linda and Stephanie could no longer remark or comment on her public page. She said she would look into it. With that said, resident Daniele Martincheck said that it was very confusing to have the official CCT page and Peggy's page so similar and asked if something could be changed to make it easier to get to the correct page. She also asked the Board to please get the agendas and minutes posted. Linda explained that we are trying, we are in a contract with ALL IT and they are working on it, just not fast enough. Linda will call them again and explain that we need this fix now.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Motion by Wright, supported by Jarvis to adjourn at 8:17 PM. **PASSED.**

Stephanie Kuziak, Clerk 

Linda Aerts, Supervisor 