

Special Meeting- February 12, 2016 **Approved**
Clearwater Township

Present: Supervisors Dan Mol, Scott Miller and Bill Langenbacher, Clerk Jean Just, Maintenance Supervisor Mike Ludenia

Visitors signed in: John Notsch, Ron & Debbie Schabel, Don Cox, Punkie Hempel, Judy Lindemann, Sue Henstein, Blayne Leuthard, Tom Schwartz, Don & Mary Kemkes, David Zachman, Dave Kunkel

A special meeting was held on February 12, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. to review and award or reject bids for the Illsley Ave project.

Chairman Dan Mol called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Mol stated that all of the bids were qualified by Hakanson Anderson and the lowest bid was from New Look Contracting, Inc at \$194,308.00 which is under the estimate that was received from the engineer. An estimate was received from Hakanson Anderson for the construction phase for \$11,900 this estimate is based upon the Township self-performing the construction observation.

There was discussion from the residence in attendance asking why we were considering this project. Kunkel brought information indicating that there had been no reported accidents along this stretch of road. Mol stated that there were site line issues and hills that block views of oncoming traffic. Mol indicated that the DNR is allowing us to go outside of the right of way to use their gravel/dirt to remove the hills to use in the low areas of the road so that the township does not have to purchase or haul gravel/dirt for the project.

Residence in the audience indicated they wanted to know how it came to this and when did the board state they were going to go ahead with the construction of this road. Board stated that this project had been discussed for more than a year and half and that the meeting tonight is to decide if they are going to accept the bid and move forward or reject the bid. Miller indicated that we have two choices either approve or reject the bids. The township has spent approximately \$26,000 in engineering/wetland delineation to get to this point.

Residence in the audience stated that with the cost of the maintenance supervisor working on the project and additional engineering costs the total cost of this project would be almost a quarter million dollars. Ludenia indicated that the DNR and US Corps of Engineers has already approved the project and given us the wetland credits which are only good for a certain period of time, if we do not move forward it is going to more expensive and tougher to do at a later date.

John Notch stated that he felt Wright County Soil & Water was not happy with the project. Ludenia & Mol indicated that they were out on site with them and they were good with going ahead with the project and happy that we were doing the 3to1 in-slope.

Miller indicated that this stretch of road is the second lowest traveled road of the roads that were monitored. Miller state that he is not in favor of the entire project. He agrees with correcting the hills and corners but the road is in good condition and the basic foot print should not change. He state that

there should be alternatives to doing the entire project. He thought there are other places that have more traffic where the money could be better spent. Miller asked if we could take the dirt to remove some of the site line issues and put it elsewhere to fix in-slopes etc. in other areas of the Township? Ludenia stated that he did not think that the DNR would let us take their dirt and move to other parts of the township. They are allowing us to take the dirt to work on that section of road.

There was discussion between the audience & the board as to other alternatives to this road project and ways to complete the safety issues without spending that much money. Are there other roads that they money would be better spent on. Ludenia indicated that when looking at other roads you may have to acquire property, buy & haul all of the dirt/gravel rather than having it given to you which would be at a much higher cost. Discussion was held as to how many people at the meeting actually live over in the area and use the road, the project has been in discussion for almost two years and only a few have ever been at a meeting prior to today. Board indicated that this is a thru road that is used by many people along with the bus company transporting children in the Township. Other alternatives may be to abandon the road; however, the board does not feel that would be in the best interest.

Miller made a motion to reject all bids. With no second the motion failed.

Langenbacher stated that although he was not on the board when the project first started he felt that the safety concerns were a good reason to consider the project and was not aware that there was this much opposition. He also indicated that the bids received were considerably lower than estimated. Again discussion was held at to alternatives that could be done to correct safety and reduce the price of the project. Ludenia stated where would you start and stop the project, if you only do part of it you are just band aiding the problem not correcting it.

Langenbacher made a motion to table the decision until the March 14th, 2016 regular meeting. Miller seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Langenbacher made a motion to adjourn. Miller seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.



Jean M Just, Clerk
Date 3/14/16



Dan Mol, Chairman
Date 3/14/16