

**Ross Township
12086 M-89
Richland, MI 49083
269-731-4888**

**Special Board Meeting
And Public Hearing
April 7, 2022
6:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Supervisor Hutchings.

ROLL CALL

Present: Christina Hutchings Michael Bekes Syndee Genung
 Lynn Harmon Diana Langshaw Mike Sulka
 Carin Louis

Absent: None

Also Present: Attorney Rob Thall and approximately 6 interested residents.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Bekes moved to approve agenda with amendment to order. Second by Trustee Langshaw.

Amended as follows:

1. Call to order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approve Board Meeting Agenda
5. Preliminary discussion regarding Sherman Lake Sewer Special Assessment District; financial advisor and bond counsel.
6. Attorney presentation.
7. Public Comment.
8. Board discussion, deliberation regarding financial advisor, bond counsel and reimbursement resolution.
9. Adjournment.

**PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION REGARDING SHERMAN LAKE SEWER SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT
FINANCIAL ADVISOR AND BOND COUNSEL**

Attorney Thall introduced Attorney Mark Nettleton of Mika Meyers Law Office as Bond Counsel and Andy Campbell with Baker Tilly as Financial Advisor. Both Mark Nettleton and Andy Campbell work with Townships to establish special assessment districts and issue Bonds to create funding to create funds for proposed special projects.

Mark Nettleton will provide legal advice to Township for the issuance of bonds in accordance with Public Act 188 of 1954, throughout the process of the project. All fees for his services are paid from the Bond once the closing is executed. If the bond did not go through, he would still expect payment but that most of his work is on the backend. He further explained that in order for Bonds to be issued on behalf of Ross Township and in compliance with the IRS Tax Exempt status, firstly The Board must adopt the Resolution to declare official intent to reimburse expenditures with bond proceeds and matters related thereto.

Andy Campbell presented that Baker Tilly currently represents over 200 Municipalities in Michigan as an independent financial advisor for Bond projects. He coordinates the sale of Bonds, payment to the source and pay off. He stated that his fees are also paid out of the Bond at the closing.

Trustee Bekes confirmed with Attorney Thall that the Sherman Lake Special Assessment District is legal. Trustee Harmon was concerned with the \$200,000.00 up front cost to start the project and who was responsible for the start up funds; Gull Lake Sewer and Water Authority or Ross Township's General Fund. It was explained that the \$200,000.00 startup funds are figured into the Gull Lake Sewer and Water Authority's purchasing budget. The proposed resolution's verbiage allows for Gull Lake Sewer and Water Authority to purchase on behalf of the Ross Township's SAD with the understanding that all affiliated costs for purchases are to be reimbursed to GLSW from the bond proceeds. Ross Township is not committing to allocating \$200,000.00 of General Funds to this project. By adoption of the proposed resolution, it allows GLSW to lock in pricing for supplies for the SAD project. He reiterated that the Resolution does not require any Township general fund expenditures for the project or require the payment by the Township of any funds not expressly approved. He further explained that once the Resolution is adopted, he, Mark Nettleton and Andy Campbell will create a timeline for the project and the resolution will allow the Authority to lock in prices ahead of time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Hutchings opened the floor to public comment at 6:24pm.

Mark Rodgers spoke.

Rodney Weir spoke.

Phillis Youse spoke.

Christine Russell spoke and presented a handout.

Kathy Hausknecht spoke.

Supervisor Hutchings closed Public Comment at 6:36 pm.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND RESOLUTION

Trustee Bekes moved to adopt Resolution 3312022-1. Trustee Sulka seconded.

The Board discussed confirming pricing with Gull Lake Sewer and Water by end of month and obtaining copies of letters written to residents by GLSW.

Supervisor Hutchings stated she is researching possible funding for infrastructure.

Roll Call Vote held on resolution 3312022-1 :

Trustee Bekes: Aye

Trustee Langshaw: Aye

Treasurer Genung: Aye

Supervisor Hutchings: Abstained

Clerk Louis: Aye

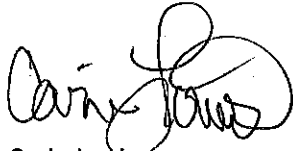
Trustee Harmon: Aye

Trustee Sulka: Aye
Resolution 3312022-1 adopted six Ayes, one Abstained, no Nays.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Sulka moved to adjourn meeting. Second by Trustee Harmon
Meeting adjourned 6:43pm.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carin Louis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some loops and flourishes.

Carin Louis

Ross Township Clerk