

CLARK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING
July 22, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: 7:03 PM

Roll Call: Present - Clymer, Rutledge, Schuster Absent- Sherlund, Patton

Others Present: Will Ross, Neal Sage, Mark Merchberger, Chet Kasper, Lisa Fitzgerald

A special meeting was held July 22, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Clark Township Hall regarding the Engineering Report & Analysis of the Fire Hall. Meeting attendees and the Board discussed informally several aspects of this project and what will need to be done to move forward.

Sage started the meeting by saying he was in search of direction from the Board in how to proceed. The current fire hall needs repairs in the amount of \$1,104,000, which does not include looking into the foundation, footings, cost of additional office space and storage. Sage estimates these costs to be an additional \$700,000 to \$800,000. He feels that the current property is just plain unsuitable.

There are still many concerns on the new proposed property located on Blindline Road. Clymer has begun searching the Mackinac County Register of Deeds and has yet to find the needed information on this parcel of land, he will continue to look. Clymer also suggested to Sage that he should contact Mackinac Environmental about a conservation easement. The proposed property is possibly considered as wetlands. Sage and other members of the fire department and Ambulance Corp would like to schedule a Pre-Application meeting with Shawn LaRocque of the DEQ. This meeting would give further insight to what would need to be done to build on the proposed site. Cost of this meeting would be \$600 if held onsite. If this proposed site is acceptable for use, Sage insists that emergency lighting be added to the corner of Blindline and M-134, and that they get an easement for use of Autore Road which he would like to see paved as well. Will Ross questioned if this property was the only available land for a new site. This is the only property large enough within the proper area that the Township owns currently.

Sage would like to see a millage request for the Fire Hall on the August 2020 ballot. Rutledge said she had reservations about putting the millage request on this ballot due to the road millage being proposed at the same time. Clymer said that he would like to see a better timeline in place, a more accurate cost, what grants are available and more information on the development of the proposed site before presenting a millage to the voters. He would also like to see a list of what the grants would cover. He would like to see a breakdown of the timeline for proposed millage on how the funds would be used and for what specifically. Schuster would like to see a conceptual drawing of the floorplan and building site before presenting the millage to the voters as well. Merchberger suggested waiting until the May 2021 election.

Sage asked for permission to move ahead with a conceptual drawing, floorplan and engineer design.

**Motion: Schuster made the motion to allow the Fire Department and EMS Corp to go ahead with the conceptual drawing and cost estimates and to set aside \$600 to have an onsite meeting with the DEQ for the proposed property on Blindline Road. Rutledge supported.
Roll Call: Yes- Schuster, Clymer, Rutledge. Motion carried.**

Adjournment: 8:28PM

**Motion: Rutledge made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Shuster supported. All ayes.
Motion carried.**