



LIVONIA TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
VACATION OF ROAD KNOWN AS THE GIRL SCOUT ROAD
HELD AT THE LIVONIA TOWNSHIP HALL

AUGUST 29, 2011

Don Sherper, Chairman of the Town Board, called the public hearing to order at 7:00 p.m.

Supervisors present: Gary Doebler, Butch Hass, Dave Hewitt, Doug Manthei and Don Sherper

Staff present: Lila Spencer, Clerk/Treasurer and Rose Olson Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Troy Gilchrist, Attorney with Kennedy & Graven Chartered was present on behalf of the Township.

Chairman Sherper: The purpose of the public hearing is for the Town Board to receive public input and take action on the vacation of 237th Avenue, 104th Street, 235th Avenue, 100th Street and 232nd Avenue, a minimum maintenance road also known as The Girl Scout Road. The hearing is recorded for the official record. Discussions will be limited to the stated purpose of the hearing. Anyone wishing to comment or ask questions will be allowed to do so. No speaker will be permitted to speak more than twice except to answer a question from the Board. Each speaker will be limited to a total of 3 minutes. No interruptions are permitted. Each person wishing to speak is asked to step up to the Board in order to have their comments properly understood and recorded for the official record. All comments must be directed to the chair. Each speaker must state his or her name, address the group he or she represents, if any, before speaking. The Board may ask questions of the speakers.

Chairman Sherper declared the public hearing open and asked if anyone present would like to make comment.

Cathy Hodge, 23820 108th Street: I am kitty corner from the Girl Scout Camp. I understand this is for safety of the girls in blocking of the road and of the dumping that goes on in there. I am actually not opposed to through traffic going through the road but still allowing it to the residents and our kids for at least a walking that we can enjoy. You know the scenery and stuff; well if we would be willing to provide identification with the Girl Scout Camp so they know we would be in there and obtain some sort of a permit. I am not opposed to shutting the road down, my girls have been Girls Scouts too so I understand safety is first thing here for them. I am asking the Board to basically open it up to at least the residents of 108th and the 74 road; we use it specifically for walking purposes.

Vicki Belanger, 11030 237th Avenue: I am completely opposed to the road being closed. We use it for a passage way to Nowthen, we use it for recreational purposes, a passage way to that section of Elk River and when I work out of Great River Energy in Elk River Campus when you can't get onto 169 on a Monday morning or a Thursday night or a Friday night when you sit there. I was not aware of the real issues of why it wanted to be closed; if it is a safety issue to the children, I don't understand that, I don't see children on the road when we go through there. It is a road we have had access to our whole life and we use it for recreation, for passage to work, for passage to Elk River and it is a great alternative for us versus 169.

Dean Schmitcke, 10825 237th Avenue: I am right there by the Girl Scout entrance. If we do vacate the road, if Livonia Township does decide to vacate it and if at any time the Girl Scouts decide to sell off some of their properties, do we have to go back and re-pay to open that road, how does that work...once it is vacated what happens? Sherper asked Gilchrist to respond; Gilchrist responded as follows: Mr. Chair, once the Township vacates the road, the easement is extinguished. The proposed resolution is retaining a right for any utilities that may be in the right of way easement to stay. The easement fades away, the land is unencumbered and the land goes back to the Girl Scouts. In the future if the Girl Scouts sell a lot somewhere in the middle for instance, the Girl Scouts provide an easement to whoever they sell to so they won't be landlocked. No, the Township would not be responsible to reacquire and build a road just because the Girl Scouts decide to sell a lot. Schmitcke continued: this is the third or fourth time in the last 20 years the Township has attempted to vacate this road. Being all the stuff is dumped out there. I think there should be gates at each end and the Township should vacate the road to save the taxpayer's money.

Dale Bolin, 23110 Jarvis Street NW: I am opposed to closing the road, we use it for recreational purposes, walking and driving through. As far as dumping junk it is just going to be dumped on Jarvis street; it already is. There was a Lazy-boy recliner on the guardrail the other day. So it is not just dumping on the Girl Scout Road; so if you close that road they are just going to dump up further. And if this goes back to the Girl Scouts who are not taxpayers, why give them the road, I'm a taxpayer. And if I have to get a petition I will; how many names do I have to get on a petition? Gilchrist responded: There is no petition process for this; you can petition but there is no...Bolin injected: I signed a petition 10 years ago to keep it open. Gilchrist stated there isn't a statutory petition process so there is no set number. Bolin: There is no set number, so a petition would be ok. Gilchrist: If the Board acts on it tonight, the road will be vacated; there is no way to petition this. Bolin broke in and stated: We need more notification than this, don't we? Gilchrist: Notice of the hearing is what is required before the Board can act. Bolin: That is not right we did not have a chance to do anything about it. Gilchrist: This is your opportunity to speak. Bolin: So if you vacate this road and if we walk back there we are trespassing? Sherper: My take on this is if you have permission from the Girl Scouts...Bolin - well they won't give you



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permission; I've been questioned for walking back there before by the Girl Scouts and they say if you stay on the road you are ok which I know I am ok on the road. In this case, if you vacate the road we aren't going to be allowed back there at all. And as far as keeping anybody out that was doing bad things in the Girl Scouts back there – a gate isn't going to stop them. You dig ditches, you put trees around the road they go around them – ATV's come in from all directions you are not going to keep anybody out. I am opposed to closing it.

Lisa Ruutsi, 23820 108th Street: Is the Board prepared to make a decision tonight regarding the road? Gilchrist: The Board has every legal right to make a decision tonight if it wants to; whether they will or not, I don't know. Ruutsi: Can it be clarified that the Girl Scouts do not pay property tax in Sherburne County? Sherper replied: That is correct. Ruutsi: Why is it that the County's responsible to remove is it the road easement of the junk. You just stated that the County – the Township – is paying to remove the items that are dumped. Sherper clarified it is the Township not County and answered yes. Ruutsi asked if that was because of the easement from the road –why wouldn't the property owner be responsible for that. Hewitt clarified it is the Township's right of way. Ruutsi stated she was not clear on that it was being paid for by the Township.

Chad Bouley 23857 108th Street: I agree with some of the sentiments about... it seems odd to open up Sugar Bush and put in trails and all this and then turn around and vacate something that is already there for us that we can go through. If there is a need for safety, I have a daughter in Girl Scouts; my wife is a troop leader. To completely give it to the Girl Scouts seems short sighted versus keeping it for us to enjoy as a trail even. I know that the Girl Scouts would definitely keep us out of there. They are pretty adversarial these days. It seems odd to have something to give away when we just spent thousands of dollars over at Sugar Bush to put in trails to essentially have what we have there. Safety - you guys know this better than me, I think our road is expected to get busier as they change 169 and make new entrances and close old entrances. I know a lot of folks have horses with their kids and anticipate it will get to be a safety hazard for them at that point. So we're just moving the safety issue at that point. If safety is the issue what about asking the neighbors to assist and watch out for the Girl Scouts Camp and actually recruit a group - they were not interested; liability and that sort of thing. My response to that is the nonprofit utilizes about 20,000 volunteers on site every day on an annual basis there are ways to get around that. Just from a logical prospective to give away something when Elk River and the County are trying to buy up every piece of the old railroad track it can, the value of it, seems short sighted. Supervisor Doebler injected: The issue of safety has been brought up and that is not our primary reason for wanting to close it. It is more maintenance and the cost of hauling junk out of there. A trail is one thing we did not consider and maybe we could. Sherburne County gave away the railroad bed and now they are buying it back. Having a recreational trail might be something worth considering. I think it would help the dumping problem; most people who go in there have a pickup truck or car, based on the quantity of stuff going in there. If we make it impossible for them to drive in there it may decrease that problem.

Deb Almen: 23114 Jarvis Street: We have the closest land there-our back yard is 33 feet from center of the road. I just think it is impossible to block it off. We've seen the 4 wheelers and unless you fence the entire area north of us (she pointed to the area on the map). Unless it is fenced you won't keep them out. In the winter it is impassable; but all kinds of snowmobiles will be using it. How will the area be patrolled if the road is blocked? I know there are people off the roads now, has anybody been prosecuted for that? We have the non emergency Sheriff's number we call when we have issues. You are going to block out good people who kind of patrol it and keep an eye out for it; worse things to Girl Scouts could happen back there.

Vicki Belanger: 11030 237th Avenue: I am asking for clarification of what a low maintenance road means, how many dollars is it costing taxpayers to maintain. If you are going to consider looking at it as a trail, I am still opposed to closing it as a road. We do pull dishwashers, televisions out of our ditches on 74. I would support what was said earlier; its' going to happen somewhere else. It is used by good citizens who pay their taxes, of value for us to have and the Girl Scouts are not our friendliest neighbors and it will be completely lost. I will support the trail as a minimum and stand and ask it for it to be left as a road. I don't know what low maintenance means, but maybe maintaining it to a degree where people can take better care of it. So, are there any costs associated with maintaining that road? Supervisor Sherper replied: Yes, it has to be maintained so it is in a passable condition; in some instances this involves a lot of product in some areas and grading it so it is passable. One thing I might note here, regarding vacating of the road, Fire Chief Maloney submitted a letter to say the Fire Department does not use it for a through street; response time is faster to go around the camp on paved roads. Sherper went on to say any of you or maybe all of you who have been through there, it is almost impossible to get through in some instances. He asked Gilchrist clarify the meaning of a minimum maintenance road. Gilchrist responded: Mr. Chair, you are exactly right, minimum maintenance does allow the Town to maintain at a level less than other roads but keep it passable for the level of traffic that it receives. So, as I understand in the past, a lot of resources have been used to keep the road open and passable. If I might speak to this idea, and in my words, down grading it to a



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trail; frankly I am not aware of any procedure under law that allows you to do that. You can make a town road a minimum maintenance or rustic road; it can have bike trails and those sorts of things. I don't know how we can achieve and am not suggesting we would, just for a discussion point, taking a town road and saying now it is a trail and only a trail and you cannot use motorized vehicles on it. I don't know if there is a category of road we can put that in. I did not come this evening with that thought in mind; after 20 years of dealing with town roads, I have never come across something that would allow you to do that. This was a red flag that went off in my mind when you started to discuss this; there are portage statutes but that does not apply here.

Chad Bouley, 23857 108th Street: A little response to that, I don't know statutes either. I do know directly behind my house there is a trail that shows up as a road. Don't have access to it anymore because of the Girl Scouts. I can tell you if you go into the wildlife refuge any road over time turns into a trail. Relative to the law, if it's of interest to the committee here I think it worth investigating.

Paul Thorne, 400 Robert St S, St Paul, Mn 55107: I am here representing the Girl Scouts. I am not going to advocate one way or the other with regards to the road but will answer some questions that have come up from the group. Yes we are tax exempt in our property; all the property the Girl Scouts own is in southern Minnesota and Western Wisconsin is tax exempt. Yes we pick up junk that is dumped onto our property outside of the road easement. We do take care of that, we inform the local law enforcement officers. We do prosecute folks who trespass. There was an incident last winter with some young folks 4 wheeling through camp, once we were able to track them down we contacted law enforcement and they were prosecuted. Safety is an issue for us, however, we realize by vacating the road that does not take away a vast majority of the safety issues we deal with working with Girl Scout Camps. So while this would help benefit the overall safety of the 10,000 plus folks who access the camps on a year to year basis we realize this will not take away all of the concerns and make it some safety nirvana. As a side bar I am a little disheartened to hear that the Girl Scouts has such a poor reputation as neighbors and being unfriendly. So after the meeting, if anyone would like to stop and chat with me about that I would be happy to address your questions and give you my card. Supervisor Manthei asked: If we do vacate the road, do you allow private citizens to go on the property to hunt yet? Thorne stated that they do. Supervisor Manthei asked if they would still be willing to allow them to walk that road as a trail. Thorne: We would be absolutely willing to talk to individual folks on those issues. We have a history at other camps of allowing other folks who are neighbors of giving them access to our camp properties for walking. We have nine camp properties so we have a history of allowing neighbors to do that. Our concern would be with vacating the road all the liability for accessing the property would fall with the Girl Scouts and obviously it would be a primary concern with our legal counsel and our insurance company. Regarding allowing horses in the camp, Thorne declined to give answer without first talking to their attorney. Supervisor Sherper: You are willing to work with the local people who want to use it for a trail and what would they have to have, a tag or pass or some identification. Thorne: We would work and negotiate with them. If the Township chooses to vacate the road that makes the road Girl Scout property. We want to make sure we know who is accessing our property. For example, when folks hunt our property they have to have permission and have identification in their vehicles so the Girl Scouts know who they are. We have a very specific process to help us manage that; we would do the same thing with folks accessing the road.

Cathy Hodge, 23820 108th Street addressed comment to Thorne. Where's exactly your position in the Girl Scouts because I was under the assumption that this wasn't a Girl Scout attorney. Are you (looking toward Gilchrist) representing the Girl Scouts? Gilchrist stated he is representing the Township. She again turned to Thorne and asked what his position or authorization to.... Thorne replied that he is the Asset Director responsible for fixed assets of the Council. This issue of vacating the road was brought up by our Board of Directors at our telephone meeting on Wednesday evening. Our staff was charged with being able to come here to advocate on behalf of the Girl Scouts and to answer any questions. Hodge-What kind of guarantees would we get. I hear you saying we will do this or that and the other thing. But I also have heard an opposing thing that the Girl Scouts are very difficult to work with and once they get control of that road, I mean there is nothing to say, nope we're just not letting anybody in versus the Town Board stepping in a saying well you know that's kind of the conditions of this. So I just want you guys to take a look at that while you're making promises I can't see you keeping. Thorne replied he is not making promises or guaranteeing anything. Hodge stated that is what she wanted to hear is that Thorne cannot guarantee anything ok, thank you. Thorne: because if I get fired tomorrow nobody knows how this conversation went other than what's in the minutes at the Township. Hodge: I think that it is important for us as people who use this road to know - thank you.

Lisa Ruutsi, 23820 108th Street: Because it used to be at one point permission to ride horses on the trail and that was taken away so it makes me really leery that they are going to say no horseback riding on our road if it was vacated and I am a horse owner on the road and I am left with a 55 mph speed limit.



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Thorne clarified a point. The Girl Scout for this specific vacation did not come to the Township to advocate for vacating the road. I know, for historical precedence, this has happened 2 or 3 times to this point in time, would we support it, yes. Would it be to the Girl Scouts benefit? Of course it would. We are not advocating one way or the other, would it be to our benefit, yes, would it help prevent some of the dumping, yes it would, would it stop some of the ease of access for trespass, yes it would. If it doesn't get vacated will the Girl Scouts camp still be there, absolutely it will be. Will we still be asking for your names and address to help with the neighbor issue, absolutely!

Deb Almen; 23114 Jarvis Street: As for the Girl Scouts working with the neighbors, the landowners, we used to have permission to hunt back there with bow and they took that away from us. We are not allowed to do bow hunting anymore; all the permits have gone to law enforcement and DNR. Thorne responded and apologized for not being able to respond that specially.

Dave Wrobel; 10908 237th Avenue: We used to take care of that Girl Scout Camp Road-being neighborly; we were basically thrown out, with our equipment and stuff like that.

Paul Novotny, representing the Sheriff's Department: I will qualify this by saying I don't hunt on the property, I have never hunted on the property and I don't plan on hunting on the property. He asked that the road map be projected for reference Deb was talking about the people 4 wheeling up here and pointed to the area on the map northwest of 96th and 232nd. It is almost impossible to catch people up here in this position. If you have ever been out there it is dead silent; there is no road noise; Honeywell is on this side and pointed to their location east of the Camp. It is very hard to catch people; when we have caught them we prosecute them based on circumstances. It is tough because it is so quiet. Minimum maintenance road or not, the mere condition of the road makes it impassable for squad cars about 6 months out of the year. The very sharp hill coming down from the Lake Barbara building makes it a one way road in the winter because of the ice you cannot get back up it with a 2 wheel drive vehicle. Once you get down to the red barn corner, you can't get the rest of the way out to Jarvis. So it basically, not a dead end, it's just that you're stuck and have to call a tow. We've had to call for tow trucks to get us out once we've gone in there for alarms. The alarms are not always false; historically about 10% of the alarms are actually burglary. Looking back, we've had 6 burglaries at the property which are interrupted by the alarm systems that they have, but like I said once we get back there then we are stuck. You don't get deep penetration of the violators because of the layout of the land. The problem is it is if you are on this road moving, if it is 3:30 in the morning and it's in the middle of summer, you can't do anything if this Camp is full of girls. You can't stop them to say why are you driving 8 mph in the Girl Scout Camp! With that they can do whatever they want as long as they are moving. A couple of years ago a guy was unloading tires, heard a car coming and put the tires back in his car and drove away; another guy got his license plate number and we talked to him but the problem is you can't sneak up on anyone. We put game cameras out but unless they stop and dump garbage right by the camera so it is recorded, we can't do anything. It is very difficult to catch the person actually committing the crime. Historically going back in time with the murder of Diane Edwards and her body was dumped just north of the road by the pond. About 10 years ago there was a body dumped from Anoka County just off the road. It is not just refrigerators and stoves that are dumped on this road; it is bodies. It is the one remote area of the County that is easily accessed. We've had 23 damage to property that are misdemeanors of \$250 or less; 5 gross misdemeanor felonies, damage to property, thefts from vehicles, a dozen liquor complaints that are kids back there drinking and partying. If we catch kids we do prosecute them, we do everything we can to discourage them from hanging out there and make it seem like it is not a safe harbor. It is so tough; we come through with a squad car, they pull off the road with the lights off; is very difficult and almost impossible to catch them. Almen asked if a gate is going to keep them out of there. Novotny stated he would do everything that he can; as a guy who just came off nights my biggest fear is who is in there at two o'clock in the morning when at any given time 50-100 girls are in there. Bolin asked if the road can be upgraded; Novotny said that is up to the Township. The way the road is especially on the hill by Lake Barbara... Bolin interrupted and said they could cut ditches in bring the grade up and make it passable; all the material are there they just need to make it work. Novotny: There have been 13 major dumping complaints which included hazardous waste material.

Chad Bouley; 23857 108th Street: Here again, I truly feel we are robbing Peter to pay Paul. I have 5 little kids, the oldest is 10, the 55 mph road is dangerous, we go on the Girl Scouts Camp; again if it was a trail, we could still go on it. I've heard in the past about the 2 murders-horrible absolutely horrible but the crime didn't happen in the Girl Scout Camp, it happened somewhere else and they were just dumped there because it was a remote spot. That could have been on the other side of the line, Alliance Tech. There was comment from the audience to indicate disapproval of Bouley's comment. Bouley, said to forget he said that; I find myself at the mercy of the court! At this time there was reference to the railroad property; the railroad was never public property; was private railroad bed. Bouley said his only point with that was the County, everybody's land gets chewed up, buys land for hundreds of thousands of dollars for public use and I find it almost pervasive that we are talking about giving that land away at this time. It is almost confounding to me, but it is what



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it is at some point; it doesn't make logical sense to me. But if we are looking at it from a safety perspective and I know you said 6 months out of the year it becomes pretty impassable; I assume that is wintertime right. I tried driving it in the winter time and have come close to getting stuck; that is not in the summertime when there are 300 Girl Scouts out there. If we are talking about it from a safety perspective and there is a chance to make it legally into a path, it is a win-win for everybody.

Deb Almen, 23114 Jarvis Street: So if they close that road and I hear somebody back there and I live back there how will you get to them? Novotny – we will do everything we can. No matter what happens here tonight if you see something going on give us a call. Almen: We'll be calling a lot.

Cathy Hodge, 23820 108th Street: Asked Novotny if there are similar problems at the Wildlife Refuge. Novotny stated Wildlife Refuge is gated up. The scenic drive off County Road 5 is a loop drive.

Supervisor Sherper asked if there was any further comment.

Dean Schmitcke, 10825 237th Avenue: To Paul Thorne how they would stop traffic if the road is vacated. Thorne responded by saying the east and west ends would be gated. Would that stop people who have a desire to access the property- no. Would it put a stop on the casual folks who want to go back there and dump, we believe it will.

Lisa Ruutsi, 23820 108th Street: I want to put my two cents in. I'm on 108th right there at the main entrance to the Camp. I am concerned if the Girl Scouts did get that road they would close it off to any public use. We use it for recreational. The gates maybe won't stop the hoodlums but it will stop us honest people who don't want to get a trespassing fine and I agree with Chad it is beautiful in there. The trees in the fall are beautiful. 74 is a 55 mph speed limit; it is like taking your life in your hands walking on that road. I do enjoy walking on a daily basis and I would much prefer to walk on that road rather than the 55 mph road. That's just my opinion as a taxpayer who lives near the Camp.

Vicki Belanger, 11030 237th Avenue: Is there a list of criteria that is public that made you make this decision? Supervisor Sherper replied there is not. Is there any consideration if it is left open to upgrading and taking better care of it so some of these things can be taken care of or is that not on the table? Supervisor Sherper said the Town Board has discussed that many times and the cost to fix it up even to make it two lanes where there is only one lane is quite prohibitive and it all falls on the taxpayers of the Township to do that.

Clerk/Treasurer Spencer requested map of the Township be projected to show the route around the Girl Scout Camp to allow folks to get to their destinations.

Vicki Belanger, 11030 237th Avenue Yes, we understand the round-a-bout, they are time and gas consuming. I'm not a fire truck going through there so I understand the difficulties with that too. It is a useable nice road. There are dangers with 74, with the curves and everybody trying to use it for recreation we are sacrificing something.

Dale Bolin, 23110 Jarvis Street NW: : What are the chances of the County taking it over and fixing it so it is open to traffic? Supervisor Sherper- I would say nil because they have their own problems with keeping their roads up and are also considering givebacks. In other words taking Co roads and giving them back to Townships.

Supervisor Sherper declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:50 p.m.

Attorney Gilchrist commented to the Board, based on his notes, as follows: Regarding giving away of the land and the railroad was used as analogy. He pointed out that the Township has an easement there; the Girl Scouts actually own the real estate; the public easement is just on top. The Township would not be giving land away, just extinguishing an easement. There is a substantial difference; once the road is vacated the easement is extinguished; the real estate does not change hands. The Township is not selling or giving away land. The underlying ownership of the Girl Scouts remains; it is just unencumbered from the easement. One of the reasons the Board decided to consider vacation of the road is the responsibility; the road is in rough shape at different times of the year. Even though it designated minimum maintenance, and there are some liability protections that go along with that, it is not a blank check to get out of liability free. In itself the level to which the road is maintained as a low maintenance road can present a liability. As far as the affect of the vacation, it would erase that road as a public easement. In the agreement to vacate utilities are not excluded from being able to access for maintenance purposes. As far as private property, it would be just like going on anyone else's property; permission would need to be obtained from the Girl Scouts to walk across their property. The Girl Scouts would have to consult with their counsel with regard to allowing folks to walk across their land. Years ago a statute was put in place by the State giving liability protection to folks who open up their land for recreational uses, to give property owners comfort to know if they were to allow the public on their land, they would have some liability protection. Regarding the standard or list of criteria that the Board acts on; there is none. The only criteria is if the Town Board decides to



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vacate the road that it is done in the best interest of the public. Gilchrist reiterated he does not believe there is anything in Statute that allows the Board to just downgrade or reclassify the road. He would research further if the Board so wishes. Supervisor Manthei asked if we vacate the road, would the Township go back to the Girl Scouts to negotiate or purchase from the Girl Scouts for a trail as long as the road is there. If the road is vacated but want to help the citizens have it for a walking path or horse trail, would we have to build a road if they develop the land? Gilchrist – the trail issue is not one that I came prepared to deal with. There is one way a trail could be achieved; however, it is not one day a road and the next a trail. As a condition of vacation and with agreement of the Girl Scouts, a trail easement could be established. The road would be vacated and as it is vacated we execute a trail easement so the trail would exist. With ownership comes responsibility, assuming the Girl Scouts would agree to that, the Township assumes responsibility for maintaining it, including if there is dumping off the easement. If the trail is created Gilchrist stated he does not see how a risk would be created for the Girl Scouts to come back later to make the Township automatically upgrade it to a full road. A trail easement could be whatever width you would decide, but there is still responsibility for the Township to maintain the easement. Hass asked if there was response from the Girl Scouts on the letter that was sent to them asking them to share some of the responsibility for costs. Supervisor Hewitt stated a response was not received back. Supervisor Manthei, however, said a response was received from them to say they will not share any of the maintenance costs. Supervisor Sherper questioned how we would access to remove dumping in the right of way in the Girl Scouts if there is only a trail. Supervisor Doebler added if people have to go to a lot of work to dump they won't. Attorney Gilchrist, speculated the Girl Scouts will probably keep the road as a road for their purposes, as a trail easement the public may only have access to a certain part of it. Supervisor Hewitt added there would have to be limitations for accessing the trails. Supervisor Hass suggested citizen involvement in conjunction with the Girl Scouts for some maintenance. Supervisor Hewitt, stated the costs are with product, labor for keeping the road up as much as they are for dumping. Supervisor Manthei stated everything from dead chickens to hazardous waste is dumped. He stated he drove around the Girl Scouts Camp and it takes only two minutes longer to drive around. There are safety issues besides recreational issues; a 75 year old woman had to walk out because she was stuck in there. The Girl Scouts allow some private activity to go on; don't know how they decide who is allowed. There is an issue with safety of the girls when it comes to who they allow to hunt; it is their decision on who they allow to hunt. One person in audience wished to comment again; Sherper stated public hearing was closed to public comment. Gilchrist clarified the difference between public and private easement. With the public easement there is a common law duty to keep it maintained and the liability flows to the public entity. With a private easement there may be certain private individual responsibilities for maintenance. Hass stated his position as serving on the the Town Board and also the City Council for 10 years, the City vacated some streets in Zimmerman only to find 10 years later the streets were needed for utilities and so forth. It would be a lot easier if the Girl Scouts would help maintain the road in some manner; it is for their road, their protection – fire and sheriff department; help buy some product for maintenance of the road. Gilchrist made one other point; if you come to a decision on this tonight, the resolution will not pass unless 4 out of 5 of you vote in favor of it because the Board initiated the petition 4/5 vote is needed to pass the resolution. Sherper asked what the desire of the Board is tonight; should it be tabled to the next meeting. Supervisor Manthei asked if it is tabled should we contact the Girl Scouts to find out if we can change it over to a trail and vacate it as a road and then in an agreement to allow for a trail. Supervisor Manthei said he does not want an agreement to be taken away, not allow the neighbors to walk on the road or use the road two years later. Contact the Girl Scouts to see if they would allow certain people to use the road. Gilchrist clarified it would be an agreement executed and recorded, that it is open for public use and the Township would be responsible for maintaining it. The level of maintenance would be the same as it was for the low maintenance road which is adequate enough for the specific easement. An easement agreement runs with the land; once recorded the Girl Scouts or the Town could not unilaterally say it is done. Language can be incorporated to state how it could be built, how it is maintained; there could be restrictions placed on it as well. Doebler again asked, and directed his question to Gilchrist, if the Township were to try to pursue that as a trail easement rather than a road easement would we have to get an agreement from the Girl Scouts or can we do that since we already have an existing easement there? Gilchrist said he would want to make sure of so if you continue this public hearing, it would give him an opportunity to come back with a more definitive answer rather than his 90% sure.

Moved by Supervisor Doebler seconded by Supervisor Hewitt to table a decision tonight and have Gilchrist look into converting the road easement into a trail easement. Gilchrist recommended clarifying the motion to recess and continue to the next Board Meeting to allow him to research the issue of downgrading the road to a trail. All the notices from this hearing carry over until you reconvene to a specific date and time. The public hearing portion of this meeting is closed. Doebler added once it is vacated, it's gone; careful consideration needs to be given. There was no other discussion. Sherper called for vote on motion; motion carried to continue to September 26th at 7:05 p.m..



SEPTEMBER 26, 2011 CONTINUATION OF
THE AUGUST 29, 2011 PUBLIC HEARING MEETING FOR
VACATION OF ROAD KNOWN AS THE GIRL SCOUT ROAD
HELD AT THE LIVONIA TOWNSHIP HALL

Don Sherper, Chairman of the Town Board, called the continuation of the public hearing meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Supervisors present: Gary Doebler, Butch Hass, Dave Hewitt, Doug Manthei and Don Sherper

Staff present: Lila Spencer, Clerk/Treasurer and Rose Olson Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Troy Gilchrist, Attorney with Kennedy & Graven Chartered was present on behalf of the Township.

Chairman Sherper stated the purpose of the continuation of the public hearing meeting is for the Town Board to take action on the vacation of 237th Avenue, 104th Street, 235th Avenue, 100th Street and 232nd Avenue, a minimum maintenance road also known as The Girl Scout Road. On August 29, 2011 the Board received comment from the public during the public hearing. The public hearing is closed. The Board asked Mr. Gilchrist to investigate whether the Board can take action to simply change the road to a trail. Gilchrist responded. The intent is to allow the public continued use of the road for walking, bicycling and horseback riding but excluding the public from driving on it. Gilchrist presented four options which the Board viewed prior to this meeting. 1) Vacate the road on the condition the Girl Scouts agree to execute an easement granting the Town a trail easement. 2) Vacate only a portion of the easement rights which would not require agreement from the Girl Scouts. 3) Adopt the resolution to vacate the road without any agreement with the Girl Scouts and 4) Do nothing, the Road status remains as is. Board discussion followed. Moved by Doebler, seconded by Hewitt to authorize Gilchrist to engage in discussion with the Girl Scouts for Option 1 with all other options remaining open and continue this meeting to November 28, 2011 at 7:05 p.m. Motion carried.



NOVEMBER 28, 2011 CONTINUATION OF
THE AUGUST 29, 2011 PUBLIC HEARING MEETING FOR
VACATION OF ROAD KNOWN AS THE GIRL SCOUT ROAD
HELD AT THE LIVONIA TOWNSHIP HALL

Don Sherper, Chairman of the Town Board, called the continuation of the public hearing meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Supervisors present: Gary Doebler, Butch Hass, Dave Hewitt, Doug Manthei and Don Sherper

Staff present: Lila Spencer, Clerk/Treasurer

Troy Gilchrist, Attorney with Kennedy & Graven Chartered was present on behalf of the Township.

Paul Thorne, Asset Management Director Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys

Chairman Sherper stated the purpose of the continuation of the public hearing meeting is for the Town Board to take action on the vacation of 237th Avenue, 104th Street, 235th Avenue, 100th Street and 232nd Avenue, a minimum maintenance road also known as The Girl Scout Road. On August 29, 2011 the Board received comment from the public during the public hearing. The public hearing is closed. At that time the Board recessed the public hearing meeting until September 26, 2011 to allow Town Attorney to investigate options. On September 26th the Board considered options. The Board recessed the September 26th meeting to November 28, 2011 at 7:05 p.m. to allow Troy Gilchrist, Attorney on behalf of Livonia Township to engage in discussion with the Girl Scouts for Option 1 with all other options remaining open. Tonight the Board will make determination based on information gathered regarding Option 1. OPTION 1 - Vacate the road on the condition that the Girl Scouts agree to execute an easement granting the Town a trail easement. If they refuse to grant easement the vacation would not go into effect and the town road would remain as is. This Option requires the Board to again recess the public hearing meeting to a specific date and time, authorize Troy to negotiate an easement with the Girl Scouts. OPTION 2 - Does not require a trail agreement from the Girl Scouts; however the Township would be responsible for figuring out how to keep the general public off the road yet allowing for the essential Girl Scout and utility traffic. Again the public hearing meeting would have to be recessed to a specific date and time and authorize Troy to redraft the documents. OPTION 3 - Adopt Resolution to vacate the Road- requires 4/5ths vote of the Town Board. Then adjourn the public hearing meeting. OPTION 4 - Do nothing. Adjourn the public hearing meeting.

Sherper turned the meeting over to Troy Gilchrist. Since the last public hearing meeting he contacted Paul Thorne who put him in touch with the Girl Scouts attorney. Preliminary issues raised by the Girl Scouts include gate management, additional signage to designate trail and non trail areas, liability and cleanup if continued dumping occurs, how to keep unauthorized vehicles from entering.

Paul Thorne was present to talk about the initial concerns. He reported there have been ongoing conversations within the Girl Scout organization; there is consensus they are more than willing to work with the Township on vacation of the road and with establishing a trail easement. Part of the ongoing conversation will be with negotiation for cost and legality of signage, configuration/management of gating, restrictions regarding public access on the easement along with other requirements to meet both party's needs. They would like consideration for verbiage to speak to the future of the road if it no longer serves a purpose as it currently located; would the easement bind the road to the current location. The Girl Scouts is willing to negotiate in good faith. Thorne went on to say they met with about 50 residents in November to dispel the idea the Girl Scouts are not neighborly. He felt the meeting was a success. He again stated the Girl Scouts are more than willing to move forward if the Town chooses to vacate the road. He acknowledged further negotiation of detail would be necessary.

There was Board discussion regarding the Girl Scouts concerns which would be worked out in detail during negotiations. Gilchrist stated all the options are open; if this is the option the Board would like to pursue he suggested recessing this meeting to another date/time. Hass/Doebler unanimous to authorize Troy Gilchrist with Supervisor Doebler as Town contact to negotiate with the Girl Scouts to pursue vacating the road and establishing a trail easement and to recess this meeting to February 27, 2012 at 7:05 p.m. Sherper/Hewitt unanimous to authorize Jon Bogart to formulate legal description for the easement. Bogart will be in contact with Gilchrist regarding progress of negotiations before moving forward with a legal description. Meeting was recessed at 7:30 p.m.



FEBRUARY 27, 2012 CONTINUATION OF
THE AUGUST 29, 2011 PUBLIC HEARING MEETING FOR
VACATION OF ROAD KNOWN AS THE GIRL SCOUT ROAD
HELD AT THE LIVONIA TOWNSHIP HALL

Don Sherper, Chairman of the Town Board, called the continuation of the public hearing meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Supervisors present: Butch Hass, Dave Hewitt, Doug Manthei and Don Sherper; Supervisor Doebler absent

Staff present: Lila Spencer, Clerk/Treasurer and Clerk/Treasurer Rose Olson

Troy Gilchrist, Attorney with Kennedy & Graven Chartered was present on behalf of the Township.

Paul Thorne, Asset Management Director Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys was also present

Chairman Sherper stated the purpose of the continuation of the public hearing meeting is for the Town Board to take action on the vacation of 237th Avenue, 104th Street, 235th Avenue, 100th Street and 232nd Avenue, a minimum maintenance road also known as The Girl Scout Road. On August 29, 2011 the Board received comment from the public during the public hearing. The public hearing is closed. At that time the Board recessed the public hearing meeting until September 26, 2011 to allow Town Attorney to investigate options. On September 26th the Board considered options. The Board recessed the September 26th meeting to November 28, 2011 at 7:05 p.m. to allow Troy Gilchrist, Attorney on behalf of Livonia Township to engage in discussion with the Girl Scouts for Option 1 with all other options remaining open. Tonight the Board will make determination based on information gathered regarding Option 1. OPTION 1 - Vacate the road on the condition that the Girl Scouts agree to execute an easement granting the Town a trail easement. If they refuse to grant easement the vacation would not go into effect and the town road would remain as is. This Option requires the Board to again recess the public hearing meeting to a specific date and time, authorize Troy to negotiate an easement with the Girl Scouts.

Sherper turned the meeting over to Attorney Troy Gilchrist who summarized the February 23, 2012 meeting with Supervisor Doebler, Clerk/Treasurer Spencer, Thorne Asset Manager for the Girl Scouts and himself as follows: The trail easement draft has been distributed to Thorne and the Town Board for review. The Girl Scout staff was contacted by Mitch Sladak, a DNR officer and Scott Fildes, a County Sheriff's officer who expressed concern with establishment of a recreational trail over a Township road which would be more difficult to patrol, create more of a secluded area where various activities could occur out of eye sight of others, potentially create more traffic if advertised as a trail and produce more opportunity for trespass. It is not known where the Sheriff and DNR representatives were coming from; they were not present at this meeting to answer questions, Thorne stated the Girl Scouts have concern for additional liability due to mixed use on the road such as walkers, bike riders, horseback riders during times of high volumes of Girl Scout traffic. Doebler and Gilchrist disagreed; Doebler has never experienced these situations when using public trails. Law enforcement, emergency agencies and others who need to access the road would still have the ability to do so. There would be no greater liability if the road were a trail easement than there is now. Thorne stated the Girls Scouts are willing to continue negotiations to arrive at a point that is satisfactory to both the Girl Scouts and the Township. Over this spring and summer Thorne suggested there be close attention to how the non-motorized traffic will interact with the Girl Scout traffic during their heaviest time of traffic and then reevaluate again in September. Options were discussed for closure of a part of the Girl Scout Road. Thorne said all of the traffic accessing the Camp for Girl Scout purpose is directed into the camp at County Road 74, never from the east end at 96th Street and 232nd Avenue; the traffic does not need to travel beyond the red barn. One of the options discussed was to how to accomplish temporarily closing just a portion of the Road. Doebler stated the consensus of the Town Board is if vacating the road and then obtaining a trail easement no longer is an option, the Board would leave the Girl Scout road as a road open to the public. As a result of the discussion Gilchrist will draft a resolution to temporarily close a portion of the Girl Scout Road.

At the continuation of the public hearing meeting tonight the Town Board has an option, by resolution, to close a portion of the Road; there is no time limit on the longevity of the closing. The resolution will provide legal authority to the County Sheriff's Department to enforce the closure. The Township has identified issues with illegal dumping, costly damage to the road during certain times of the year and with concern to the Camp itself for vandalism and the many girls who use it. Again, Gilchrist said Thorne and the Girl Scout people are willing to work with the Township in good faith to come to a conclusion on a decision for the road. The Board discussed options for temporarily closing a portion of the road and reviewed the resolution to temporarily close the road. Moved by Manthei seconded by Hewitt approve resolution to temporarily close the Girl Scout Road starting at the red barn and continuing east to the intersection of 96th Street and 232nd Avenue until after Labor Day in September 2012. Roll call: Hass, Hewitt, Manthei, Sherper yes; none oppose. Doebler absent. Hass suggested notification of the closure be sent to affected property owners as well as the Star News. Hass/Manthei unanimous to recess the Girl Scout Public Hearing meeting to September 24, 2012 at 7:05 p.m. for the purpose of determining options for the road known as the Girl Scout Road.



SEPTEMBER 24, 2012 CONTINUATION OF
THE AUGUST 29, 2011 PUBLIC HEARING MEETING FOR
VACATION OF ROAD KNOWN AS THE GIRL SCOUT ROAD
HELD AT THE LIVONIA TOWNSHIP HALL

Don Sherper, Chairman of the Town Board, reconvened the Public Hearing Meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Supervisors present: Gary Doebler, Butch Hass, Dave Hewitt, Doug Manthei and Don Sherper

Staff present: Lila Spencer, Clerk/Treasurer and Clerk/Treasurer Rose Olson

Troy Gilchrist, Attorney with Kennedy & Graven Chartered was present on behalf of the Township.

Paul Thorne, Asset Management Director Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys was also present

Chairman Sherper stated the purpose of the continuation of the Public Hearing Meeting is for the Town Board to take action on the vacation of 237th Avenue, 104th Street, 235th Avenue, 100th Street and 232nd Avenue, a minimum maintenance road also known as The Girl Scout Road. On August 29, 2011 the Board received comment from the public during the public hearing. The public hearing is closed. At that time the Board continued the Public Hearing Meeting to September 26, 2011 to allow Town Attorney to investigate Options. On September 26, 2011 the Board had four Options to consider. The Board continued the September 26, 2011 meeting to November 28, 2011 at 7:05 p.m. to allow Troy Gilchrist, Attorney on behalf of Livonia Township to engage in discussion with the Girl Scouts for Option 1; all other Options remain open. On February 27, 2012 the decision was to temporarily close a portion of the GS Road, observe over the summer months how the Girl Scout summer traffic and the vandalism and dumping in the Girl Scout property would be affected. Tonight the Board may make a determination partially based on information received from the Girl Scouts regarding the temporary closing and based on 4 different Options. OPTION 1: Vacate the road on the condition that the Girl Scouts agree to execute an easement granting the Town a trail easement. If they refuse to grant easement the vacation would not go into effect and the town road would remain as is. This Option requires the Board to again continue the Public Hearing Meeting to a specific date and time, authorize Troy to negotiate an easement with the Girl Scouts. OPTION 2: Does not require a trail agreement from the Girl Scouts; however by vacating it down to a trail easement, the Township would be responsible for preventing the general public access to Road but allowing for essential Girl Scout and utility traffic. Again the Public Hearing Meeting would have to be continued to a specific date and time and authorize Troy to redraft the documents. OPTION 3: Adopt Resolution to vacate the road- requires 4/5ths vote of the Town Board; then adjourn the Public Hearing Meeting. OPTION 4: Do nothing and adjourn the Public Hearing Meeting.

Sherper turned the meeting over to Attorney Troy Gilchrist who provided summarization of the options.

1) A trail easement was drafted; there was preliminary discussion at one meeting. The Board decided to temporarily close a portion of the Road; there have been no meetings since to discuss Option 1. The Board still has the option to pursue the trail easement. 2) As allowed by State Statute, vacate the Road down to a trail and maintain it as such. 3) Vacate the road-no trail easement. The Road would no longer be accessible to the public unless the Girl Scouts would grant specific separate permission; it would become a private road. 4) Do nothing-no road vacation, a choice that would still allow for closure; would require a new resolution. If the Road is kept as a Minimum Maintenance Road, the question long term is what happens if the Girl Scouts decide to sell the property. The Minimum Maintenance designation is legitimate as long as traffic is occasional or intermittent. As soon as the level of traffic increases the Board would need to revoke the Minimum Maintenance designation. There would then be a need to maintain it at a level greater than in the past which could run into costs. Depending on level of the cost there may be some ability to assess costs. It is up to the Town Board to determine what is best for the Township.



SEPTEMBER 24, 2012 CONTINUATION OF
THE AUGUST 29, 2011 PUBLIC HEARING MEETING FOR
VACATION OF ROAD KNOWN AS THE GIRL SCOUT ROAD
HELD AT THE LIVONIA TOWNSHIP HALL

Paul Thorne offered comment on behalf of the Girl Scouts. The Camp ran effectively for the summer months under the partial road closure. Two gates are up with road closure signage; one at the east end and one at the west end just east of the furthest access near the red barn. There were a couple of incidences reported to and handled by law enforcement; there has been a significant decrease in dumping, traffic and safety concerns. There has been no feedback from neighbors who have been horseback riding, hiking or biking in the Camp or from those who used the Road as an alternate route. In summary Thorne said the closure has effectively addressed the concerns the Girl Scouts, it seems to be a reasonable compromise, a permanent vacation of a public access is huge. Thorne turned the conversation to a proposal they received from Sherburne County for black topping about 200 yards from CR 74 onto 237th Avenue near the green gate/house. Thorne said that part of the Road is out of their jurisdiction; it is a Township Road. Thorne was asked if there is access to their property other than the Road as it is now. Thorne reported they are developing access from the green gate/house area which cuts through to the sand bottom swimming pool area; however it is more difficult accessing the far eastern area where the red barn and horse program areas are; they do have access to the interior. When asked if they eventually envision the Road being vacated and turned into a trail from the green gate/house area to the east entrance at 232nd Avenue & 96th Street, Thorne hesitantly said yes that would work.

Before vacating and turning the Road into a trail, Gilchrist advised the Board to decide if that is the direction they want to take but also make sure it is workable for the Girl Scouts. Thorne seemed to be agreeable provided it is consistent with the way they have been using the trail over the last 4-5 months where it's closed to through traffic and the Girl Scout traffic is able to go through until they are able to develop a more consistent interior road system. Board viewed area map of the Girl Scout Road; Thorne pointed out the areas where various buildings are located and where activities take place. Gilchrist asked for clarification on what part of the Road would be vacated – from the west primary entrance (green gate/house area) and east to 96th Street? The Board discussed areas of beginning and ending, talked about signage, gates, etc. Gilchrist recommended the issues be worked out during negotiations with the Girl Scout for agreeable proposal at a later date.

Moved by Hewitt seconded by Doebler to resolve amendment to Resolution No. 12-05 extending closure of that part of the Girl Scout Road to January 31, 2013 and authorize Town Staff to prepare the resolution. Roll call – Doebler, Hass, Hewitt, Manthei, Sherper yes; none opposed.

Hewitt/Hass at 7:30 p.m. unanimous to continue this Public Hearing Meeting to January 28, 2013 at 7:15 p.m. to consider vacation of the Girl Scout Road and entering into an agreement with the Girl Scouts for a trail easement.



JANUARY 28, 2013 CONTINUATION OF
THE AUGUST 29, 2011 PUBLIC HEARING MEETING FOR
VACATION OF ROAD KNOWN AS THE GIRL SCOUT ROAD
HELD AT THE LIVONIA TOWNSHIP HALL

Don Sherper, Chairman of the Town Board, reconvened the Public Hearing Meeting at 7:15 p.m. Supervisors present: Gary Doebler, Butch Hass, Dave Hewitt, Doug Manthei and Don Sherper Staff present: Lila Spencer, Clerk/Treasurer and Clerk/Treasurer Rose Olson Troy Gilchrist, Attorney with Kennedy & Graven Chartered was present on behalf of the Township.

Chairman Sherper stated the purpose of the continuation of the Public Hearing Meeting is for consideration of the Town Board to act regarding the road known as The Girl Scout Road.

Sherper turned the meeting over to Troy Gilchrist who provided a summarization of events leading to tonight's meeting. The process was initiated by the Town Board by its own action. A public hearing was held where interested parties expressed their concern with losing the ability to use the Girl Scout road for recreational uses as well as driving through. As a result the Board pursued and worked with the Girl Scouts to vacate the road and obtain an easement from them for trail purposes over the existing road; an easement was drafted for consideration. A portion of the Girl Scout road has been closed and barricaded to motorized traffic. The public hearing meeting has been continued numerous times with one telephone conference between Township and Girl Scout representatives. It has been concluded the Girl Scouts are not interested in the vacation/easement option. Their attorney has notified Gilchrist they would rather have the road vacated and are willing to work with the individuals who wish to utilize the road through an agreement. For consideration, the road can be vacated, requires 4/5 vote of the Board and would eliminate Township's responsibility for the road. Another option is to allow it to remain as is with or without closing any part of the road. A road closure can remain in place until revoked or replaced. Board discussed options with mixed opinions from keeping the road as is but with closure starting at the west end near CR 74 to vacating the road and eliminate further Township obligation. The Board briefly talked about vacating the road down to a trail and determined it is no longer a consideration.

Board took the following action: Moved by Hewitt, seconded by Doebler to approve resolution to extend the closure of a portion of the Girl Scout Road until revoked or replaced. Roll call: Doebler, Hass, Hewitt, Manthei, Sherper yes; none opposed.

Hass/Doebler unanimous to authorize legal council to contact the Girl Scout representatives and draft a resolution closing and gating the road to motorized traffic starting east of CR 74 on 237th Avenue just beyond the road that enters into the resident manager site. The document will be drafted with verbiage to allow for non motorized traffic with the exception of motorized use by the Girl Scouts and their invitees. An area for vehicles to turn around will be incorporated just west of the gate within Township right of way.

At 8:20 p.m. Doebler/Hass unanimous to continue this Public Hearing Meeting to March 25, 2013 at 7:15 p.m. to consider a resolution.



MARCH 25, 2013 CONTINUATION OF
THE AUGUST 29, 2011 PUBLIC HEARING MEETING FOR
VACATION OF ROAD KNOWN AS THE GIRL SCOUT ROAD
HELD AT THE LIVONIA TOWNSHIP HALL

Dave Hewitt, Chairman of the Town Board, reconvened the Public Hearing Meeting at 7:15 p.m.
Supervisors present: Gary Doebler, Butch Hass, Dave Hewitt, Doug Manthei and Don Sherper
Staff present: Lila Spencer, Clerk/Treasurer and Clerk/Treasurer Rose Olson
Jon Bogart, P.E. with Bogart Pederson & Assoc., Inc. was present on behalf of the Township.

Chairman Hewitt stated the purpose of the continuation of the Public Hearing Meeting is for consideration by the Town Board to act regarding the Road known as The Girl Scout Road. On August 29, 2011 the Board received comment from the public during the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing was closed; no further comment from the public is allowed.

A draft of the resolution to close and barricade the Road has been reviewed by the Town Board as well Girl Scout officials. Moved by Hass, seconded by Doebler to approve resolution to close and barricade the road commonly known as Girl Scout Road to motor vehicle use. Discussion: The Township will gate and sign on the low maintenance road near the road that leads to the resident manager site, the gates at the Red Barn and on 232nd Avenue at 96th Street will remain. The Road is closed to all motorized traffic with the exception of the Girl Scouts, their invitees, service and emergency vehicles. A parking area will be constructed prior to the west gate for those who wish to utilize the road for non motorized activity. The Girl Scouts will be responsible for installation and cost associated with interior gating and signage. The Township will maintain the Road only at a level sufficient to accommodate use for non motorized recreation purposes as the Town Board determines appropriate. The Town retains its interest in the Road for all purposes; it is merely closing the Road to motor vehicle travel by the public for economic and safety reasons. Hewitt called for a vote on the resolution: Doebler, Hass, Hewitt, Manthei, Sherper, yes; none opposed; motion carried.

Paul Thorne, Asset Management Director with the Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys requested permission to construct a driveway access onto the low maintenance road east of the west gate as depicted on picture he included with an email dated March 13, 2013. Doebler/Hewitt unanimous to allow an access from a proposed interior road to the low maintenance road as depicted in afore mentioned email contingent upon receipt of driveway permit application and required driveway permit fees; Clerk/Treasurer to forward permitting information to Paul Thorne.

There was discussion regarding 237th Avenue as it enters into the Girl Scout Camp from County Road 74. Sherburne County in conjunction with their County Road 74 improvement project has asked to build up a 12 foot wide section to be constructed with 2" of class 5 base and 2" of bituminous at their expense. The end result is sand and gravel from the Road will not wash onto County Road 74. The Township's parking area consisting of 6" of class 5 without bituminous will connect to it and be within Township right of way on the west side of the gate. Sherper/Hass unanimous to upgrade to 2" of bituminous in the parking pad. The County will bear the cost of the 12 foot section consisting of 2" of class 5 and 2" of bituminous. The Township will bear the cost of the addition of 4" of class 5 and 2" of bituminous to the parking area; with funds to be taken from Park Fund. The west gate to be installed upon completion of the 12 foot wide section and parking area.

There was no further discussion. Moved by Doebler, seconded by Sherper to close the public hearing meeting.

Approved this 22nd day of April 2013

Chairman or Vice-Chairman

Clerk/Treasurer or Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

