

Elk Rapids Township Special Meeting Minutes, May 30, 2017

A special meeting of the Elk Rapids Township Board was held at the Elk Rapids Government Center located at 315 Bridge St. Elk Rapids. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Amos at 10:00 AM. The meeting was recorded to provide accuracy.

Present: Supervisor Dorance Amos, Clerk Shelley Boisvert, Treasurer Mike Szymanski,
Absent: Trustee Richard Hults, and Trustee Aaron Isenhart

Also Present: B. Derman, A. Nordman (Performance Engineering) and 15 members in the audience.

Maple Harbor Sewer

Pledge of Allegiance

1. Engineering Report: Performance Engineering

Aaron Nordman went over the project description and the map showing which areas may be serviced by gravity sewer, some with ejector pumps if there was lower level plumbing, and then other areas that were beyond the proposed pump station that would be on a pressure sewer and would need a grinder pump to push their effluent up the system through the Birch Lake sewer.

2. Attorney Report: Bill Derman summarized the Public Hearing process and the Resolutions that would be needed to initiate a special assessment district. Derman also said that before any of that happens he will need verification of the petition signatures from the Township Assessor and the Supervisor.

3. Board Questions and Discussion: None at this time

4. Questions and Answers with the Public:

- Question about the flat rate fee: This is because there is no public water so there is no way to meter the use. The usage portion of the bill is projected to be \$15.00.
- Does the estimated \$1,000 connection fee cover the disposal of the existing septic tank: Yes, the contractor would cut that connection and fill the tank with sand and make the connection to the sewer system at the road.
- Did the engineer look at going up Cairn Hwy to the south: Yes, the cost would have been approx. \$250,000-\$300,000 more for that construction and then density of connections going that way didn't justify that extra cost at this time.
- Does the estimated annual amount for the special assessment constitute a loan from the Village: No, bonds will be sold for the project.
- What determines gravity or needing a pump: The elevation of the plumbing in the home compared to the gravity sewer elevation. Some homes may need an ejector pump to push the sewer from their lines up into the gravity sewer.

- Concern about the slope of the gravity sewer to the pump station from the end of Terrace Avenue: The slope should be fine and only one pump station should be necessary.
- County Health Dept. requirements for distances from the septic system to the private wells or to the lake: As far as the engineer can tell now, there are no homes along the lake and some of the other roads that are in compliance with Health Dept. regulations but they are grand-fathered in. If those systems fail it will be very costly to replace them and they may need a pre-treatment system.
- Does the scope of the project go up Birch Lake Road: Yes, right now it goes up a short way.
- Will the ejector pumps be difficult to maintain: There are mechanics involved but they are pretty simple pumps that a plumber or a handy neighbor should be able to fix. These are not grinder pumps like Birch Lake users have.
- Why can't the sewer line going by her property be gravity: Once the design is complete they will have a better idea of what can be routed back to the pump station by gravity sewer.

5. Next Step: Aiming for June 26th to be the date for the first Public Hearing but there is a lot of design work and legal work to be completed and the timing of the publications may not work with this date.

6. Adjourn: 10:45 AM