

LEAF VALLEY TOWNSHIP

2050 County Rd. 14 NW
Miltona, MN 56354
Phone 218-267-2533

CHAIR, Wade Nibbe called the Special Public Hearing to order on August 04, 2011 @ 7:00 pm opening meeting with Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisors Dale Diedrich, Brent Ost, Treasurer Barb Guenther, Clerk Pam Cuperus and Attorney Paul Reuvers and over 60 LV residents attending.

Wade explained why this Special Meeting was being held, for all LV residents to voice opinions and concerns and asks questions regarding the re-allocation of the CLRSD debt for all residents in the LV Township. Wade asked everyone to introduce themselves before speaking, try to keep remarks or questions to around three minutes.

Paul Reuvers was introduced. He is the attorney representing and working with the Township Board to adopt a new resolution. He provided a background of the lawsuit and explained the Court determined the previous Board did not properly select an option authorized by state statute to pay for allocation of costs from the CLRSD. He explained there would be no decision made at this meeting and that on the 10th the Board will continue with deliberations and discussions. He then reviewed the three options authorized by state statute the Board could work with. At this time floor was opened up to questions and comments.

Several residents on Little Ida Bh Rd asked to take into consideration that they are already in the ALASD and being assessed for that sewer that they are using so why should they be assessed for the CLRSD debt that they got nothing from they feel they would be paying "twice". Others commented there are those within the CLRSD that would have never gotten hooked to the pipe, but they are still located within the district. There were several comments questioning how much money the CLRSD spent, where it went and why LV or other townships should have to pay for it. It was explained CLRSD was dissolved and had to pay its debts, with LV's share approximately \$500,000.00. One citizen commented he lived in the north of the township and never would benefit from CLRSD, but since he has to contribute, then others should be treated the same. Paul explained the statute did not authorize cutting out parcels if the Board chose to spread at least part of the costs across the entire township, quoting the statute which authorized the board to allocate the costs "on the entire net tax capacity of all taxable property" within the township.

Paul then provided a "rough estimate" using taxable market value per \$100,000.00 of residential property to illustrate the options available to the board. If the board chose to

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

allocate the debt across the entire township, he advised "all" taxable property had to be included. He was asked several questions about the illustrations informed all that this is only an estimates to guide the discussion. Once a method is selected, it would then need to be certified, the Do. Co. Auditor would need to review all parcels and then once a resolution has been passed and the entire process finished at the Auditors then some parcels may receive a refund, issued by the Township Treasurer, or some may owe more then what already paid.

Paul and Board continued to answer all questions and concerns best they could. A comment was made questioning why LV should continue to pay this debt; answer being Township has a bond, a signed obligation to Wells Fargo to pay Leaf Valley's debt and there are only three years left on this obligation, the next payment due December 2011. There were concerns voiced about CLRSD and handling of funds, Glen Olson explained what happened with the property that CLRSD purchased for the waste treatment plant, the mishandling of that transaction and funds. There were many in crowd that did not realize that that had even gone on. Comment was made at this time that residents should have been attending the meetings over the last 8 to 10 years but as a unit we did not think the CLRSD project would affect those that were not directly involved in the project or would be connected to "the Pipe". At one time there was a survey sent to residents about the sewer project, no response was a vote in favor, those out of the district never got survey consequently they thought this project would not affect them, why go to meetings if it did not concern you, now all residents are paying for this debt; this is not fair and how can residents stop this from happening ever again in the future. Dale Diedrich commented that "this is a no win situation and no way a solution that is going to be equally fair for everyone in the Township". As a Board member he promised the Board would and will follow law of the letter from the judge and the Board will be as fair and reasonable as required by law. Paul recommended the Board act in a reasonable amount of time as possible (the sooner the better) because the change in all paperwork that is involved with the Auditor.

There were no other questions. Wade reminded everyone that there will be another meeting @ Leaf Valley with Board and Paul Reuvers at the Hall at 7:00 pm to discuss if Board has come up with a solution and to start on new resolution.

Motion was made and second by Wade Nibbe, Dale Diedrich and Brent Ost to adjourn, no further discussion motion carried.

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL READ, APPROVED, AND SIGNED AT THE NEXT TOWNSHIP MEETING.