

The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Cumming Township board members present were: Jan F, Jan T, Fred. Ron and Teena - Absent.

Hill Township Board members present were: Rob Reid, Lorie Williams, and Melissa Bortle. Ellen Scott and Dale Bortle - Absent.

Others present were: Bill Olsen; Carl Graf; Dave Attenberger; Bruce Grabarkiewicz; Connie Malecek; Randy Wallace & Rhonda Johnson – Cumming Township. Terry Gray; Kevin Smith; (George) Wayne Ambrose; Denise Norscia – Hill Township.

Jan F stated the purpose of the Public Hearing was to acknowledge that the HL Special Assessment will be for ten (10) years, 2026-2035 and to discuss the pros and cons to the Special Assessment.

Bill Olsen has worked on the Special Assessments since the beginning; he gave the history of the Special Assessment. Bill Olsen thanked both Boards for their years of support and for the Board Resolutions for the proposed Special Assessment. Bill Olsen gave the following information: the HL Milfoil Committee is a group that was formed in 2010; The HL Fishing Committee is also helpful with the Weed Control, though they do not receive Special Assessment funds; HL has received A and B scores by the DNR with the Spring and Fall studies.

The following information was discussed:

- 1). Fishing has declined since spraying the lake, previously many fish were caught. Discussion was held regarding the DNR surveying the lake; there are no rough fish.
- 2). Small mouth bass and walleye will not do well in the lake; lack of fish in certain areas; Largemouth bass are being caught; the Fish Committee will address this.
- 3). Weeds and slime were bad in August 2025.
- 4). A resident wanting to opt out of the Lake District, doesn't use the lake and neve has used the lake. Rob Reid stated that if there is lake access, even if it isn't used, must me included in the Lake District. Special Assessments were discussed.
- 5). Residents stated they totally disagreed with the Special Assessment; objected to what Savin may do; what has been done and what will be done to the lake, also where is the accounting; the ecosystem has significantly changed, worried about the health for humans and habitat; was stated residents can't pick or choose who would be in the Special Assessment, how would it be monitored; what if the property was sold.
- 6). Bill Olsen was thanked for all he has done throughout the years.
- 7). Can treatment schedules be changed; Savin has an email to inform residents; it is also on the HL website.
- 8). Bill Olsen stated only the developed shorelines are treated, or residents can opt out; if residents want to opt out, they should contact Bill or Savin; there have been changes in the water samples since 2017, water temperatures have increased causing different weed growth year after year; Savin responds to the weeds, certain chemicals are used for certain weeds. Rob Reid stated EGLE determines, by permit, where the lake can be sprayed.
- 9). The lake is treated only where it's needed, the lake is checked; sampling is done for different weeds.
- 10). Does the HL Milfoil Committee meet with Savin; no, just when there are questions.
- 11). Residents stated they would rather have a five (5) year assessment than a 10-year assessment; the Resolutions have already been adopted for a 10-year assessment.

Bill Olsen gave the following information:

- 1). The renewal of the Special Assessment is for funding of lake treatment provided.
- 2). Savin sends an annual contract to the townships.
- 3). Savin is contacted regarding those who do not want to be treated.
- 4). Savin surveys the lake to see where to spray, invasive weeds are prayed.
- 5). Bio-base mapping was done in 2017, which is a separate study on weed density; this should be done again.

Rob Reid stated the only way to do a Special Assessment is by petition, which requires a percentage of the residents' signatures. He also stated that if enough residents don't like Savin, go to the township boards. Vendors may be changed with enough signatures. Fred stated that maybe other vendor bids should be given; Rob Reid stated there are only three (3) vendors. Bill Olsen stated he has checked with other vendors, verbally but not written bids.

Lorie Williams stated the Milfoil Committee and the Fish Committee should meet with Savin to discuss concerns.

Bill Olsen thanked everyone for their input.

Jan F thanked everyone for attending the hearing.

Lorie Williams stated the second hearing will be held on June 24, 2025 at 6:00pm at the Hill Township Hall.

Jan F made a motion, seconded by Lori Williams, to adjourn at 7:09pm. Motion carried.

_____, Clerk