

CARROLLTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
Thursday, February 13, 2020
Cavalier Center – 3211 Carla Dr.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Supervisor Abney	Present
	Clerk Fritz	Present
	Treasurer Thurston	Present
	Trustee Douglas	Present
	Trustee Westphal	Present

There being a full board, Supervisor Abney called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Also in attendance: Director Craig Oatten and Office Manager Megan Weaver.

Carrollton Elementary School students Chase Siemienkiewicz and Aubrey Wood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acceptance of the Agenda:

It was moved by Thurston and supported by Douglas to accept the agenda as presented. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

Public Comments:

Rachel Snell, Superintendent of Carrollton Public Schools, introduced herself and welcomed the Township Board and audience members to the Cavalier Center.

Purpose of Special Meeting:

Dennis Borchard, Managing Director of the Saginaw County Road Commission, discussed the PASER ratings of Carrollton Township's roads. There are 28 miles of local roads in Carrollton Township and they all have a rating of between 0 - 4, or "poor condition". He also gave a brief overview of the road funding provided to the County by the State and then the distribution allocations to all local municipalities in the County. Borchard discussed the possible road millage ballot question that the County will propose to the electors in November, 2020.

Scott Hare, Saginaw County Road Commission, introduced himself and stated that while he'll be retiring from the road commission in September, he has lived in Carrollton Township since 1992 and he was available to answer any questions and provide any assistance that was needed.

Mary Frank, on behalf of State House Representative Vanessa Guerra, stated that she was glad to be attending and stated that Ms. Guerra welcomed all calls and questions in regards to the proposed road millage.

Dr. Christopher Douglas, University of Michigan-Flint, presented some highlights from the several studies he has done on road funding in Michigan. He stated that the Township cannot rely on the State to fix the local roads. The gas tax passed by the Governor goes to the Michigan

Dept. of Transportation (MDOT) and metro-Detroit. Dr. Douglas also shared his opinion that a road millage is the best option for funds as special assessment districts end up being more expensive in the long run. Additionally, property owners have to pay off the assessment before they can sell their home. He informed the audience that if they were interested in reading more about his road studies, to google his name and they can find his reports and blogs online.

Supervisor Abney passed out cards for the audience members to write down their questions. Board members and Oatten answered the questions:

Q: How much more in taxes would a house with a taxable value of \$50,000 pay per year?

A: The equation is: \$50,000 Taxable Value X 5.0 mills ÷ \$1,000 = \$250 per year.

Q: Is the Township going to consider selling bonds to increase the size of the road projects and speed up the process?

A: Yes, the option of selling bonds has been considered. The most the Township can bond is \$4.5 million which is dependent on the size and total taxable value of the Township.

Q: Are the companies that are going to repair the roads warranting their work?

A: That's possible but it will add to the overall cost.

Q: If the millage is accepted, do you have a plan as to what roads will be fixed first?

A: The Township Board will work with the Road Commission, Spicer Group (Township Engineer) and contractors to come up with the best project timeline that is most cost-effective for the Township. The Township would also welcome a committee of residents to be formed to work with the Township on the plan of action and make the whole process as transparent as possible.

Q: The water main on my street has had several breaks over the years. Will the water main be fixed first before reconstructing the road?

A: Yes. Any areas that have underground infrastructure (water and sewer mains) that needs fixing or replacing will have to be considered in the timeline of proposed road projects.

Q: Why are some roads done before others? For example some roads with only a few houses on them have been repaired first before other streets that haven't been touched since the subdivision was originally constructed are repaired.

A: It all depends on the condition of the specific road. It's not always cost effective to fix the worst roads first. It's also important to maintain the newer roads so that they do not deteriorate more quickly. Plus the technology used in fixing roads has changed tremendously over the years.

Q: Please explain the other millage that was recently removed from the taxes.

A: In 1998, Carrollton Township residents voted to have a 5.32 millage added for major water main improvements to be done. That millage was last collected in 2017 due to the Township collecting more than what was needed to pay off the debt for the entire three-phase project. The Township Board passed a resolution in April, 2019 to allow for a refund to all taxpayers for the overage collected once the debt bond issue is paid off in 2020.

Q: The proposed road millage ballot question states that "funding can be used for curbs, gutters, sidewalks and other related appurtenances". Does that mean curbs and gutters will be installed on roads that don't have them currently?

A: No. Curbs, gutters and sidewalks will only be replaced on streets that have them already. About 80-90% of the Township's roads do not have curb and gutters and years ago they had roadside ditches, or swales, that collected the rainwater. Over the years, property owners have filled in those ditches creating a drainage problem that just adds to the deterioration of the road. More than likely, those ditches/swales will be redone when the road is repaired.

Abney thanked everyone for their questions and encouraged them to share the information with their friends and neighbors. He also encouraged everyone to attend the regular board meetings held twice a month.

Public Comments:

Bob King, 3427 N. Michigan, stated his frustration with the way the Saginaw County Road Commission fills in potholes on the roads.

Andy Lamia, 2836 N. Michigan, asked where his refund check was for the 5.32 millage collection that ended in 2017. Weaver explained to him that until the bond issue is paid off completely later this year, her office cannot calculate the refunds. The Township will notify the public when the bond is paid off and when they can expect a refund.

Rose King, 3427 N. Michigan, advised those in attendance to go to the board meetings in March as the annual budget is discussed at that time and one can learn a lot about all of the Township's departments and their budgets and planned expenditures.

Bill Feriend, 1075 Schust, introduced himself as the Co-Chairperson of the Carrollton Area Vehicular Surfaces (C.A.V.S.) Improvement Committee. He invited everyone to stop by their table after the meeting to learn more about the committee and their efforts to promote the road millage.

Linda Kreager, 3351 Carrollton, thanked the board and others that presented as she thought it was very informative. She encouraged the audience members to realize that something has to be done with the roads in Carrollton as the State is not going to fix them for us.

Mark Myczkowiak, 550 Tulane, thanked the board for a very informative meeting. He stated that while his road is not in bad condition, he knows that there are so many throughout the Township that are bad. He's willing to pay the road millage to help improve his community as a whole. The board members back in 1998 put the priority on the water mains (which he's thankful for) and now it's time to put the priority on the roads.

Board Comments:

Douglas thanked Carrollton Public Schools for hosting. He also stated that he had forms for residents to sign up for absentee voting after the meeting.

Thurston stated that she lived on Atlanta which, in her opinion, was one of the worst roads in the Township. She understands that Atlanta might not be one of the first roads repaired if the millage passes, but she's willing to take that risk. She further explained that the road millage allocation

for her property would be less than all of the car repairs she has done over the years due to the poor condition of her road.

Fritz stated that absentee voter ballots went out in the mail yesterday and his staff was preparing for the March 10 election.

Westphal stated that she lived on Pioneer Trail which is also in very bad condition. She encouraged everyone to come together as a community and make Carrollton Township even better.

Abney thanked the guest speakers for coming and sharing their knowledge with everyone. He reminded the audience that when the community survey results were tabulated, the top priority that they asked their Township officials to focus on was roads. He assured them that he, along with the rest of the board, listened to what the residents wanted and in order to improve the roads in Carrollton Township, we need to make it happen at the local level.

Douglas asked the board if another Town Hall meeting would be possible in the near future. He had already confirmed with the school that the same location was available. Discussion followed. It was moved by Douglas and supported by Fritz to set a Special Town Hall Meeting for Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Cavalier Center. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

Adjournment:

It was moved by Westphal and supported by Abney to adjourn. There being all ayes, the meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry W. Fritz, Clerk

Public in attendance:

Logan Fischer	833 Mapleridge	Loren & Pamela Fischer	833 Mapleridge
Joan Douglas	1828 Kelly	Pat Ray	840 Meadowlawn
John Burns	3656 Lincoln	Andy Lamia	2836 N. Michigan
Ray & Ann Jones	3675 Jackson	Mark & Kathy Kleinbriel	3484 Church
Martin Garchow	710 Tulane	Francis Kleinbriel	3212 Winter
Donna Murlick	715 Atlanta	Scott & Meg Hare	4884 Cherokee
Mike & Katie Wood	3780 Jefferson	Jim Ellis	3814 Boeing
Justin Ellis	3814 Boeing	Christine Hart	3018 Carla
Robert Schliska	817 Oakview	Rose King	3427 N. Michigan

Terri Magyar	276 Grant	Jim Hart	3018 Carrollton
Jack Tany	1369 Savoy	Tammie Schmitt	1021 Schust
Linda Kreager	3351 Carrollton	Ken Drager	3441 Madison
Chuck Stuck	5708 Venoy	Kristie Jones	4277 Lorraine
Bill Feriend	1075 Schust	Leodis Ford	713 Meadowlawn
Sandy Dupuis	3644 Jefferson	Chris & Jessica Washburn	3875 Bellenca
Royce Brister	3440 N. Michigan	Dennis & Jackie Anklam	3630 Jefferson
Briney Lienczewski	903 Homedale	Steve Warren	929 Bridgeview
Robert Gubody	3562 Monroe	Nathan Bryce	1670 Schust