

# **Littlefield Township Special Meeting with Emmet County Road Commission Crump Road Project**

**March 20, 2020 Time: 1 PM**

Littlefield Township Board members present for this meeting were: D. Henning, Supervisor, Dean Morford, Trustee, Kim Shomin, Treasurer, and Sondra Festerling, Clerk. We were absent Katie Derrohn, Trustee. The Road Commission was represented by: Brian Gutowski, Shawn Beckman, James Godzik, and John Gray. Also, from KPM Engineering- Pat Middleton.

The Special Meeting was called by Emmet County Road Commission to meet and go over the reconstruction of Crump Road from Powers Road then North for approximately 0.94 miles with the design consultant firm KPM Engineering. Brian Gutowski opened the meeting by saying there were 11 proposals in response to the RFP for engineering on the Crump Road reconstruction design project. All of the proposals were reviewed by the Road Commission and it was decided to award the project to KPM Engineering from Kingsley. Brian introduced Pat Middleton. Pat wanted to get input from the Township and members of the Road Commission to identify the major concerns on Crump Rd., and since there is still snow on the ground, he will need to come back and explore and assess the road situation. Brian mentioned that the main concern is the history of drainage problems on a road that has a downhill slope directly into Powers Road. The water coming down the slope washes out the driveways all along the road and dumps the runoff in the middle of Powers Rd. Brian stated that something needs to be done to slow the water down and hopefully pave the road to prevent further washouts needing to be re- built.

Dean Morford asked if there was any way to use the DNR Property that is alongside the trail on the West Side as a run off of drainage. Brian responded that a permit would have to be obtained from the DNR and they don't easily give such permissions. Sondra Festerling said that it doesn't take much of a rain fall to have major washout that starts at the top and gains debris all the way down to Powers Rd. The homeowners all the way up Crump Rd. to the seasonal road end up battling to get into or out of their driveways due to the moats the run off creates. The deep ditches the Road Commission placed along the Festerling Property will completely fill up, plug the culverts, and then run over the side of the ditches, out across Powers Road, and onto the neighbor's property on the other side. It will also rush around the corner and has made it 4 or more properties down before losing momentum. The washout of sand and gravel on Powers Road creates a potential hazard when cars traveling on Powers hit the wash-out in the roadway. All of what Sondra stated was confirmed by the Road Commission and additional information was given about the water run off from the seasonal road that connects to the snowmobile trail.

Pat Middleton stated that he and his retired UT employee will come and spend a good hard day on site taking measurements, notes, pictures & video's, and mapping elevations of the surrounding property. He will also be looking for the most recent high-resolution aerial pictures of the surrounding property and current road in order to come up with a plan sheet before his initial visit to the location. Once he gets to a 30% design, we will come back together to discuss the findings and start to make modifications before a draft is given for a cost estimate. Pat asked about the timeline the township was looking at for starting the road improvements. Brian Gutowski stated it would depend on what the cost estimates come in at as to if it would be done this year or next. He also stated that Pat's proposal had the preliminary design package

done sometime in June and that is when we would get together again. The final plan would be done sometime in July -a month later. Realistically the construction project wouldn't be started before next year because of the timing needed to hire a road construction company. By July most companies have already approved their projects for this year. The Road Commission has a new requirement for a project completion date of October 1<sup>st</sup> which also affects a possible project start-up.

The Special Meeting ended at 9:30 AM