

WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PUBLIC HEARING
FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2018 4:00PM
WATERSMEET COMMUNITY CENTER
www.watersmeet.us

A special meeting of the Watersmeet Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Rogers at 4:00pm.

Members present: Mike Rogers, Alan Piel, Bill Neumann, Paul Kemppainen, Sandy Mansfield

Others: 47 citizens

A motion was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel to enter into a public hearing at 4:05 pm. Motion carried.

Bob McGuffin, President of the CCROA (Cisco Chain Raparian Owners Association) presented a program dealing with the Special Assessment being sought for the chain of lakes in order to control and manage Invasive Species. A quick polling of those for and those against was taken with 43 in favor and 2 opposed. Everyone that would be affected by this special assessment was sent a packet with all the information needed in order to become informed of the terms of the assessment. What this all comes down to, is that the assessment winds up being .1315% per parcel of land for the treatment of aquatic invasive species on the chain. This amount will be anywhere from \$25.00 to \$100 per parcel. Resident's comments were received and questions answered. Mike Rogers stated that this assessment will be a line item on the winter tax bill and this money is earmarked for a specific use and cannot be used for anything else. The interest that is accumulated from this assessment will also be turned over to the CCROA. The vast majority of the residents in attendance and those that could not be here but sent supporting letters, were in favor of this. One comment hit the mark by stating that collectively we have a chance to do something good before it's too late. The residents that spoke up against this proposed action, stated that they are not against the treatment of the chain, but do not agree with the special assessment. They feel that it could be an assessment over the entire township. Mike Rogers stated that the township already contracts with the ISCCW for money each year, so everyone is already contributing. Another resident felt that the assessment could be based on the amount of frontage owned. Mr. McGuffin explained that this is the most equitable way and the least costly for each owner. 576 mailings were sent out to the land owners on the Michigan part of the chain. In order for this not to proceed, there would have had to be a petition with signatures of 20% of the property owners. There are a total of 720 properties including those in Wisconsin. He plans to try to get the Wisconsin owners involved next year. There had to be a starting point so he began with Michigan.

A motion to return to the special meeting was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel. Motion carried. Meeting reentered at 5:25pm.

A motion to approve the agenda as presented was offered by Paul Kemppainen with support from Bill Neumann. Motion carried.

Special Business:

In order for the special assessment process to continue, a resolution was offered by Alan Piel with support from Bill Neumann to (1) express the intent to proceed with the public improvements in the proposed Special Assessment District and (2) to defray the costs of the public improvements by special

assessment and 93) directs the Township Supervisor to prepare a special assessment roll and file the roll with the Township Clerk for presentation to the Township Board of Trustees.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes....Mike Rogers, Alan Piel, Bill Neumann, Paul Kempainen, Sandy Mansfield.

Resolution declared "passed".

Alan Piel commended the audience for the manner in which they conducted themselves during the hearing. It was a pleasure to listen to residents each present their comments and not have everyone talking over each other.

A motion was offered by Paul Kempainen with support from Alan Piel to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Mansfield, Clerk
Watersmeet Township

DRAFT