

**Minutes
Ida Township
West Side Improvements Project Improvement Hearing
Christopherson Road
September 4, 2018
Ida Township Hall
4700 County Rd 6 NW, Garfield, MN**

The hearing was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Dan Diedrich. Supervisors Jim Peterson, Mike Steidl and Clerk/Treasurer Barbara Kilgore were also present. Ten interested people were present.

Diedrich announced that the hearing is being recorded and welcomed everyone to the hearing and read the rules of the Improvement Hearing.

Explanation of Project

Diedrich explained the project and noted that the North bound section of Christopherson Road had been inadvertently omitted from the notice mailed to the property owners regarding the original Improvement hearing held on May 21, 2018. This hearing is being held to correct that omission.

Cost of the Project. The feasibility studies estimated the cost of the total project including the road maintenance which will not be assessed to be \$3,769,850 and the amount estimated to be assessed to be \$755,425. The northbound section of Christopherson Road is located in the Water Lily Trail Area of the Feasibility Study.

- The Water Lily Trail area the total estimated cost is \$1,249,100 with \$624,550 of that amount being assessed.

Proper Notice

Kilgore had affidavits of mailing, publishing and posting showing that proper notice was given regarding this hearing on this project.

Public Comment

Each person with a question or comment was given time to express their concerns.

- **Petition.** Kilgore showed the board the petition received at the July 2, 2018 town board meeting requesting that the northbound section of Christopherson Road be removed from the project.
- **People in Attendance.**
 - **Steve Johnson Christopherson Road**-definitely opposed to blacktopping. He stated that when the rest of Christopherson Road was blacktopped back in 2007, the road was supposed to last twenty years. It has broken up three times since then and had to be resurfaced after nine years. Traffic speed is also a factor against blacktopping.
 - **Chris Huwe Christopherson Road**- asked about the maintenance costs of blacktop roads versus gravel roads and also said the traffic counts were done at the beginning of Christopherson Road not on the graveled portion.
 - **Kathy Ed Christopherson Road**- asked if the board looked at the petition or has it already been decided to include Christopherson Road in the project. She also noted that the traffic speed would be dangerous to pedestrians.

- **Pete Hindman Christopherson Road**-asked if drainage issues and the level of the road are being taken into consideration in the plans for the project. He also wanted to know the time frame of the project.

Diedrich explained that a lot of planning and engineering has gone into the roads the township is resurfacing and the new roads being blacktopped to ensure that the roads will last longer than nine years. Diedrich said that comparing the cost of blading, gravel and chloride on gravel roads, the cost of maintaining blacktopped and gravel roads is pretty much the same.

Steidl confirmed that the town board has hired WSN to assist Jeff Stabnow with the engineering to make sure we are getting it done right this time. Also, the board is looking at what is best for the township in the long run. It is cost effective, efficient and it is the opportune time to get this road done and not leave that little pigtail of the road gravel while blacktopping the other roads in that area.

Jeff Stabnow, the township engineer, stated that the engineers are meeting with the Corp of Engineers regarding issues with wetlands, but maybe able to get the culvert work done on the roads in the Water Lily Trail area done yet this fall.

Steidl made the motion to keep the northbound section of Christopherson Road included in the West Side Improvement Project as originally intended. Peterson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Diedrich-aye, Peterson-aye, Steidl-aye.

Adjourn

Steidl made the motion to adjourn the hearing at 7:40 p.m. Peterson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Diedrich aye, Peterson-aye, Steidl-aye.

Barbara D. Kilgore
Ida Township Clerk/Treasurer

Daniel Diedrich
Ida Township Chairman