September 18, 2008 7:00

Hope Township Road Committee meeting

Committee members present: Don Dice; Dennis Guthrie; Jim Hockemeyer; Matt Smith

Open with the pledge of alliance to the flag

People in attendance:
Floyd Andrick 4928 Artcrest (land on E. Baker road)
Barbara Mahl 1696 E. Baker Road
Gerald Mahl 1696 E. Baker Road
Scott Abbe 1726 E. Baker Road
Lyle Booth 1242 E. Curtis Road
Francis Mlye 1672 E. Baker Road
Donna Myer 1680 E. Baker Road
Jennifer Lenon 1773 E. Baker Road
Jinelle Chrivia 1708 E. Hull Road
Jody Jordon 1858 E. Baker Road

Review of the Road Committee

- formed in 2004
- one member has left the township so now only 4 members
- will be looking for someone to fill the vacancy
    - recommendation: Jody Jordon or new treasurer
- introduction of the current members

Read the June 26, 2008 meeting minutes. Review of roads for project in 2009.

Noted: that the Hope road mileage was passed for 4 more years in the last township vote.

Business from the floor:

East Curtis Road, 1.5 miles, 32 mailboxes. Road was cold patched this past year. Patching is holding up but it's quite rough. Originally paved 18 years ago.

East Baker Road: Deepack, head of Midland county road commission.
He says they can't drain East Baker and if they can't drain they can't pave the road. It was mentioned that there is a drainage that cuts across 1858 E. Baker to Hull. Comments were that the road drains now and don't understand the problem. Comments were that if drainage were needed (by the county) it neighbors would need to take a petition to the county drain commissioner. And the final costs will go on the take people on that road. Recommended that potential drain options on Baker be presented directly to Mr. Deepack at the county road commission.

What is to be done with Baker in 2008. Do we want to still do the gravel or not. The recommendation is to do the gravel (as planned) and investigate the drainage problem with Baker.

Mention was made that there are 19 mailboxes on the unpaved section of E. Baker, there were only 9 mailboxes on the mile of Hull and Baker that was paved 2 years ago. There were safety concerns with the road that was paved earlier and these same concerns exist for the unpaved section of E. Baker. Concern was also expressed that they wanted E. Baker's unpaved section to continue to be a priority and if drainage was a concern correct so we could move forward with the upgrading to pavement for the rest of E. Baker. Jim, will also touch basis with Deepack for an update.

The regravel of E. Baker in 2008 will cost: $35,000 is cross tile in as well (no driveway tubes). An additional $53,000 if ditching were to occur. The total cost for 1 mile for gravel and ditching is ~$100,000.

General comment made from the committee: a poor paved road is better then a gravel road.

The cost estimate for only asphalt for 1 mile on top of good grave is $75,000.

Annual road money for Hope Township
$87,000
$39,500 county
$10,000 to 15,000 from township
Total: ~$136,500/yr

For 2009 we have somewhere between $136,500-190,000 (depending if all the current work planned for Baker will be done). There is one other concern: there is a vote in November regarding the Midland County Road commission. If that mileage did not pass Hope might loss the annual money of $39,500.

Review of 2008 projects
- East Midland county line road upgrade gravel
- East Baker road upgrade gravel

Next meeting set for November 6 (after the county road mileage is voted on) Thursday which would also be before the Township meeting November 20 at 7:00 at the firehouse.

Estimates on the following six roads will be updated:
- 5 mile road ~~(1 mile)~~ ½ MILE NORTH OF
- ½ mile of Stark
- 1 of Curtis
- ~~½ mile of Adams~~
- Hull 1 mile
- Baker 1 mile

Meeting closed at 8:22