

Nottawa Township
Transcription from September 5, 2023 Board Meeting and Associated
Questions and Answers

Patricia Carrick
5355 W. Beal City Rd.

My name is Patricia Carrick. My address that I'm referring to is 5355 W. Beal City Rd. I'm going to start out, I'm gonna go fast, because I'm allotted three minutes. I thought I had, was on the agenda, so I want to start off by saying I'm not the best speaker, right, and, however, knowing it is my God-given right to do so, and when I know the law of the land is being infringed upon, I'm going to speak up. I also have a son that helped fight for this freedom, so here it goes. After receiving the first Nottawa Township letter, dated May 1, 2023, headlines read "long-awaited," I'm thinking, what was I waiting for? I would have never guessed my land would be involved in a special assessment district, because my land is not on the lake, and I have never received information for the system to date. Your letter also stated to contact Kim Turner, if we had questions. Boy, did I have questions, but I'm still waiting for the answers.

I called Mr. Johnson from Mount Pleasant and said he caused part of the problem by handing out permits to new homeowners to build on top of each other on the lake, with no room for proper septic tanks. He said he does not issue permits, the Health Department does. I called Tracy from the Health Department on August 24, and explained the situation. I asked her if the Township is so concerned for the health and safety of the lake, why wasn't the Weidman sewer developed and in place first?

In your minutes, E. coli was found there in 2017. I read the second letter that Nottawa Township is willing to accept responsibility for the following: installation, connection, inspection, the permits fees, along with repair, inspection, maintenance and replacement of grinder pump stations, and service on your property. I would like to, in writing, know an itemized total cost. How are you paying for this? Or is that going on our 40-year tax, because that is very misleading to me. I do want to question why you want to run this system through my land. According to Randy and Luke, who both work at EGLE, it's considered wetland. On August 29, 2023, I showed Luke two very active springs where you want to bore your little line through. He commented that might be a problem. Why not stop before you get to the wetlands? If the Health Department and government are concerned about the future waters, why aren't you running the system down Fitch Dr., where we have three active homes on the lake? Your answer to the to us was, "It costs too much." Then, I have to ask, why are you running the system down Gross Dr.? Stop at the wetlands. This does not sound concerning to the Health Department, or you, or the government.

In your questions in the letters, and in the July meeting, it states you will take us to court, if we do not sign. Why no choice? Why not solutions? Last I knew, we live in America. Our 14th Amendment reads: "No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive the personal liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of law."

On August 29, I called Tracy from the Health Department again. I asked if there was any calls to comment, or concerns for people getting sick from serving or eating fish, or the beaches shut down. *No* to all answers. Julia from EGLE sent me an email that read: Coldwater Lake sampling was done by EGLE, by herself, actually, on July 12, 2017. I got the letter. "The samples taken that time did not exceed water quality standards for E coli, so, course of action was not taken." So, she also writes, it was her understanding that Coldwater Lake Association voted voluntarily to hook up the sewer system. On August of 2023, in a Township meeting, Kory did say he talked to a handful of people from the Association that wanted to come in. Kory also stated that three letters have gone out, because it was needed to see if all no votes took place. I do not understand any of that, but I would like you to tell everybody in the "no vote," I mean, I can't even write it down, because I don't understand it. I do not think that there was any notification saying we're voting this "no vote," on the state.

Pat Ottoman, a representative from Riverdale, will help stop this sewer system going through town. He quoted from the newspaper stating he would not put the burden on all his constituents. How could a township board allow their constituents to pay for something they can't afford? I'm not going to go to census August 31st.

I called Terry's assistant. He added, a lot of former home owners left to Metro Detroit, leaving rural high and dry. Oh, geez. Okay, I'm gonna end with this. Also, May 31, 2023, Karen, Kim, and I, myself, presented with proof of voter fraud, and on top of that, oh, in Isabella County. **(Quite garbled to end of paragraph.)** I've asked now that you present with me with the E. coli book. They're saying Heather said she would get a hold of you with the legal (actions ?) elections, and I want to know if you've been in touch.

Township: Thank you. Thank you.

Township: I'm sorry, just, I'm just writing some stuff down here quick, quick. So, I'm just trying to . . .

I thought I was being on the board's agenda. So that's why I wrote the **book** with some correct information. I do. . . Can I say one thing about an update from Jerry Snyder's office, because I don't want to put him on the bus, along with the other representatives.

Township: Go ahead. Real quick so we can continue here.

At six o'clock today, he did contact me. Nancy, Chief of Staff, actually said this Jerry's dad had passed away. Great man. He left a message with you and the Drain Commissioner, and we're waiting to hear back from both you and the EGLEs. She wants every email we can get. She's gonna help us. I'm happy about that.

Township: Thank you.

Carrick - Questions:

Q1: *What are the itemized total costs?*

A1: This cannot be provided until after construction bids have been taken.

Q2: *How is it getting paid for?*

A2: The Township's Financial Consultant will make final recommendations but the capital costs will be paid for with a special assessment possibly combined with a debt charge.

Q3: *Is it going on a 40-year tax?*

A3: It will be a 40 year special assessment. The assessment will be paid for annually with your winter taxes.

Q4: *Why not stop before wetlands?*

A4: The Special Assessment District includes Gross Drive.

Q5: *If the Health Department is concerned about future water, why not run the system down Fitch Dr. where there are three homes?*

A5: The river crossing and distance to the homes made it cost prohibitive.

Q6: *If the answer is "it costs too much," why is the system running down Gross Dr.?*

A6: Gross Drive does not present the same construction challenges and is more densely populated.

Q7: *Did a "No" vote happen?*

A7: There is no "vote" provided for in the statute (Act 188, Public Acts of Michigan, 1954). The statute provides that the Township may proceed with the improvement unless written objections constituting more than 20% of the total land area in the proposed special assessment district are filed with the Township at or before the first public hearing provided in connection with the establishment of the special assessment district, which was held on August 6, 2018. The Township received written objections constituting approximately 3.75% of the total land area.

Lenny Hyatt
5139 Parkview Dr.

Lenny Hyatt, 5139 Parkview Dr. My question is, do you guys have a cost for the sewer project for individual homeowners? Out-of-pocket costs and the taxable cost?

Township: Not an exact cost.

If not, how can, how am I supposed to sign a legal document, a notarized document, when I don't know the cost? I've never done anything like that in my life, and I don't, I don't anticipate doing so. Um, how does someone that feels coerced, or threatened by your third letter, or your second letter, rescind their notarized document? Do we have an answer for that, because there's a lot of people in this room or that aren't in this room that want to do that?

Township: I have a job that I'm doing and I have to get it done. Now, I have so much time.

When was the vote done? And how long, how long was this vote valid for? If I'm not mistaken, it was done early 2018, the end of 2017. Do you have, do you have any documentation of that vote, and the proof that it passed and went through? Based on the homeowners?

Township: Have to go through and look at this stuff from back then.

So, we can look forward to receiving that document, documentation?

Township: I will send you some.

Okay. I appreciate that. Um, what criteria was used and decided, to decide who hooked up? People on the east side of Littlefield Road don't have to hook up, but people on the west side do. Just curious. By looking at the drawings that you sent out to everybody, I'm just curious who, who, what criteria you used for people to hook up. And how was the vote done? Was it done by a tally of homeowners, or was it done by property?

Township: The vote is by landmass.

By landmass? So, one person gets a majority vote. Is that how that works, by landmass?

Township: He's talking right now. So let him talk. please.

Have you promised grants? I know when the notary ladies came around, they promised grants and low interest loans.

Township: We have a low interest loan, low interest loans. We've been applying for more grants as we go here. We have gotten quite a few quite a bit of money and grant.

Okay, first and foremost. Again, I think everybody wants to know the cost of out-of-pocket. There's no information out there for us to go by. You know, as far as the total dollar amount on our taxes, what our pockets were for . . . There's, there's no communication from the Board whatsoever on that cost. That's what we all want to know.

Township: We all we gave estimates at the public hearing.

Estimates are only valid for what, three years?

Township: We do the best we can do with the estimates. That's all we can do.

Within three years. Doesn't, don't we get, don't we get the right to revote on that? If that cost went up 10% or more, I believe we have the right to revote on that.

Township: There's nothing that we know of that, but I'll get an answer.

Okay. Thank you.

Township: Yep. Thank you

Hyatt - Questions:

Q1: *Do you have a cost for the sewer project? out-of-pocket sewer cost? Taxable cost?*

A1: We will not have firm costs until construction bids are taken. However, very preliminary estimates shared in 2018 were \$12-\$16k for special assessment costs and +/- \$75 for monthly rates and charges (including a possible debt charge).

Q2: *How does someone rescind their notarized document?*

A2: Generally, once granted, an easement may not be unilaterally rescinded.

Q3: *When was the vote done?*

A3: There is no "vote" provided for in the statute (Act 188, Public Acts of Michigan, 1954). The statute provides that the Township may proceed with the improvement unless written objections constituting more than 20% of the total land area in the proposed special assessment district are filed with the Township at or before the first public hearing provided in connection with the establishment of the special assessment

district, which was held on August 6, 2018. The Township received written objections constituting approximately 3.75% of the total land area.

Q4: *How long is the vote valid?*

A4: See answer A3 above

Q5: *Is there documentation of that vote, and proof that it passed?*

A5: The Township has documentation relating to the objections received at or before the first public hearing on August 6, 2018.

Q6: *What criteria was used to decide who hooked up?*

A6: In setting the special assessment district, the Township looked at a number of factors including parcel size, distance of buildings generating sewage to the system, and soil conditions.

Q7: *How was the vote done? Tally of homeowners? By property? (Township answered: by landmass) By landmass? So one person gets a majority vote? Is that how it works?*

A7: To be clear, there was no vote, only a tally of written objections from property owners within the Special Assessment District provided to the Township before or during the first special assessment hearing.

Q8: *Have you promised grants? Low interest loans?*

A8: The project is being funded, in part, by USDA. USDA does offer grant and low interest loan assistance to individuals meeting certain income parameters. A link to these programs has been added to our website.

Q9: *What will be the total tax dollar amount?*

A9: See answer A1 above.

Q10: *If cost goes up more than 10%, should there be a revote?*

A10: As stated above, there is no vote provided for in the statute. The estimated cost will be determined following bids being received on the project. The special assessment cost will then be based on the project cost as bid.

Fred Hazen
5180 Parkview Dr.

Fred Hazen. 5180 Parkview Dr. I know many people here are talking about past history meetings. I haven't been here. I've been living in China for nine years. We just got back here in April. And the reason I was saying this, because I look at it a little bit different, because living in . . . China is a communist country, and in communist countries, you don't have a choice. If they say squat, you get down, they say jump, you say, "How high"? You don't ask questions. I read all three of these letters, and out of all three of these letters, I don't see where I have a choice. So, my question is to you, as a US citizen living here in America, who has a constitutional right to have a choice, I own property, and everything on that property. I even own my septic system. Do I have a choice to hook up or not to hook up? That's my question.

Township: You have a choice to sign or not sign your easement.

And if I don't sign? So, what happens, if I don't sign? And your last letter, I thought, was quite threatening. You said if I don't participate, there will be legal action. That's a threat. I don't know why I'm being threatened. That's how communist people do, they threaten you. So, I guess my next question is, the real question is, if you know that you passed a bill, or a law, or whatever you want to call it, to take away 410 homeowners' freedom of choice. You feel good about that?

Township: Anne Groves.

Hazen - Questions:

Q1: *Do I have a choice to hook up or not?*

A1: **The State of Michigan Public Health Code (Act 368 of 1978), the Central Michigan District Health Department Sanitary Code, and the Nottawa Township Sewer Use Ordinance all include language requiring connection to a public sanitary sewer system if it is available.**

Q2: *What happens if I don't sign?*

A2: **As stated in our third outreach letter: "If you do NOT take advantage of this opportunity, you will be personally responsible for the cost of installation, ownership, operation, and maintenance of the grinder system."**

Anne Groves
5467 West Beal City Rd.

Anne Groves. 5467 West Beal City Rd. I was at the first meeting, and I haven't been to very many more because it didn't seem like a huge cost until I dug into the information in the last couple of years, and I really felt like, by the time it got to us, it was . . . we were all going to be saying "no". I didn't really worry about it. I only heard how real it was getting, and I started to look into things. I have an answer to a couple of things, and I'll give those in a minute. I have a couple of questions. One is, I'm requesting that we have a new public hearing about this, and nothing gets done until all 410--and anyone that you have decided you think needs to be involved in this--gets a say. Not, not some of us getting letters sporadically.

Because we're right on the border, I'm on the Association. Not on it, but in it. And we didn't get everything. I was left in the dark. I don't know if I was left in the dark, because people knew I was kind of wondering, because I love Coldwater Lake. I want the lake to be cared for. But the trickle-down system from Littlefield to Weidman to us . . . we really need to work backwards? And we're working from Mt Pleasant, and I'm not sure why. I know that there's a ton of more money coming from. . . It's gonna cost us a lot more

that way, when maybe there's some stuff we can take care of, clean it up, even though our lake passes, our lake passes.

So, the critical need for sewer, the sewer, like isn't, isn't real. That's, that's, that's a bogus statement. I would like to know where is the petition that you guys are going to get together and have us sign or not sign. As of January 17, 2021, there was a petition you were going to get up and going within the next three to six weeks. I haven't seen it. I'd just, I'd like to know where that is. I'd like to know how a survey can be considered a vote. We did fill out the survey. I don't know why that was considered a vote. I need to see the word "vote," and I'll pay attention. I already mentioned the critical thing. I would like to answer the question about reneging on a "yes".

Yes, we have. We have forms that you can sign that you are reneging on it. Yes, that you sign, you felt worse. We have those.

[Township: Thirty seconds.](#)

We also have a petition available for all of you signed, if you want. If you're a yes, that's great. Yes. If you're a no then you need to be able to be a no. I'm a no. I love my neighbors. Lots of my neighbors are yeses. That's okay. My septic is fine and working, and you're never going to get me to crush it because you say so. I'm keeping it. This doesn't look like a very smooth move. I'm keeping my septic. No one's telling me I have to pay my septic stuff, pay for it. It's running perfectly. This is not happening.

[Township: Anybody else have a public comment?](#)

Groves - Comments only, but . . .

1. Wants a new public hearing.
2. Wants all 410 to have a say.
3. Wants to see the petition to sign or not sign.
4. Wants the word "vote" to be on survey.

Donna Land
5805 Gross Dr.

I have a question. Donna Land, 5805 Gross Dr. I'm wondering if they put in the sewer system, where is, are they just going to the road here? Is there actually a pipe that is going to run to our house to where we have to hook it up?

Township: I'll answer that question, because it's . . . the pipe that is going down the road. If you have your easement signed, the pipe, well, the tank, will be set on your property as close to the septic tank as possible.

Okay, so they, well, you don't have to dig it out all that way. They're going to put the pipe in the . . .

Township: We're going to, we're going to mount the tank as close to your existing septic tank, to limit your hookup cost, as much as possible. As long as, as long as you have an easement signed that gives the Township the permission to build the septic tank and maintain it.

Thank you.

Township: Pat.

Land - Question:

Q1: *Will a pipe run to our house to where we hook up? (Township: Yes, if an easement is signed).*

A1: **A small diameter sewer line will be installed from the main in the roadway to a grinder station installed on your property. The ultimate location of this grinder station and sewer line will be agreed upon by each property owner and the selected contractor installing the system after taking into account other buried utilities, fences, trees, pavement, structures, etc. The property owner will be responsible for connecting the existing sewer line from the house to the grinder station and providing electric service to the grinder station control panel.**

Pat Schafer
2165 Miller Dr.

Pat Schafer. 2165 N. Miller. Um, talk about a bunch of miscommunication. You think Carolina? _____ has got the answers? When will we have the dates on some of these questions? We have not gotten any of the answers from day one. You know, you guys take questions, questions, questions, we get no answers. And I will not sign something until I get a price. I'd love to build you a house tomorrow and give you a price when I'm done. Is that fair? No. That's all I'm asking you.

Township: And the only thing we can do is give our best estimate right now, and it's not gone out for bid yet. So that's out of control.

That's been a couple of years ago. The price of everything today is going to be probably \$1600 today. And it'll be \$75 a month.

Township: Right now, we don't know the exact cost.

But that's what we need to know. You expect someone to sign something not knowing. That is stupid. That's all we're asking is to have answered.

Township: Is that, is that your only question?

Are we going to get some answers next meeting?

Township: I want to. Pat, I can't give you an exact answer, until it goes out for bid.

Why do you keep pushing it then?

Township: Cuz I gotta get the project done. Alright, are you done, Pat?

Yep.

Township: Sorry, I gotta go. No, right here. You sir, right here. Second row.

Schafer - Question:

Q1: *What's the price of everything?*

A1: We will not have firm costs until construction bids are taken. However, very preliminary estimates shared in 2018 were \$12-\$16k for special assessment costs and +/--\$75 for monthly rates and charges (including a possible debt charge).

Ken Jones
5740 Lakeshore Dr.

Sorry, my name is Ken Jones. I live at 5740 Lakeshore Dr. I haven't really been too involved in any of this. I don't, I don't really . . . I'm not a great public speaker at all, so bear with me if you would. I'm a supporter of the sewer. I, I signed my easements. I want it to come through, although that being said, I don't think it's fair for others who have septic systems that are working, high and dry, all sandy soil, I don't think that, I, I don't know why we have the right to tax them to pay for the lake. They don't have votes.

I would be more in favor for--I'll pay more--you know to, I don't, I don't think it's right for them to pay what they don't, but they shouldn't. That's what I'm saying. And then also, like, there's a lot of seasonal cabins out there. I mean, a lot, a lot of seasonal cabins. I

mean all the way from Brent Warner's drive, all the way down Lakeshore Dr. There's like twenty seasonal cabins, 12 are seasonal and seven are actually lived in the full time. So, to pay 75 bucks a month, if that's what it's going to be, I mean, that's, that's, that's fair? That's not really fair. You know, maybe it should be. . . maybe. . . I don't know, I'm just. . . these are questions I have. And, like, this might already be figured out, but like, what about the campground? I mean, how much are they paying? That's a lot of shit. That's, that's a legitimate question. Right?

And then, there may be an answer to it. I just don't know. I, I'm not going to . . . like what about, like, does not the Township get windmill money or something? So, like all of us on the east side, the west side, correlate with the east, with at least 20 stately windmills, and there's money coming in. Coldwater Lake needs sewer money. What, how come, how come that can't go to that? Is that going to go to that? Is the windmill money going to the sewer project?

Township: There is money from the Township that's paid for the sewer project? Yes. Exactly from the windmills? No. The windmill money isn't set in a separate fund, going to certain things. The windmill money that we've collected goes into our general fund, which goes into whatever we have to pay for.

So, is there, is that gonna pay for some of that?

Township: I don't have that exact answer. We've been applying for grant money, I can tell you that.

Maybe some of that money should go to the sewers, and maybe some things about . . . You know, like I said, I just. . . I'm for the sewers. I want the sewers. I'll pay for the sewers. That sounds like I want to do it. I just don't think it's fair for a lot of people to pay all of that. It's just a lot of money for people that can't afford it, for one, and don't even need it, for two. I just think it's unfair to ask.

Township: Thank you. Good.

Jones - Questions:

Q1: *How much is the campground paying?*

A1: **The Residential Equivalent Units (REU's) calculated for the Coldwater Lake Family Park is 27.75. This means that the campground will pay 27.75 times what a single family home pays. REU's are based on the Township's adopted REU Factor Table.**

Q2: *Where is the windmill money going? To the sewer project?*

A2: **The windmill money goes into the Township's General Fund.**

Luanne Renteria
1889 Eastern Ave.

Luanne Renteria, 1889 Eastern Ave. My question is, say if half the people do not hook up to the sewers, will it cost the other half of the people that do hook up, more money? Because even though he said he would pay more.

Township: Is that your only question?

Yes.

Township: I'll get you an answer.

Thank you.

Renteria - Question:

Q1: *If half the people don't hook up, will it cost the other half more money?*

A1: **Yes, there are fixed capital and ongoing operation and maintenance costs for this system that will be incurred regardless of how many people connect. Therefore, the fewer customers connected, the higher the cost for each customer.**

Sue Kish
5672 Lakeshore Dr.

I'm Sue Kish, 5672 Lakeshore Dr. As a Coldwater Lake Association member, I just want to clarify the communication and input response that we've received for the sewer project, with scope, was being developed back in 2013. And February 8, 2018, the Nottawa Township Supervisor sent out an email with a survey link to the property owners around the lake, looking to gauge the interest level of installing the sewer system for the property owners. Before the survey was sent out, the Coldwater Lake Association proactively told their members about the upcoming sewer survey in the February 2018 email newsletter, which was sent out on June 30. And they were encouraging everyone to talk to their neighbors and let them know about the Township's interest in surveying. The Coldwater Lake newsletter was sent out to all zone directors, plus the Coldwater Lake members who provided their email addresses to the Association.

Here are the details that were included in that letter of February of 2018: Quote:
Nottawa Township will soon be sending an email survey to Coldwater Lake residents, to gauge our attitudes towards the proposed sewer project. It will also, it will contain some details of the project also. Please ask your neighbors if they know about this, so we can

get more residents involved to make a more representative survey. The newsletter also stated, quote, Isabella County recently passed a point-of-sale inspection for all home sales in the county. Nottawa Township is applying for USDA Rural Development funding assistance for improvement to Beal City, and Coldwater Lake could be included in this assistance. Then on June 2 of 2018, the Lake Association sent out a special email to Association members, sharing that the Township Board is holding a meeting on June 18, to possibly pass a resolution outlining its intent to proceed with the public sewer project in the Coldwater Lake area. If the resolution was adopted, then there would be a public hearing to allow comments on the proposed plan.

So, as you can see, the Association did not say to keep it a secret. They asked everyone to spread the word, talk to your neighbors get your feedback to the Township. There was no secret meeting by the Association asking for the sewer system. The Township has followed the state law and it's actively engaged our community for feedback. I appreciate the Township and the Association's effort to make this process as transparent as possible, and providing property owners an opportunity to provide our feedback before the Special Assessment District process was started. Thank you for having me.

[Township:](#) Thank you. Thank you.

[Township:](#) Right back here. The gentleman right here.

Kish - Comments only. No questions.

Matt Prout
1441 Birch Lane

First, like, like I said, well, people are interested in it a lot of now. I don't know anybody on that association, and never went to a meeting, except for the one this spring that I thought we were going to be on top of this. Okay, I don't know who's in the association. I may be here ten times a year with my family. Big events. You know, basically holidays. I was here this weekend, and it's really going to be difficult to pay for this when I'm not there and I shut my cottage down in the wintertime. And I don't know if anybody that's for it, even on our lane. That's Sunset Dr. That's Birch Lane. I've actually had people come up and say, "I can't afford this, to come up here." And we have cottages they sometimes close in the winter. So, it's a really big financial burden, especially when you're giving us ranges that are so, I'm not . . . you say \$70. I, I'll bet you \$10,000 it ain't gonna be \$70. It's beyond that, and we all know that that's the issue, too. And what are you gonna do on these areas?

We have a big difficulty, I've been talking to people about Beal City, the difficulty they had putting that sewer system in. They had to hire somebody else. The logistics between the park and that down into that valley in the lift stations. And we all remember 2020, about how difficult the water and all the rain we got, and if the power goes off those lift stations. You know where that . . . crap is going to literally back up into . . . it's going to be our houses. Because if you don't have those systems, you need a lift station. I know that because I'm over in Standish, where I live. I'm on the city council, and I know that this can be rescinded too, because all they got to do is redo it. So, I do know what you can do in a council meeting, too, and it can be changed very easily. You can just bring it back up and say, we're not going to do this! So, if it's not. . . no bids are out, there's no contracts made or anything. This can be changed.

But we didn't have to, we did, we didn't need to be getting involved in that. But when I'm not here that much, and again, communication has been pretty sketchy. So, I ended up signing, because I said, I'm going to lose, I'm going to, I'm going to be taken to court, and then all of the upfront costs are going to be on you. That is not the way to go about it either. If you're trying to change hearts and minds, that certainly isn't the way to go about doing it. And so, yeah, I haven't been there. I haven't been informed as much. And I'm sure there's a lot of people here that are summertime . . . who've been here since 65.

This is a legacy property my dad gave me when he passed away, and I'm trying to keep it. But with two homes, it's been, it's been a struggle at times. I'm semiretired, but I'm still working. But man, you're going to drop \$16,000 on me, and charge me \$130, even on a month I'm not there, and I shut it down completely. A lot of people are talking about that saying, "That's way too much, especially for something I'm not using at the time." And so, and there are a lot of logistical problems that you're saying hold the costs. Let me tell you something, if they can't do Beal City in that amount of time-- That's a nightmare over there. It's a bigtime nightmare--and costs are at least going to double. And that's the things you got to think about. And everybody, if you are, if you have a sewer system, power's going to go out. Things are going to backup. Floods are going to happen. I've been here through '85 and 2020, and that water's coming. And we've also had times where power was out for a week. Again, here in the 90s. So, I mean, I know what I'm talking about. A _____ is coming in here and that is just not going to . . . it's bad. If you can't do Beal City, I don't know how you're going to do Coldwater Lake in a timely and efficiently manner.

Township: Thank you.

Township: Thank you. Melissa Esh? Oh, sorry.

Prout - Concerns about Power Outages. No questions.

Melissa Utt
5534 W. Jordan

Melissa Utt, 5534 W. Jordan. A couple of questions. I've seen a couple of people that have spoken, and said you'll get them answers. Are these answers coming to all of us. because I've been assuming we all [want] the same answers. So, are we going to get a letter with all these answers? Are you just responding to each particular . . .

Township: I think we've responded to each particular person who's asked questions.

So, if we don't hook up to the . . . is our tax is going to be raised?

Township: Yes, the special assessment will be set on the property.

So, even if we don't sign up, we're still paying for it?

Township: Huh.

So, it sounds by, pretty much by law that what some of these people have said here, that you, you've got to start over at the beginning and notify everybody. We weren't notified in the beginning. We didn't get any. We got the three letters from you, and then there's this life threatening one. My husband talked to the engineer 12 days ago. Our, our easement is wrong, it has our lines going in on the neighbor's. We talked to the new engineer, apparently the old one was fired, and the new engineer that's never did a sewer system before.

Interruptions:

Unknown - Concerns: Some engineer. He still hasn't got back with me.

Unknown - Yeah, he still hasn't got back to you?

Unknown - No, he still hasn't gotten back with me.

Unknown - No, really

Possibly Mr. Utt - The Township has known since early July that the easement you want me to sign isn't even on my property. It's on my neighbor's property.

I mean, we're not signing, but even if we wanted to sign, we can't. It's wrong. We've got no answers to any of our questions. I'd like answers to all the questions that all these people have in here. You're never gonna get out of this war with us, if we don't get answers to all these concerns. We all have the same concerns.

Unknown - There's no contract, why don't we just stop it and vote on it. Just put it on for vote. Let's take another vote.

Township: We have upfront costs already that's already been done.

That's your problem, not ours. **[Unknown - Your problem sounds like a bunch of problems, and then the same question.]**

Township: Sir, back here. Are you guys done? I'm sorry. You guys got that done. Okay.

No, I have another question. You're wanting to do Weidman now, and I've heard that you're wanting to do Weidman, and the city's broke up into two townships. I mean, what? Is that going to lower our costs? Is it giving greater, make our cost higher? You keep adding these places, and you've got more crap going into the Mount Pleasant station, so our \$75 . . . that's going to be extremely high. It's not going to be \$75 you can add in here _____. Seventy-five dollars? When did you get that quote? And if you keep adding areas, what are we going to be paying monthly?

Township: Right now, the Beal City costs, is paying \$75 a month.

Unknown - So, you don't know what Coldwater will pay?

Township: Seventy-five dollars is what the plan is. The monthly cost doesn't have anything to do with that. Yes, you sir, back there.

Utt - Questions:

Q1: *Will the answers from this meeting be supplied to everyone? Will we get a letter with all of these answers?*

A1: **The answers will be posted on the Township's website.**

Q2: *If we don't hook up will property tax still be raised? (Township: Yes, the special assessment will be set on the property.)*

A2: **Yes for parcels where sanitary sewer originates. Vacant and garage parcels where sewer does not originate will have an assessment of \$0.**

Q3: *So even if we don't sign up, we're still paying for it?*

A3: **Correct, if your parcel is not a vacant or garage lot.**

Q4: *Is adding Weidman going to lower our cost?*

A4: There are fixed ongoing operation and maintenance costs for this system that will be incurred regardless of how many people connect. Therefore, we expect that adding customers in Weidman will have a positive effect on the financials of the entire system.

Q5: *When did you get the \$75 quote?*

A5: This is not a quote, it's a budget rate implemented by the Township based on recommendations from the financial and engineering consultants after taking into account the project cost to own and operate the system. This budget is reviewed annually, and adjustments will be made as true costs to operate the system become more refined.

Q6: *If you keep adding areas, what are we going to be paying monthly?*

A6: See answers A4 and A5 above.

Q7: *So, you don't know what Coldwater will pay?*

A7: Not at this time.

Ralph Groves

5467 W. Beal City Rd.

Ralph Groves, 5467 W. Beal City Rd. A couple of points I want to make here, as we keep referencing the Coldwater Lake Association. I'm a member. But I also know it's not a true representation of the sewer district. There's only 80 members of the people that are involved in the sewer project. The second point I want to make is not one single property owner should have the weight of 40 percent. Every person that owns property in this district should have an equal vote that should be sufficient. Official. Not some survey does not count the vote.

Township: I'm trying to answer your question. I'm trying to figure out what the question was. I'm sorry, I . . . just trying to No, this is his time right here, right now. Your question?

I'm trying to make a point.

Township: Okay, I just wanted . . .

That's not really . . . I'm trying to make a point that the Coldwater Association is not a good representation of those involved in this project. With only 20 percent membership in the association; even though I belong, they're not representative. I want a true vote, and a single person that owns a large piece of property on the lake shouldn't get the weight of 40 percent, versus everybody else. It's not American to just get it shoved down our throats. What it is, it's a backdoor deal.

Groves - Question:

Q1: *I want a true vote where property size doesn't matter.*

A1: There is no "vote" provided for in the statute (Act 188, Public Acts of Michigan, 1954). The statute provides that the Township may proceed with the improvement unless written objections constituting more than 20% of the total land area in the proposed special assessment district are filed with the Township at or before the first public hearing provided in connection with the establishment of the special assessment district, which was held on August 6, 2018. The Township received written objections constituting approximately 3.75% of the total land area.

Hi, Kory.

Township: We need your name and address first.

Diane Pitts
1949 N. Littlefield

Diane Pitts, 1949 N. Littlefield. I'm on the corner of Littlefield and Beal City Road. I'm single, I'm retired, I am on a fixed income, and for you to ask someone like me to pay a \$500 tax assessment or more every year from now until doomsday . . . is that going to . . . am, I going to end up losing my house, if I can't pay out. Like, if you don't pay your property taxes you lose your house.

So, the tax assessment, if we can't afford it, as retired people on a fixed income, then eventually everything I worked my life for, am I going to lose that? I don't know. If it is, I think it's wrong. I think you should be ashamed of yourself for thinking that way. You and I go back a long way, and you know where I live. I live high and dry, right across the street catty-corner, they don't have to hook up, my neighbors have to hook up. My grandson just bought property two doors down. Brand new septic system. New well . . . paid that price in the asking of this house . . . purchase of that house. Not even a year old, and you said to me on the phone it's going to be obsolete. I don't think that's fair.

Township: It's gonna be . . . I said what?

You told me when we talked a quite a few months, not long ago, I told you about the septic system and drain field that was just put in--it's not even a year old--and if he didn't, and then he's coerced into signing this, it's gonna be trashed. So, I'll bet 1000s of dollars that is going to go either way. Is he going to get reimbursed for this by the Township? I have over two acres of property I can, I can put in four more septic tanks and drain fields. I don't need the sewer. If my septic tank goes dry or it's ruined and the system goes to hell, I'll get it fixed. I cannot afford an assessment like this on my fixed

income. And I don't think it's fair that you put us retired people, or any of us, families, too. You're taking food off the table to pay for somebody to take a poop. I'm sorry, but I didn't vote for this. I don't have any recollection. I am questioning if the vote was mine. The bylaws, if there's any guidance by the law, I would like to know how all of them have been met, and how it was distributed. And how **do you decide?** Oh, if we knew in advance this was going to cost us this much money out of our pockets on a yearly basis, do you think we actually would have voted for it? Or ignored it? **Just say.**

Pitts - Question:

Q1: *Will my grandson be reimbursed [for extra cost of new home's new sewer system]?*

A1: **The Township cannot reimburse for this cost.**

Q2: *Was there guidance by the law, and was it met?*

A2: **The Township has followed and will continue to follow all statutory requirements in connection with the special assessment district.**

Jo Barragan
1852 Country Lane

Hi, I'm Jo Barragan, 1852 Country Lane. My concern is everyone on our streets are in their late 70s, including myself. Our roads all these years have been what they call a private community. Our yard, or not our yard, but our roads, never get plowed where I'm at on Country Lane. The school bus can't go down our road, because it's private property. They do maintain Midway, and Parkview, only because there's a school bus that comes and picks up the kids. Our kids on Country Lane have to go down to the end and down Beal City and pick up the bus. So, my concern is how can they do that to us after all these years when we used to be called the trailer trash? I mean, every one of my family has been on that road since the late 70s. Thank you.

Barragan - Question:

Q1: *[Question seems to be in regard to the use of private roads for public sewer purposes].*

A1: **The Township is in the process of obtaining easements to allow for the installation of the public sewer improvements.**

Jillaine Marquiss
5122 Parkview Dr.

Jillaine Marquiss, 5122 Parkview Dr. Here are my thoughts and concerns about the sewer. Some of them have been answered, some have not. I was told 10 to 15 people, supposedly from Coldwater Lake Association came to the Township meeting and said that they wanted a sewer and got all of this started in the past. If that is the case, then

why would you listen to the ones that, why won't you listen to the ones that are against it now and figure something out? You would say that it's too late, but it's not too late. It's not too late to do the right thing. I've been at several of these meetings. And every time I'm told the same thing that you have said today, that there's nothing you can do. It's too late.

You work for us, the people that live and pay taxes in this township. Is Coldwater Lake Association even a good thing. They do not represent me, and I have been in this area since I was two years old. I've lived in this area since the 80s, and owned property myself since the 90s. I have never been part of the association, and many people, probably in this room are not also. Maybe that should be looked into. Why are they making decisions for the people in this area who didn't get a vote? Who didn't get a survey? There are 80 to 90 members, I'm told, in the Coldwater Lake Association. Of those members, how many own property, and how many properties do they represent? They didn't all get a survey, but they did, a hundred and some of them per your minutes. Why are they speaking? I'm sorry, why are they speaking or being contacted by this Board for any information? If a survey was sent out, if there was support for the sewer, it should have been sent to all the people you are forcing to have a sewer. It was not. It was supposedly sent to the members of the Coldwater Lake Association by the association. And it is my understanding that it was sent to multiple people in the same household to produce the survey.

You, the Township Board, said that you mailed out notices in 2018 of a townhall meeting at the school to everybody, but it is very clear that not everybody received those notices. If you're working for us, you should care and do everything possible to keep us, the people, updated. You keep saying that the townhall meeting was a public hearing to hear concerns about the sewer. You also said that that was the last day to have a "no" vote, that I call "bull". The townhall meeting happened at the school, and there were a lot of questions and they didn't get answered. I was at the Township meeting the following month, and it was already a go. Someone wanted Coldwater Lake in with the Beal City project, and they made it happen. Who and why? Beal City has their sewer and that's fine, because they were mandated to do it. We are not! You keep saying this all happened in 2017. Those bids in 2017 aren't good anymore. We should get a vote, a real vote. An actual vote by the property owners, the ones that you're asking to pay for all this. I think it's ridiculous for us just to trust you and say that we will pay whatever it costs.

[Township: Yes. Sir.](#)

Marquiss - Questions:

Q1: *Why will you listen to those who support the sewer and not those who don't?*

A1: **The Township only received written objections constituting approximately 3.75% of the total land area at the public hearing in 2018.**

Q2: *Why are members of the Coldwater Lake Association making decisions for those who didn't get a vote nor a survey?*

A2: **All property owners within the proposed special assessment district were given notice in connection with the establishment of the special assessment pursuant to the statute.**

Q3: *How many association members own property and how many properties do they represent?*

A3: **The Township does not maintain this information.**

Q4: *Who and why did someone want Coldwater Lake in with the Beal City project?*

A4: **The township is aware that there has been interest in public sewer around Coldwater Lake for many years. In fact, there is documentation that this has been considered since at least 1967.**

Marc Townsend
1815 Country Lane

1815 Country Lane, Mark Townsend. I have a very small house over on Country Lane. Probably the smallest one on the block. Property assessed value \$12,500. If this sewer system goes through there, it means I'm going to have an automatic update on my taxes of 16,000, something very close to 12,000. Is my tax assessed value going to go up on my house \$16,000? Secondly, how do you justify the sewer system going through and everybody paying the same fee of \$75. There's people on the lake that have ten residents in their house, ten bedrooms. I live by myself. I'm going to pay the same \$75 fee. I ask you today, is there a way you can meter these systems? A little more fair advantage to some of the residents that live single handedly? Secondly, how would you justify a vote in Isabella County to have people vote where they're not even in on any of the construction work? And are they paying any of the money? Everybody voted in Isabella County to pass this [and aren't] even on the roster to get sewer hookup. Did they have a chance to vote on this? And if they did, what's their portion? If we don't have to hook up, why should we have to pay, if they don't?

Township: [What? I'm sorry, what was that? I was trying to write down.](#)

Isabella County voted to have this cleared, right, to put through? Well, some of these people aren't even in the county.

Township: [It wasn't all of Isabella County, it was only the people inside of the sewer district.](#)

Okay, are all those people involved in the sewer being hooked up to their homes?

Township: Inside the sewer district?

Everyone? Every one of them?

Township: Huh. Everyone inside the sewer district? Well, sorry. I didn't understand the question at first.

That's that's pretty much it. I just wanted to know about the amount of people who voted on it, if they were all involved in the project. I think it'd be unfair if people voted on the project who weren't even involved in it. So, I guess I'll ask you, is there any room for compromise? I would like to see the sewer go through, but I don't want to have to pay until my original system, out-of-pocket expense in the original days so expensive. Thirty-seven homes have sold on the roster, according to Zillow, this year alone. Each and every one of them had an inspection on sewer system --every one of them are being lived in--set by the EPA, or the, set by the county that, yeah, were permitted safe, and healthy, and okay to operate. So, if you're still approving sewer systems from the old nature day, how is it you can run us, and . . . run us all off into a sewer system. It sounds like it's replaced funds for the other, at the expense of the residents of this county. I got 200 bucks for a lawyer, if anybody wants . . .

Township: Time.

I got \$200. We'll hire a court action lawyer. We'll try to get this overturned to compromise. We should be able to outlive our sewer systems as they are today. Grandfather in the sewer system. Everybody gets their way. When we go to sell our property, then make the new owners do it, like they done in Nottawa. They wait for the sale of the house, and they get the update then. Why can't they do that with the sewer system? Some of us can't afford that right now, on top of the \$500 a year taxes.

Townsend - Questions:

Q1: *Will my tax assessed value go up by \$16,000?*

A1: **The Township cannot answer this question. You will have to talk to the Assessor.**

Q2: *How is \$75 for everyone fair when some houses have only one resident and some have ten?*

A2: **The City of Mt Pleasant charges Nottawa Township the same fee for a single family home regardless of the number of occupants.**

Q3: *Is there any way you can meter these systems?*

A3: Meters can be installed at a significant added expense to the system. Additionally, Mt Pleasant charges Nottawa Township based on use types rather than volume.

Q4: *How would you justify a vote in Isabella County to have people vote where they're not even in on any of the construction work and are they paying any of the money?*

A4: There was no vote in Isabella County, or anywhere else. Only property owners within the special assessment district received notice regarding the establishment of the special assessment district.

Q5: *Did Isabella County residents vote on this? If so, what's their portion? If they don't have to pay, if not hooked up, why should we? (Township: It wasn't all of Isabella County, it was only the people inside of the sewer district.)*

A5: See answer A4 above.

Q6: *Why can't we wait until the property sells, then make the new owners connect to the system?*

A6: The State of Michigan Public Health Code (Act 368 of 1978), the Central Michigan District Health Department Sanitary Code, and the Nottawa Township Sewer Use Ordinance all include language requiring connection to a public sanitary sewer system if it is available.

Township: Thank you. You guys are . . .

Unknown: I asked to be put on the agenda so I could speak more than three minutes. I asked you that, is that not why you get put on the agenda?

Township: Right, put on the agenda on the public comments. So, you guys . . . you guys are on for three minutes. I'm sorry.

I also want to know if you are, are you following the rules the law MCL 41.41731, where it doesn't matter to say the state government requires that you get to do this no matter what we say. Is that what you're following? Is that right?

Township: I'm sorry. You're speaking out of turn here. I'm just trying to get everybody done here.

I'm just saying not everybody wants to talk. I do.

Township: Is there anybody else? Kim?

Unknown - Question:

Q1: *Are you following Law MCL 41.731?*

A1: The Township has followed and will continue to follow all statutory requirements in connection with the special assessment district.

Kim Lavigne
1703 Fitch Dr.

Kim Lavigne, 1703 Fitch Dr. Okay. My first question for you is the original estimate? Do you have that?

Township: Not on me, but I can get it to you.

Okay, is it . . . Because it's been five years, and because the cost of living has gone up, is it fair to say that, hopefully, it won't go much over 20 percent more than what the original estimate was. Do you think that's a fair assessment? Do you know how much the original cost was?

Township: I'll get you an answer.

Okay. Do you feel that it'll probably be 20 percent higher? Probably because the cost of living was more than twenty percent. Correct? I mean, it wasn't your fault that it went up, but it'll probably be somewhere 20, 30 percent higher. Right? But, let's hope for 15 percent higher. Is that a fair assessment?

Unknown: MCL 41724 says that anytime this goes over ten percent over the original costs, he has to give us another hearing. That's why he's not answering right now. I hate to say it, but, so if it's over ten percent, and you can look it up, I'm not shitting anybody, it's 41724. If you look up 41721,41723,41724, it'll tell you everything about these sewers, and how they actually did legally get our vote with the land thing. That is legal.

But what wasn't legal is them putting, like here, all these little houses, they went between each house, made it very clear that it was real close to each house, okay. Nobody had a bunch of land. In back of Block's house, he owns some land. His land isn't on this, nor his house. But down here, we got 60 acres on it. Well, in the 60 acres, there's a little piece of property right here that somebody lives in, they decided that wasn't in it. So that tells me that this 60 acres was put on there for a reason. Let's just face it, because in this vote, which I just told you about the MCL, it says right in there, it goes by landmass. So, if the biggest way to do it is to put some land in it. Okay, so if you're gonna go around all these little houses in and out, in and out, why couldn't you put this land, in this land, in this land and all these lands? Right? So, then them people would have had more of a vote too. But this 60 acres, subtracting that little house right there, apparently, because they're not on it? Is, is why we're getting this vote like we did.

So, that was answering some of the questions back here about how they came up with that. It really is legal the way they did it, except for probably not putting in all the empty land. So, I'm going to ask you, Kory, why would the empty land be put in anyway? And are you planning on buying automatic generators for the whole system for when the . . . when the power goes down, because other townships have spent upwards of \$300,000 on automatic generators to run a system like ours, which ours is kind of small compared to, you know, some of the other ones. But you're talking a lot of money, and what's going to happen when we don't have a generator and the power goes out and her shit flows into my house? But not my house cuz you're not going to charge me. Right?

Lavigne - Questions:

Q1: *Do you have the original estimate? Because it's been five years, and because the cost of living has gone up, is it fair to say that, hopefully, it won't go much over 20 percent more than what the original estimate was. Do you think that's a fair assessment? Do you know how much the original cost was?*

A1: **Very preliminary estimates shared in 2018 were \$12-\$16k for special assessment costs and +/- \$75 for monthly rates and charges (including a possible debt charge).**

Q2: *Do you think the cost will exceed 20% of the original estimate?*

A2: **The Township cannot answer this question until bids are taken.**

Q3: *Why would empty land (a 60-acre parcel) be included?*

A3: **It's unclear which 60-acre parcel was being referenced.**

Q4: *Are you buying automatic generators for power outages?*

A4: **No.**

Q5: *If not, what's going to happen when the power goes out?*

A5: **If there is no power, then, without a generator, the water well will not be functional.**

Q6: *What's going to happen when we don't have a generator and the power goes out and her shit flows into my house?*

A6: **This scenario is not practical. Power outage has no impact on the devices that are going to be in place to prevent sewer backups.**

Township: *Is that it? You've already had you guys' time. I'm sorry you had to wait. Anybody else?*

Unknown (Pricilla?): Just something that the people are wondering what this is going to cost. And I called five different contractors and that's on your list. And none of them could give me a price they said, until it is hooked up in front of your house, we don't know what we're dealing with, so we cannot give you an estimate. Which is also part of the questions on the grant, the estimate. And you can't give it? That's all I have to say.

[Township:](#) Thank you, Pricilla. Public comment? This gentleman over here. Yes, sir.

Walt Rolston
5286 Jordan Rd.

We've lived on this property since about 2013. And we really haven't been up here full time until about 2020. The decisions were made before that, and I, a, sorry, my handwriting is bad. But now I have, I think some other people mentioned, I have a reliable system. I think it's sanitary, and I'm being asked to spend, I'm not sure how much, \$20 to \$30,000, plus another \$75 a month, and it will be less reliable. Right now, my system just relies on gravity. So, because of that . . . I was okay with the system. I felt the lake needed it. In other words, the septic system was dry, was draining into the lake. I came here tonight--excuse me--hoping to hear a little bit more about that. I know that it wasn't on your agenda, but I think if you could furnish people information like that, it would be helpful. What's, why are we, why are we doing this? Is the lake at risk? If not, then I really, it doesn't to me, it doesn't seem like a very good idea. It seems like a really expensive solution, at least from my perspective.

Now, the other thing, just a couple other notes. Some of these decisions, although they're legal, some of these processes, although are legal, doesn't seem like a, doesn't seem very logical. If a person has, I guess--I probably should have known this--but if they have 40 percent, if they have 40 percent of the vote, how many hookups will come off that? I'm guessing less than ten? Although, although it's legal, right, to kind of look at it, you know, gosh, that's, that's your, doesn't seem, it doesn't seem quite right. A couple of other quick thoughts. I've worked for a consulting firm before, and I'm, I'm really used to both being able to get quotes. These guys, I mentor engineers, if you're wondering, and I have some kind of work to do. But they can go up to a quote and get a fresh quote five years from now. You know, the quote could be much higher, there's nothing preventing them from going to court, they can take, they can take a guess. And with 200 installations, some will be high, some will be low, but in the end, they are going to be very close. So just that thought. But the other, I guess, even before that, for me, just listening to the process. One of the other things, I'm sure that, I'm sure that it was legal, but it just doesn't seem appropriate. The people that were . . . people have had to argue against spending their money. Normally you have people that want to spend by money that I have to make the case, but as I recall, the people that wanted to vote "no" had to rally around. If I wasn't even in this deal with them, and had assumed that the lake was at risk, I probably would have voted "yes". Thank you for your time.

[Township:](#) Thank you

Rolston - Questions:

Q1: *Why are we doing this?*

A1: The Township received significant support in outreach efforts inquiring about the desire of property owners around the lake to have public sewer.

Q2: *Is the lake at risk?*

A2: To date, water quality testing has not yielded any exceedances in the state limits. However, it is a well known fact that public sewer systems improve the health, safety and welfare of individuals living near and/or utilizing the resources of lakes.

Q3: *If a person has 40% of the vote, how many hookups will come off that?*

A3: There is no "vote" provided for in the statute (Act 188, Public Acts of Michigan, 1954). The statute provides that the Township may proceed with the improvement unless written objections constituting more than 20% of the total land area in the proposed special assessment district are filed with the Township at or before the first public hearing provided in connection with the establishment of the special assessment district, which was held on August 6, 2018. The Township received written objections constituting approximately 3.75% of the total land area.

Jeff Rostoni

1198 Latta Trail

My name is Jeff Rostoni, 1198 Latta Trail. We just bought a house here four years ago, got an acre. We have a tank, another tank, and a separate drain field that is so sandy it's ridiculous, several hundred feet away from the river. Whatever. So, when we bought it, they did their typical inspection. When I bought it, because I'm a type A personality, I had that pumped out, inspected of all things. I'm doing my due diligence on my land. So, I was hoping--I drove here from East Lansing tonight and didn't do other commitments because of that--quite frankly, I was hoping to get some answers and some insight as to the decision making on why. And I'm not hearing any of that. So, I'm kind of disappointed. Surprised, you guys don't have an attorney here. But I do have two questions. One is what math, 400 households, two people per household, I'm being conservative because some of us are cottages, that's ten million gallons of water gone every year. If it was four people per household, that's 20 million. So, I'm kind of wondering what that might do the lake, the wells, all that. All then the last question is, what about the river? I don't know the area that well, but what about Lake of the Hills and Lake Isabella and stuff, I mean, if we're kind of forced to tie into it, doesn't it make sense that they would too, I mean, if we're talking water quality issues here. That's just a question I have here.

[Township: That it?](#)

Yeah.

Township: Thank you. Art.

Rostoni - Questions:

Q1: *What impact might the water withdrawal have on the lake and the wells?*

A1: **The project will have an insignificant impact on water levels in the lake and wells.**

Q2: *What about the river? Doesn't it make sense to force Lake of the Hills and Lake Isabella to tie in [based on water quality issues]?*

A2: **EGLE recently issued a violation notice to Nottawa and Sherman Townships because of exceedances in Weidman. The townships are currently looking into the source of these exceedances. Lake Isabella is not in Nottawa Township.**

Art Yuncker
1780 Midway

Kory, I've lived at 1780 Midway, just about 50 years now, and I've never had a backup in my house, and never had problems with my septic tank in at least 22 years, and never expect to. And I'll guarantee you, you put this grinder in, it is going to happen, because you're not going to be able to flush the toilet and use the bathroom. I'm pretty darn sure that.

Township: Sorry, what was that? I'm sorry, what was that?

You can't flush your toilet, and you can flush the toilet now if you go down to the lake and get a pail of water, if you need to flush the toilet. With a grinder thing, you're not going to be able to [do that]. Like I say, I'm, where I'm at there's 40 foot of sand going straight down, and I'm 20 foot higher. Everybody on Bierschbach Subdivision shouldn't even be in an equation, because there's no way they'll put anything in that lake. I'll guarantee it, it's impossible, unless they got a pipe going right straight to the lake.

Township: Thank you.

Yuncker - Comments only. No questions.

Eva Johnson
1840 Midway

Yeah, I'm Eva Johnson, and I live at 1840 Midway Dr. My home is small, it's not much. Got it paid off a couple of years ago. I got sick, so I am on disability. The only money I have is my disability, and I make it. However, you're asking me to pay money that I do not have. No, you're telling me that I'm gonna pay money I do not have. And you say there's grants out there. Let me tell you about the grants, because I also checked into

that grant. You will be 62 years old to even possibly not pay that grant back. And then, there's also other criteria that you may have to meet. But I know, because I already have talked to someone who tried for a grant, that you will pay that money back. Now, I'm not saying I want something for free, I don't want to buy something I don't need. And that money that you're asking from me, that's my home. That was my dream. But I'm okay with living in what I have. It's paid for. I don't stand to lose it, unless you take it from me.

Johnson - Comments only. No questions.

Tiffany Pickler
5519 W. Jordan

Tiffany Pickler, 5519 W. Jordan. So, since we have to ask the questions in order to get the answers specifically, I would like to know how much was already spent for the engineering costs upfront. What year that was in? How long the estimate was good for? What is the actual dollar amount that's going to be added to our taxes yearly, and will that be changed once this goes out to, for the actual bid? I'm not sure what bid you're working off of yet. So, once that goes out to a bid, will that dollar amount change? What will the hookup fees be? And then I was also told by the survey company that if we live within 200 feet, and we don't sign the easement, that we're going to be forced by the Health Department to come through to hook up ourselves. I called the Health Department, they told me that that was not, not true. We bought our house in 2020. We have, we're on the south side of Jordan Rd. We're in all sand . . . was never notified about any of this when we purchased our home, and then we find out when we get the letters. And then I would also like to request for a public vote, an official vote.

[Township](#): Thank you.

Pickler - Questions:

Q1: *How much upfront money has already been spent for engineering and what year was that in?*

A1: **Engineering costs have been accruing since 2017. Engineering costs through August 31, 2023 total \$363,801. Costs are ongoing.**

Q2: *How long was the estimate good for?*

A2: **The estimate is just that, an estimate. We will not have firm costs until construction bids are taken.**

Q3: *What is the dollar amount to be added to taxes yearly?*

A3: **We will not have firm costs until construction bids are taken.**

Q4: *What will the hookup fees be?*

A4: **See answer A3 above.**

Mary Lou Essex
5123 Parkview

Yeah, I'm Mary Lou Essex. I live at 5123 Parkview, and I've been there since '72. And we're seasonal. I come up in May, go home usually the end of September. But, yet, I'm being to be forced to pay this year-round, whether I'm there or not. And if I'm not there, and lose power . . . So, therefore, I don't have a generator running for this, anything that comes past mine, where's that going to go to? And then, at the next meeting that you're having next month, are you going to have these answers, because we can all be back. If we can get these answers at that meeting, we'll be here. We'll be here. No, we gotta have, we've got to have answers. We've got to know how much money this is, because a lot of us that are retired, we live on a fixed income. It doesn't change, it's not like, okay. I worked till I was 70, and now I'm going to go back to work to pay for this, for something I'm not using. That just doesn't make any sense to me. Doesn't make any sense. I didn't make it to this point in my life by throwing my money away.

Some people don't have it that we know of that are barely getting by now. I mean, they try to decide what they're going to eat, we take them food. And now you're going to add to their monthly bills. And they're looking at, you have to sign it! I don't know where I'm going. I'm going to have to sell my place. Is that what this is all about? For all these years that they've worked and they've scrambled to get their place, now they have to sell it, because somebody built a house too big and they don't have a sewer system. I'm sorry, it's just not right. We still are in America, last I heard, and how you get to tell me how I spend my money after I worked all these years for it. That's just wrong. That's what our fathers fought for, was America, and it needs to stand as an American country. And we have, we have the things, people on our side, we will be outside there with them.

[Township: Is that it?](#)

The thing to get it, so they can unsign what you did sign. That you were you were scared. The third lotta them, a lot of them were scared. So, will we get answers at the next meeting?

[Township: I'll have answers sent to you here one way or another the next day.](#)

Everybody, okay? Otherwise, we'll be here at the next meeting.

[Township: That's fine.](#)

Will we know everybody else answers? Or are we only going to know our own, as I kind of liked everybody else's questions. And I'd like the answers.

Township: I'll do my best here.

Thank you.

Essex - Questions:

Q1: *Power outage: Where will sewage go?*

A1: **There are multiple check valves in your service connection prohibiting flow from the system from entering your grinder station.**

Q2: *How much will this cost?*

A2: **We will not have firm costs until construction bids are taken.**

Q3: *Will we know everybody's answers to their questions?*

A3: **The answers will be posted on the Township's website.**

Abby Sellers

5135 W. Beal City Rd.

Abby Sellers, 5135 West Beal City Rd. I just have a question about Country Lane, because my house is on the corner of Beal City and Country Lane. Country Lane is a private drive. So, I'm specifically want to know, like, what's going to happen with that? Like, I mean, it's not a public road, yet your plans are to run a line right down that road. Well, actually, it was before it was even my property, but I at least, I got you to move it out to the road. So, I'm just asking about that, like, what if somebody halfway down says "no, absolutely no," and the person across the road says "no," does that shut it down right there? I mean, how do you . . . I'm just asking. Like that's private, so I don't understand how that was part of the equation. So, that's my question.

Township: Thank you. That it? Steve.

Township: Name and address, please.

Sellers - Questions:

Q1: *What's going to happen to Country Lane because it's a private drive?*

A1: **The Township is pursuing an easement within Country Lane to install the sewer main.**

Q2: *What if someone down the road says "NO". Does that shut it down?*

A2: **No.**

Steve Morgenstern
5188 Parview Dr.

5188 Parkview Dr. So, I attended the High School meeting, and really didn't get any good answers there. But prior to, prior to everybody leaving, somebody made an announcement that says, "If you're against this, you gotta come down here and sign on this piece of paper." I don't care what it is, you can put your name, your address, and it's either a nay or yay. That was why everybody was leaving. It was back in 2018. Subsequently, the following meeting, a meeting almost the same weekend as yesterday's holiday, a bunch of us from that area, Bierschbach Subdivision, Mary Lou went around in our neighborhood and got over 40 signatures of people who were against this. You specifically stated, "It's too late, and we can't accept those signatures." Why was that? And who has your hands tied? Who is tying your hands to this that you feel that there is no way out, and there's no way to fix the wrongs that you've done? Now 2018 or 2023, and we've had a pandemic since then.

Beal City was a shitshow. I don't know who decided to hire that company, but they should have, they should have made it the **Indiana** Bar for starters. They made that bar owner rich. Not only did they serve him drinks all night long, he rented a house to them. On top of that, I asked, I want a price, that same evening. In September, I asked for a price where I do the work myself, and a price where you guys do it. To this day, this many years later, you're still telling me, pre-pandemic, you're still telling me that we do not have a price, even prior to all this inflation crap. These prices are gonna be outrageous. I know for a fact the new county jail in Mt Pleasant went over six times the amount they expected it to be. And then you had the Township and the City of Mt Pleasant fighting over who's going to supply the water to that new, to that new jail. So, this isn't going to be cheap.

On top of that, Dick Tillman and the Beal City School Board, thought, "Oh, it's great, let's do another millage another mill. We aren't getting any tax breaks here." And I wrote it down. He said, "No double assessments." That night I wrote it down. He said, "No double assessments." I wrote it right down. He was sitting right there, right next to me. Rick Levine, he's gone now, and a bunch of other ones. Mayor, who was the funeral home director, he's since gone. There was probably twelve of us there. And to this day, since 2018 . . . there should have been pricing within two months of that. So, I can understand your frustration that people are pulling at ya, and strong, strong arming you. But we should have had answers long before that, even though I have been saying **[40 feet of sand?]**.

And there should be new drafting brought up for these people in Bierschbach Subdivision, and wherever they got enough ground to have a working septic field and

tank, that we should be allowed to do that. If people want one, great, let them pay for it. But I was told, I was told at that meeting, that supposedly the State of Michigan was forcing this on us. And the DEQ was fining you guys so heavily, because you didn't want to put a strong arm on the people that were in Beal City--all the residents. My solution would have been to go down and shut down to the Beal City bars, the party stores, and all the residents that were tied into that, into that county drain, and disconnect immediately, because some of them have the ground to put in a gravity-fed system. It didn't even have to come to this. So, somebody dropped the ball, and big time. This was, this didn't just happen. I got the report from 2004 to 2006 of a survey. Are you familiar with Isabella County Board of Public Works? They did this survey, and it's all documented. Thirty-seven pages on their findings, what they suggest for Coldwater Lake, Beal City and Weidman.

Township: Which study was that one? What year?

The study was done in 2004 thru 2006, a two-year study they did. For who, I don't know. It says he did it for the Isabella County Board of Public Works. Now, who is Isabella County Board of Public Works?

Township: There's no county commissioner.

It's in it, it's in their findings, and that's what was stated where we got this given to us. It was presented to EGLE and Wilcox Professional Services, who had this [study] done. And, it stated at the time that Coldwater Lake has no issues. Period. But Beal City, they, they knew there was an issue in Beal City. It's all in this report, and you guys should, you guys should try to find this report, because there's a lot of information there that I think was kept from you guys.

Unknown: Said they didn't want to ship the sewage more than eight miles.

Eight to 10 miles. They did not want to, but, and then they said Mount Pleasant couldn't handle all this sewage. (Notice of time given.) I'm sorry. Well, I'm, just want to say, they said Mount Pleasant couldn't handle this amount of sewage. The [assessment] added Weidman, and another one had Lake Isabella. Something's not right here.

Morgenstern - Questions:

Q1: *Why can't the 40 "no" signatures collected after the public hearing be counted?*

A1: **The statute provides that the Township may proceed with the improvement unless written objections constituting more than 20% of the total land area in the proposed special assessment district are filed with the Township at or before the first public**

hearing provided in connection with the establishment of the special assessment district, which was held on August 6, 2018. The Township received written objections constituting approximately 3.75% of the total land area.

Q2: *Are you familiar with Isabella County Board of Public Works?*

A2: **Yes.**