

CARROLLTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
Thursday, February 27, 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 6:35 p.m. Also in attendance: Office Manager Megan Weaver.

Acceptance of the Agenda:

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

Purpose of Special Meeting:

Supervisor Abney introduced the guest speakers and asked them to briefly speak on the topic of road funding.

Dylan Hellus, Regional Liaison for Governor Gretchen Whitmer, spoke about the Governor's budget for road funding which will only be used on state trunk line roads. He welcomed any questions that the residents may have and would be available after the meeting to discuss.

Vanessa Guerra, State Representative 95th District, expressed her frustration with being in office nearly six years and the State has still not put roads as a priority. Since 1964, Michigan has been at the bottom of the list for the condition of its roads. Fuel tax increases implemented in 1983, 1997 and 2015 have never been adjusted for the rate of inflation. It would take approximately \$100 billion to fix all of the roads in Michigan. Ms. Guerra thanked the residents in attendance for coming and getting the facts about road improvements at the local level.

Dennis Borchard, Managing Director of the Saginaw County Road Commission, stated that Carrollton Township's roads are in terrible shape. There are 28 miles of roads in Carrollton and most of them have a PASER rating of between 0 – 4, or "poor condition".

Dr. Christopher Douglas, University of Michigan-Flint, discussed some highlights from the recent studies he had completed on road funding in the State of Michigan. The gas tax passed by the Governor goes to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) which does not help fund local road improvements. Dr. Douglas stated that he had just started his second term on the Grand Blanc City Council and they have a road millage. If they didn't have the road millage, the City would not be able to afford maintaining the roads. He encouraged audience members to check out his road studies and blogs online to learn more about local road funding.

Supervisor Abney passed out cards for members of the audience to write down their questions.

Q: I own six vacant parcels that do not have road access. Do I have to pay the road millage on those parcels if it passes?

A: Yes, the millage (if passed) will be assessed to all parcels in the Township.

Q: Does the County Road Commission have to approve all road projects and which roads will be fixed first?

A: Yes, the County must approve all future road projects if the millage is passed. The Township Board will work with Spicer Group (Township's engineer), the Road Commission and contractors to come up with a project timeline that is most cost-effective for the Township. The Township would also like to form a citizen committee so that the residents are directly involved in the process.

Q: If the road millage doesn't pass, is there a backup plan?

A: No. The Township's General Fund is unable to afford doing anything more than a small amount of maintenance each fiscal year.

Q: If passed, will the road millage monies only be used for road reconstruction? What about storm sewers?

A: Rain water drainage is very important when you're trying to keep roads in good condition. The road millage ballot language states "funding can be used for curbs, gutters, sidewalks and other related appurtenances" which would include storm water drainage.

Public Comments:

Bill Feriend, 1075 Schust, introduced himself as the Co-Chairperson of the Carrollton Area Vehicular Surfaces (C.A.V.S.) Improvement Committee. He welcomed any questions and thanked the board members and guest speakers for their input. The next C.A.V.S. Improvement Committee meeting is Thursday, March 5 in the Carrollton Middle School Library and everyone is welcome.

Director Comments/Updates:

Office Manager Weaver thanked everyone for attending and informed them of the upcoming Township budget workshop meetings on March 2 and 12 at the Township Hall.

Board Comments:

Westphal thanked everyone in attendance and encouraged residents to attend the Township's regularly scheduled board meetings.

Fritz stated that the Presidential Primary Election is Tuesday, March 10 and encouraged everyone to get out and vote.

Thurston thanked everyone for coming out. She stated that road work will only get more expensive and the time to do something is now.

Douglas asked the audience to share the information that they learned that evening with friends and family. Why is the Township asking for 5 mills? Because Carrollton Township is small and 1 mill only brings in approximately \$60,000-\$70,000 which wouldn't go very far when it comes to road improvements.

Abney thanked the guest speakers for coming. He emphasized the fact that the Township's roads will not get any better. He encouraged anyone with questions to contact the Township.

Adjournment:

It was moved by Thurston and supported by Westphal to adjourn. There being all ayes, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry W. Fritz, Clerk

Public in attendance:

Loren & Pamela Fischer	833 Mapleridge
Nathan Bryce	1670 Schust
Teresa Aiken	3826 Boeing
Scott Hare	4884 Cherokee
Louis Booker	3989 N. Michigan
Ray & Ann Jones	3675 Jackson
Ray McKay	3611 Roosevelt
Frank Portner	810 Fleetwood
Dave Brushaber	3780 Bauer
Allan Trevino	2638 Valley Saginaw Twp.
Scott Berkobien	1914 Schust
Mark Myczkowiak	550 Tulane
Joan Douglas	1828 Kelly
Bill & Lorri Feriend	1075 Schust
Tim Gnatkowski	3546 Madison
Judy George	705 Oakview