

September 08, 2020

1. A meeting of the Leighton Township Green Lake Sewer Authority was called to order by Supervisor Deer at 7 p.m. at the township hall.
2. Members present: Deer, Nieuwenhuis, Bultsma, Bonnema, Hooker, Post, Roels
3. Members absent: None
4. Others present: Brandon Mieras, Steve Wolbrink and other interested parties (see sign-up sheet).
5. Motion by Hooker, support by Bonnema to approve the minutes of June 25, 2020 and July 07, 2020. All members voted yes. Motion carried.
6. Jeremy Mertz spoke and presented a proposal from the sub committee provided by Stallard & Sons for light repair and a skim coat at a cost of \$41,455.00. He feels it is the townships responsibility to pay the entire bill because the problem was created by the township as they did not ask permission and the community was not given to opportunity for input at the beginning of the project. The road really is more of a driveway.
7. Deer responded that he understood about the "driveway" and that photos were taken by Brandon Mieras prior to the project. He also stated that this is not a township issue but an issue of the Green Lake Sewer Authority. At the beginning of the project, the focus was on repairing the sewer on Glenn Drive. There was a meeting with the Glenn Drive residents where they did talk about probable damage to 147th. There was some money allocated in the project for repairs to 147th.
8. Randy Haagsman wanted to clarify that at the first meeting there was already some knowledge that there could be damage to 147th.
9. Deer responded that a video was taken to show the condition of the road and said that there would be some funds for repair.
10. Haagsman asked about contingencies in the project. Mieras responded that generally there is about a 10% contingency but that is for the entire project. Some of that money has already been used.
11. Jeff Kopec asked why there was no plan for the road from the beginning. Why was there no contingency for just the road?
12. Deer responded that yes there was some discussion with Glenn Drive sewer users. He knew that 147th was a private road. Realizes now that 147th residents should have been invited to initial meeting but it was more informational for the sewer users on Glenn Drive.
13. Mieras responded that there is an easement which allows for repairs, etc.
14. Bruce Gezon asked about the total cost of the project. (est. \$380,000). Shouldn't that money be available for the road?
15. Jeremy Mertz said that the contingency should be used for the repair. He doesn't care who does the work. The township could hire their own contractor but the work needs to be done.
16. Bill Miller said that there was a video taken by Rob Spica.
17. Deer said that he agrees that the road is deteriorating. Some of that is from the sewer project but there were major cracks in the road before construction.
18. D.J. VanderSlik asked the board members for their opinion.

19. Dick Post responded that this is the first time he has seen the Stallard bid. It is a private drive and nearly \$400,000.00 went into service a small number of people. The road does not have the right base and was not built to the proper standards.
20. Someone asked if grant funds were used for the project.
21. Deer responded that there was a SAW grant but that is used for inspection and a long-term plan for repair.
22. Haagsman asked about paying maintenance in the monthly bill.
23. Jack Scheffler asked about the minutes from the first meeting.
24. Jeremy Mertz continued saying that he pays a lot of taxes and there have been dozens of trucks using the road for months. Do the right thing and fix the road.
25. VanderSlik wanted to hear from other board members.
26. Tom Roels said he would like to see the videos.
27. The estimate provided by Brandon Mieras was 13-15 thousand to repair.
28. VanderSlik said that he paid additional money to have his own driveway done. Rookus provided a better product.
29. Mieras repeated that the goal was not to improve the road, just repair it.
30. Kopec said the point of the meeting is to have the township accept this bid and pay for it. It needs to be done before winter.
31. Gezon said that the road does not have the right base and smaller trucks should have been used for the project.
32. Mieras said that smaller trucks were used.
33. Jaci Bultsma said that estimates were supposed to be obtained after the last meeting.
34. Deer responded that a sub committee was formed and they were intending to communicate by email but that did not happen.
35. Videos and pictures were shown to all who were interested in seeing the before and after photos.
36. Someone asked about having the road taken over by the county road commission.
37. Deer responded that the Allegan County Road Commission has standards that must be met before they will take over a road and 147th would not come close to their requirements.
38. Mertz said that this estimate from Stallard is the cheapest fix that would not cause further problems.
39. Gezon asked about people contributing two thousand dollars each to the project.
40. Roels suggested a resolution saying that if we add the 14 thousand dollar estimate and the 41 thousand dollar estimate and divide by two, we might be able to compromise on twenty-eight thousand from the sewer authority.
41. Motion by Roels, support by Post to contribute \$28,400.00 toward the repairs to 147th to do as little or as much of the project as the residents deem necessary. There is no warranty and no more money will be contributed to this project in the future. All members voted yes. Motion carried.
42. There was some discussion as to whether the Stallard estimate was still good and if the estimate should increase, can the contributions increase.

43. Several people will check with Stallards to see if the estimate is still good and the sewer authority will not change its contribution.
44. Mieras reported on some insufficiencies on Glenn Drive that still need to be addressed.
45. Scheffler stated that there is still need of some landscaping to stabilize the bank and there are groundwater problems.
46. VanderSlik stated that there are some recessed pockets, problems near the curve, and 12 fissures that need to be repaired. Mieras will look at these issues. Someone asked about a warranty on the road. Mieras said that there is a standard warranty – usually 1 year from end of project.
47. Mieras reported that the clarifier was delivered and being painted. Then it will be shipped to the site and installed. It should be done for the fall processing.
48. Deer presented a 20-year plan.
49. Public comment: VanderSlik asked how the \$28,400.00 payment would be made. Deer responded that it would be made to Stallard.
50. Motion by Hooker, support by Nieuwenhuis to adjourn. All members voted yes. Motion carried.
51. Meeting adjourned.

Mary Lou Nieuwenhuis

Leighton Township Clerk/ Authority Secretary.