



Workshop Meeting of the Livonia Town Board
Held at the Livonia Town Hall
Tuesday, August 31, 2021

Supervisors present: Hass, Hiller, Kuker, Maloney and Pool

Staff present: Clerk/Treasurer Hammre, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Fiedler, Maintenance Coordinator Berghuis, Maintenance Worker Kelly

Others present: Township Attorney Gilchrist

Chairperson Hass called the meeting to order at 10:10 am.

1) Discussion with Attorney Gilchrist: Maloney opened the discussion stating that Waste Management representatives attended the August 23rd Livonia Town Board Meeting. The representatives told the Board that Waste Management is planning to expand the MSW operation into Livonia Township when they fill the current location.

Discussion followed with Township Attorney Gilchrist about the possibilities available to Livonia Township to protect possible revenue from Waste Management when MSW comes into the township. Also discussed were the threats to the existence of Livonia Township from neighboring cities attempting to annex Livonia Township, Gilchrist said there are courses of action the township can take including to have an Orderly Annexation Agreement (OAA) with the neighboring cities or to incorporate Livonia Township. Gilchrist went on to say that the township is in a good position to begin incorporation proceedings as we "look like a city" with the responsibilities we have already taken on. He also explained how cities can annex property and the judge can order annexation in some cases. Further discussion about the tax implication to Livonia residents if we were partially or entirely annexed or merge as taxes in the City of Zimmerman are considerably more. A two-tier tax system with a Rural Service District option was discussed as a possibility that could be negotiated. Planning and Zoning was discussed as well as working with the neighboring cities for cooperation in incorporation.

Gilchrist pointed out that Orderly Annexation Agreements can be very flexible. Increasing the City Council and tax rates can all be conditions of the OAA. When asked if the residents can decide on the future of Livonia Township, Gilchrist stated that residents can voice an opinion, but the decision to incorporate, merge with a city, or develop an OAA is entirely up to the Town Board.

Hiller said he would like the Township to either incorporate or merge with the City of Zimmerman. Pool and Maloney agreed.

The Board discussed having two Board members and Attorney Gilchrist meet with two City of Zimmerman members (the mayor and one council member), the City administrator Piasecki and the City of Zimmerman attorney to discuss options. Supervisors Hiller and Maloney will attend with Kuker acting as an alternate if needed.

Township staff asked about the future of the 4 permanent Livonia staff. Maloney stated that no one will lose their jobs or get paid less. The Board agreed.

Hammre to set up a meeting with the City of Zimmerman representatives, the two Livonia Board members and attorney Gilchrist.


2) ARPA Funds: Hammre asked for Board approval to proceed with the application for ARPA funds. Maloney/Kuker unanimous to approve the application for ARPA funds.

3) 239th Ave Trail Crossing: Hammre gave an update on the Great Northern Trail crossing at 239th. There were two incidences we are aware of where a bicyclist biked through the intersection without stopping or looking for vehicular traffic and was nearly struck by a vehicle in both cases. Vehicles on the road have the right of way, and the trail is marked with stop and stop ahead signs. Hammre spoke to Gina Hugo, Sherburne County Public Works, about the issue. Public Works went to the intersection to observe, and they will install larger and more visible signage on the trail in response. Hugo also asked if the Township has given more thought to restricting parking on 239th in the area to one side of the street as was previously discussed. No Board action was taken.

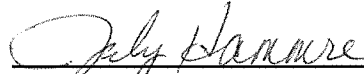
Some discussion followed about the grader that will be sold at auction, water pressure issues at the new fire station, and the driveway issues on 112th Street. Scott Wold will be invited to attend the next Board Meeting to discuss the driveway issues. No action taken.

Kuker/Hiller unanimous to adjourn at 11:56 am.

Dated this 27th day of September 2021



Chair or Vice Chair



Clerk/Treasurer or Deputy Clerk/Treasurer