

Edenville Township Board Members,

January 25, 2024

I am unable to attend the Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup> Special Board meeting due to prior self-imposed obligations. Please enter this as correspondence and I would be honored if you should consider my points at the Special Meeting being called on 1/26.

First, we have \$349,662.86 to spend. This is the sum of our budgeted 153k and the 196k available allocation of County funds.

Please look at the 2023 Local Paved Road Ratings (as provided by Midland County Road Commission based upon the three hours that I spent with Art Buck and an engineer traveling every road in the township this fall). Many roads are rated 4 (poor) or worse. The rating system used this fall was slightly stricter than in the past. When making your decisions I ask you to use your experiences with our roads also.

I read Crystal's presentation of Craig Gosen's opinions. I leave you to make your own determinations.

I would humbly suggest you consider:

1. Can we do just the west half of star rd? (that is where it is most below standard.) if so that cost should be roughly \$137,399.41
2. Using Craig's suggestion (#of houses and usage), I would further recommend approval of Genesee/Ingham/Telegraph, N Maplecrest Drive, and Verity Court. (Combined cost of \$168,718. +/-)
3. If we can take care of the part of star road the needs it the most and the other three that would come in at about \$306k. leaving some wiggle room for unexpected costs. (Depending on how tight you want the budget you could throw in Cedar Drive and still be within our numbers.) *\*unused funds from the county do carry over to the next year*
4. You can see that estimates were not offered for all roads rated Poor or worse. (like Moore st). I do not know why. But it does not matter. another 300k+ in needed road repairs doesn't change out budget. Let us do the greatest good for the greatest number of homes with what we got.

I do not hold myself to be more knowledgeable than the members of our Road Commission. If you want to throw out their recommendations in favor of some other series of recommendations. Well, it is a choice you have. But I believe they are highly knowledgeable and very well trained. I have absolutely no reason to doubt their recommendations or cost estimates. The Board's task is to determine which estimates to prioritize because we are limited by funds.

I hope I have provided all the relevant available information to make the budgetary decision(s). Feel free to call me at 269-568-2285 if you have any questions.

Terrance Hall

PS I have asked for a member of the Midland County Road Commission to attend to assist you with technical questions you may have. (please don't ask them to tell you which roads to pick. They did their job and told us the status of our roads. It is the boards job to decide. It is a shame we weren't able to do it on schedule on January 9<sup>th</sup>.)

Edenville Township Board Members,

I am unable to attend the Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup> Special Board meeting due to work obligations. I would like the following letter to be entered as correspondence and my points considered at the Special meeting being called on 1/26:

First, it should be noted that timing is key for roads. If the Board would have followed the long-term Road plan as submitted by the previous Township Supervise, Craig Gosen, to the current Board, we would not find ourselves so far behind on the maintenance of our township roads. An example to consider is this: Water Rd is five miles long. If we don't properly plan for maintaining this road, reconstruction of this road will likely require our entire road budget for 4 to 5 years. Star Rd is one mile long and will cost \$264k in total reconstruction. Advanced planning is KEY. Before our road decisions for next year are made the Supervisor should develop a new 5-year plan.

As recorded on page 48 of the 23-24 GAA document on the Township website, the Board approved an amendment to the Edenville Township General Fund, page seven, line 446 to add \$100,000 to roads/streets/bridges for a total of \$153,000. In addition to the \$153,000 that Edenville Township budgeted for roads, how much is Edenville Township receiving in matching funds from the County? There are two road millages that are voted on by the public every four years— do note: one comes up on the ballot every two years, as each millage was implemented in a staggered sequence. One of these millages requires matching funds from Edenville Township and the other does not. What amount of money is Edenville Township receiving from both of these sources of revenue? To make this year's road decisions we must know the total amount of money available for this work.

Considering Edenville Township is behind on its road maintenance, the Board MUST consider the length of the proposed road, the number of houses on a particular road, as well as residents' level of use on a road. Ditching is also an important part of the roadwork plan and must also be included in any roadwork plan. It should be further noted that there are two classifications of roads in Edenville Township—state/primary and secondary. The state/primary roads are maintained by the State or County, which for Edenville Township equates to M30, M18, Curtis Rd, North Lake Sanford Rd, and Water Rd from Curtis to M-30. The Secondary roads (all other roads that are not considered state/primary) are maintained by Edenville Township.

After looking at the MCRC recommendations for work that needs to be done in Edenville Township and considering our budget limitations, I would recommend the following:

- Do as much Chip/Fog Seal as practical if it will prolong the life of the roads.
- Star Rd will likely need a complete reconstruction in the next few years. If Star Rd is not done this year, it should be included in the 5-year plan along with the next Water Rd maintenance work.
- Do Chip/Fog-Seal on Fike Rd. instead of Overlay if it isn't too far gone for Chip/Fog Seal.

To the Edenville Township Board,

I have video taped the last two board meetings. After each posting online, I have had a request from the public for closed captioning so that a person with hearing disability can hear the meeting.

It appears that Edenville Township has not been noticing the township meetings in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act. I am attaching an excerpt from the MTA to help guide you.

You should also refer to Michigan Attorney general Opinion No. 7318, Dated February 4, 2022, page 5,

"As discussed, Michigan's OMA fails to provide any affirmative accommodations for disabled individuals to fully participate in meetings. Therefore, to the extent the OMA is inconsistent with what is required under the ADA, the OMA is preempted."

From the MTA Township Focus, March 2017, What You Need To Know About the Open Meetings Act, Page 25, Additional Notice Requirements, "Americans With Disabilities Act—The federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ACT) requires that a public meeting notice MUST state that if a person with disabilities notices the clerk within a designated number of days prior to the meeting, accommodations will be furnished to enable meaningful attendance."

This quote is followed by some recommended language for notices. It is very similar to the language I see on the bottom of the Public Notice of Water District #1 Of Midland County Regular Meetings.

**Public Notice of Water District #1  
Of Midland County Regular Meetings**

Meetings Held at Jerome Township Hall  
737 W. Beamish Rd., Sanford, MI 48657

All meetings will begin at 7:00pm			
Wednesday	January 17, 2024	Wednesday	July 17, 2024
Wednesday	February 21, 2024	Wednesday	August 21, 2024
Wednesday	March 20, 2024	Wednesday	September 18, 2024
Wednesday	April 17, 2024	Wednesday	October 16, 2024
Wednesday	May 15, 2024	Wednesday	November 20, 2024 ✓
Wednesday	June 19, 2024	Wednesday	December 18, 2024

David Rothman, Secretary, PO Box 320, Sanford, MI 48657 (989) 687-2709

Posted on: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Water District #1 of Midland County Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Any change on this meeting schedule will be posted at the Water District Office 246 E Price Rd, Midland, MI 48642 or you can call 989-687-2709 for further information.

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

"This notice is posted in compliance with the Open Meeting Act, Public Act 267 of 1976, as amended, MCL 41-72a(2) and (3), and the Americans With Disabilities Act. Water District #1 of Midland County will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at this Public Meeting with a 14 day notice. Contact Rowan Everleigh at 989-687-2709."

I am asking that you not hold public meetings until they are properly noticed to the public, under the mandated clearly defined in the MTA, OMA, ADA, and Attorney General Opinion No. 7318.

Thank you,  
Tamie Luty  
Concerned Edenville Township Taxpayer