

Supervisor's Report February 2023

Sunset Shores We continue to wrestle with easements for the Sunset Shores project. Mrs. Korson has not signed the easement agreement or picked up her check. I have forwarded the correspondence; she feels that the easement should only be 10 feet wide and she feels that she should get an extra \$1000 because she did not receive the letter that I sent her notifying that we would be exercising the easement. It seems that I erred in not sending that notification via registered mail. Engineer Scott Jozwiak and I are not sure how the 10/15 feet discrepancy came into being. When we walked the property in the fall we showed her and gave her a copy of the plans with the 15 foot easement noted. Mrs. Korson would also like to be reimbursed the additional attorney fees that she has accrued in the month or so since we met on this. It should be noted that her attorney, Laura Liberty, specifically asked me to not talk directly to Mrs. Korson, and only to correspond with Ms. Liberty. I have difficulty seeing the justice in footing the bill for an expense that resulted from this directive.

We also have an issue with the Road Commission concerning the plan to drill under County Road 641 to get to the drainfield site. Scott has drawn this pipe going under the road at an oblique angle, the Road Commission would like it to go at a right angle. Scott is working on solving this, but if he is unable to come to an agreement with the Road Commission we would need an additional easement from the owners of the property directly to the north of the drainfield site (009-023-001-00).

Also, Robert Parker recently informed me that there is a small section (009-014-016-10) to the north of the Korson property and to the south of the DeKoning property from which we need another easement. I have been in contact with these property owners, Simeon and Rebekka Rodgers, as well.

No parking I was requested by Tim Cypher to talk to the Road Commission about establishing a no parking area on the east side of County Road 641, South Lake Leelanau Drive, to accommodate the traffic from the new Leelanau Provisions business at 25 South Lake Leelanau Drive. Well I was at it, I enquired as to the future of the no parking area that we had approved on Lake and River Street in Leland, From the poop deck to the corner. Craig Brown at the Road Commission told me that we would need to pass resolutions to make each of those no parking areas a reality. I will share with you drafts of those resolutions. Lisa and I crossed wires in putting together the agenda, so those resolutions are not on our agenda for Monday, February 13th. If all members are present we can add those to the agenda.

Crosswalks In response to a request from Paula Korson, I have been in correspondence with MDOT about the possibility of erecting "yield to pedestrian" signs in the crosswalks of Lake Leelanau village. It seems that MDOT will allow us to do that at our own expense, provided that they are inspected on a daily basis and that we fix or replace them when they get run over by cars. we also have the option of doing the same thing in the village of Leland at those to Cross works. Jessica Carpenter of MDOT has provided a sketch of how those would be placed vis-à-vis the left turn lanes. Cost for the signs is about \$400 each, plus the cost of the bases. This

could be paid for out of the Metro Fund. Still to be researched: whether the Road Commission will cooperate in installing those signs, and I'm still waiting to hear from Mike Gombos of Michigan Par Plan to find out if there are any liability concerns should we decide to try this program.

Streetlights I also have a question in to Mike about the streetlight program that Consumers Energy has asked us to participate in. This is the program where the township would have the ability to dim the street lights individually or in groups or to turn them off on a seasonal or for several hours a night. Consumers Energy did install controllers on several of our street lights and proposed to give me access to four different programs to experiment with turning them up and down. I was only able to login and use two of the programs, one I found to be impossible to understand, and the other I never received login info. I did discover that I could dim the lights under my control down to 40% without a discernible difference. But I was loathe to experiment during active snowstorms, and when we had the car pedestrian accident outside of Lake Leelanau on County Road 643, I backed away from the project all together. I did find out that the "egg crate" shields that are available for the new lights have been very helpful for people who complain about the lights shining into their bedroom windows. If we could cut our energy usage and save money on our bill, it might be worth considering the new program.

Avenue A I have received a complaint from Charlie Hall who owns 208 Avenue A (009-610-205-00) the house on the Leland River to the west of Fishtown preservation's cottage on the south side of the river. Leland Township acquired lakefront property from the Hall family for a public beach back in 1989. The agreement then provided for a "10 foot wide walking path", although the platted street Avenue A still goes all the way down to the water. Since the lawsuit at Reynolds Street, we have been using that walking path to move dredging equipment to the beach. The dune restoration project that was carried out in 2013 involved protecting the existing dune that goes all the way across the Avenue A right of way, obstructing that right of way with a snow fence. Mr. Hall feels that the foot traffic to the beach is infringing too much on his property. He wants us to cut the dune down to make a new path so that foot traffic does not go on his property. Removing any sand would require permission from Soil Conservation and the Road Commission and could lead to a situation where the dune continues to blow out, sending windblown sand onto Mr. Hall's property and into the river. I would like to work out a solution before the dredging season begins.

Spark Grant I have been dusting off the documentation required to access the MI grants system and have created logins for Juliana Lisuk and Karen Kirt of the parks and rec committee. this park grants are not open for applications right now, but it is important to be preparing, specifically the narrative and budget and for projects we want to submit. The two projects coming together are the Leland River Wall project and the Hancock field project.

I would like to rebrand the wall project to highlight river access, to better fir the Spark grant parameters. Although Mr. Tiffany has drawn both the steel wall option and the wooden wall option, we should be preparing to decide which option we want to pursue. We can also improve

our chances of getting a grant by committing to local matching funding. This could be Township funds or from a private donor.

Listening into the parks and rec meeting last week, it seems that we are accruing the information that we are going to need to write a Sparks grant for Hancock field. Although our land use study RFP included about reaching out to the public to find out what uses are needed at that park, the public has been coming to us with some pretty specific needs: renovated softball diamond, new baseball diamond, a second soccer field, a home for the ice rink, demolition/renovation of the grandstand, and more storage for equipment. Tim Zywiki has been doing some good research on costs for building and renovating fields. I think that this grant will be nearly written by the time the grid applications open up. Our engineering needs will be less about reaching out to the public and more about how to make the space work for all of these needs.

Lifeguard At the parks and rec meeting, I made a pitch for reinstating the Lifeguard at Nedows Bay and presented a budget for doing so, one that I have put together in consultation with Zorran Van Zandt of the fire department. I feel strongly that having a lifeguard at Nedows is a solid step towards elevating the water safety culture of our Township. We could spend the lifeguard budget many times over with the emergency response to just one lost child.

There is a draft of a contract renewal for Chief Besson in your board books. We will discuss this at the Fire Budget meeting.

The township supervisors of the county met last month for our regular meeting. The presentation was Kelly LaCross of Leelanau Emergency Management talking about preparing for and dealing with active assailant situations in our offices and meetings. We are counseled to think about avoiding an attacker, denying access to a locked area, and, as a last resort, fighting back. We are lucky to have doors at both ends of our office and meeting areas. In our new building we should think about emergency escapes and sight lines so that we can know who is coming through the door.

At this meeting, Rick Cross told us about the financial troubles of the Northport sewer system, how they have been shorting the bond repayment fund to cover operations. In stark contrast, at our sewer budget meeting this week you will see a robust Capital Improvement Plan and a plan to perform a rate study this year to be sure that we are covering future expenses without overcharging. This month's Township Insights magazine has an article on rate studies, which will be helpful in getting us prepared for this.

I am still working with my brothers and sister to wrap up my mom's affairs and plan her memorial service. I am admittedly distracted. Please forgive me if I've forgotten anything, and reach out if you have any questions.

Our Annual Meeting is March 18th, at 10 am at the Old Art Building. Please spread the word.

