

**Munising Township Road Millage Proposal Public Hearing**  
**Tuesday, April 14, 2009 6:00 - 7:15 p.m.**

**Roll Call:** Board Members Present: Supervisor-Dan Wilson, Treasurer-Bonnie Fulcher, Clerk-Selina Balko, Trustee-Lisa Howard, Trustee-Wally Ahlborn. Absent: None. There were approximately 25 visitors in attendance. A sign in sheet is on file with the clerk. Supervisor Wilson opened the meeting leading us with the pledge at 6:00 p.m.

Supervisor Wilson explained why we were having a public hearing. There will be a two mills for five years proposal for Munising Township on the May ballot. This would raise monies to do needed road upgrades within our township. He then introduced Bob Lindbeck, superintendent of the Alger County Road Commission.

Mr. Lindbeck gave a presentation on where the road commission get its operating money, how Alger County compares to other counties and how Michigan compares to other states. They get money from gas tax, state and federal funds. They do not get property taxes unless there is a special voted millage. Three townships in Alger County already have road millage as well as many townships across the U P and some counties also have a county wide road millage.

Public Comment/Question-answer session:

Why was 2 mills decided on? Because this would bring in just over \$100,000.00 which is what we need to complete larger projects. Is not feasible to do much smaller projects as a part of the cost is getting the equipment here and set up to do paving projects.

How does the policy work for roads? Road commission pays half and the township half to bring a road up to a gravel standard. The township pays 100% for paving. The road commission can do allot of the prep work but does not have paving equipment. A company must be brought in to do paving.

What will happen to the general fund if a millage is passed? The township can direct leftover general fund monies toward some road projects. We had done this in the past but more recently had focused on completing the recreation area that we had started quite some ago. This area was done with local funds and DNR grants. We can now save towards road projects but takes many years to accumulate enough to do a large project.

One concern of residents is if we will stick to the proposed list of projects. We do plan to stick to the list. A committee of township board members and residents could be formed to fine tune the list. Would some areas still be interested in a special assessment over and above the millage? This is possible. Would it move them up on the list? With the township using some township monies some additional projects could possibly be done also.

What happens if Lost Lake came up with special assessment money and the road commission can't? The road commission intends to be a good partner in working with townships with road projects. ACRC will go by whatever list the township provides for the order of projects to be done.

**Being no further comments/questions a motion was made by Ahlborn/Second Fulcher that we adjourn. Motion carried. We are adjourned at 7:15 p.m.**

Next meeting: Regular Township Board Meeting - Thursday, May 7, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Selina Balko, Clerk

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Dan Wilson, Supervisor