

Synopsis
Milton Township
Special Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2019

Members present: L. Bargy, S. Ball, L. Atkinson and T. Cole.
Absent: B. Pharo

Also present: Attorney B. Derman, C. Weinzapfel, Brad Muma and Aaron Nordman from Performance Engineering and Blake Smith from USDA Rural Development, Traverse City.

Smith introduced himself and explained that he had been contacted by Robin Sims and was asked to come before the Township Board. He gave an overview of the process for financing through their program.

There are different programs available depending on the project. These are based on formulas. We only have loans available at this time. There are no grants available. This may change after the new census.

Derman explained how it was done in Elk Rapids. He will provide that information at a later date. He did not have it available at this time. Basically you would map out an area for a special assessment district. You would need a required percentage in favor, to move forward. There would be several public hearings to explain the process and get public input.

Atkinson spoke in favor of implementing a program for a well-maintained septic systems.

Bob Kingon introduced Andy Bogart. He does water sampling for ELSA. He will be doing testing on the north end of Elk Tip and Ridge Rd. When testing for e-coli, you need to do a DNA test to determine if it is human or animal and/or water fowl. We are now able to make a determination.

Aaron from Performance Engineering explained that a preliminary report would have to be done, once you determine if there is enough interest. This would give you the information to determine if you would be able to connect to an existing system or plan for a treatment plant.

Scott from the Health Dept. joined the meeting via phone. Current issues that they run across with septic systems are lake front homes that pre-date the sanitary code. People wanting to increase the size of their home, on a non-conforming lot and seasonal rentals where the system is being used over the intended capacity.

Atkinson asked if he was aware of any townships that do a mandatory septic inspection. Scott referred to the Tip of the Mitt website. There should be information there for review.

Cole asked how long until a septic system will saturate the ground? Scott stated that this is not typically a problem. It will disseminate with bacteria. State code for septic systems is 23 – 25 years. Our code is 20 years.

Atkinson asked if a system fails, is there options for the property owner.

Scott stated that yes; we do provide options for the property owner and we will work with them. We do not condemn the site.

A person from the audience asked how much it would cost to do an expansion from Elk Rapids. This is unknown at this time.

Smith from the USDA explained the different phase for the project. The USDA has a limited budget. We would have some funds available as a loan. Again, we do not have any grant funds available at this time. You may need to go for loans on the open market.

Another question is how to proceed with the petition? How would we determine the boundaries for the petition?

Derman explained that usually anyone within 200 ft. of the line would be required to do a mandatory hook up.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

These minutes are subject to approval at the September 9, 2019 meeting. A copy of these minutes are available on line at miltontownship.org

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Ball, Clerk