

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL JOINT CITY COUNCIL/ST. JOSEPH TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING HELD MONDAY, JULY 14, 2008 – 8:15 P.M. AT ST. JOSEPH TOWNSHIP HALL.

The meeting was held at St. Joseph Township Hall. The following Board Members were present: Chair Jeff Janssen, Board Members: Jerome Salzer & Math Symalla.

Township staff present were: Anna Reischel-Clerk and the Treasurer.

City Council members present were: Mayor Brian Herberg, Vern Ahles, Bill Becker, Susan Palmer & Don Simon. Absent: Jim Pflapsen & Randy Volkmuth.

Staff members present were: Administrator/Clerk Rena Weber & Public Works Director Rick Hansen.

Also present were: Gene Lange and Donna Karls.

Rockville Council members were invited to attend the Township Board meeting to discuss the 260th Street Reclaim project and how this project can be completed in the future.

Member Becker reported that a public hearing was held, two of the residents objected to the project, and the council determined that this project was not a top priority rated project.

Member Palmer indicated that as the Chair of the Finance Committee she and the committee are reviewing the Capital Improvement Plan as we don't have a good plan in place. The Committee and Council need to determine how much we can reasonably do each year. This project was not in the budget this year. The city would like to schedule projects by meeting with all our neighbors and determine which will be done and when.

Member Simon reported that he is the Chair of the Street Committee and the committee has discussed all roads. Member Simon reported that a similar issue occurred with Wakefield Township last year in that they wanted to overlay 133rd Avenue in 2006. The city did not have money budgeted for this until 2007 and that is when the project was done. The city needs to set up a plan. Some roads are more important to fix than 260th Street in his opinion. This road assessment upset some people.

Chair Janssen reported that the township does not assess for road projects. The township board has a concern of rising costs due to the cost of oil. They could have done the project a lot cheaper than what the city could. *(It should be noted that standards for a city project are different than what was proposed to be done by the Township bid)*. Chair Janssen reported that they do two miles of overlay each year and have 32 miles of roads which are mostly tarred. Chair Janssen indicated that he understands that a city has to go through a different process when it assesses for improvements.

Mayor Herberg apologized for not getting back to the Township sooner, but that is the process the city needs to go through in order to assess. The Council determined that this street is just not the top priority at this time.

Rick Hansen reported that in his opinion 260th Street is not really falling apart, but at this time the City is not going to spend any money on seal coating or overlays as the condition of the road is past that stage.

Rockville resident Donna Karls asked how many experts looked at the road. It was reported that the Township Board, Hardrives, Rockville Public Works Director and the city engineer all looked at the road.

Discussion was held on holding the project off for one or two years.

Chair Janssen voiced concern that if Rockville is not going to overlay or seal coat 260th Street then deterioration will accelerate quicker.

Member Palmer indicated that the city will take the next step and identify which year we will do the project.

Member Ahles reported that he drove the road today and noted there are vertical cracks which are going to get worse. The road is uneven and is starting to break up. There may be more traffic on this road once the new school opens up.

Gene Lange – Township Road consultant reported that in his opinion the road is past the overlay stage as well and that if we wait any longer we won't be able to reclaim it either.

Chair Janssen suggested that both parties keep a close eye on the situation. The landowners should be aware that an assessment is going to happen. Roads are going to go bad.

Donna Karls indicated that she will be at the Rockville meeting on Wednesday.

It was reported that green acres is taken into account as part of the City assessment process.

Chair Janssen asked Donna Karls about her thoughts on the need to improve the road. Mrs. Karls indicated that she has lived there 10 years, the road was seal coated once and this seemed to work.

Mayor Herberg indicated that his estimate is that the city will budget this project in two years 2010. This of course needs to go before the whole council.

Chair Janssen questioned the status of 82nd Avenue, 263rd Street and 83rd Avenue. It was reported that 82nd Avenue is entirely in city limits with the remaining roads 50/50. The city is holding on repair to these roads until the next phase of Brentwood Hills development occurs.

Rick Hansen reported that he air patched 82nd Avenue this year.

ADJOURNMENT – The portion of the meeting that Rockville was present for adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Rockville staff and council went to 260th Street to view the status for their own information.

VERENA M. WEBER
ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK

BRIAN HERBERG
MAYOR