

**Minutes**  
**McHenry Township**  
**Road District Budget Hearing**  
**May 23, 2016 - 6:45 p.m.**

Supervisor Adams called the Road District Budget meeting to order at time 6:47 p.m. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Board members attending meeting: Amy Mercurio, Neal Schepler, Gary Barla and Craig Adams, also attending were Clerk Marsha Nelson, and Road Commissioner James Condon, and one resident of Township Cliff Leegrad of Wonder Lake.

**Public Comment:**

Mr. Leegrad had several questions and comments about Road District budget. (Mr. Leegrad's comments and questions are attached).

*Road Commissioner Condon understood where Mr. Leegrad was coming from and said he had asked the same questions many times before he became road commissioner, and is working on making adequate adjustments.*

**Motion by Amy Mercurio to approve 2016-2017 Road District Budgets, seconded by Gary Barla**

**Voice vote:**

Amy Mercurio – Aye  
Neal Schepler - Aye  
Gary Barla - Aye  
Craig Adams - Aye

**Motioned carried**

**Motion by Gary Barla to adjourn, seconded by Amy Mercurio.**

**All in favor motion carried.**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Marsha Nelson – Township Clerk**

*Question - Cliff S. - Wonder Lake.*

**Road District Comments –**

I realize Jim is new and if I use the word YOU I am referring to the Road District institution not specifically the highway commissioner as you were not here for some of these comments.

I would remind you that you are a non-profit entity, meaning you are not supposed to be making money.

The amount that the township taxes us is fairly reasonable for the services that we receive.

However, we pay property taxes in arrears so that we are taxed on presumably what the district expends to supply its services.

Looking over the past years budgets in the GRB fund –

1. In the admin account – You are budgeting 58-61% more than you spend mainly because you are putting large amounts of money into a Contingency fund. These are funds that one would normally put into a project with designated fixed income having with no reserves account, which you have. So in the past years you have budgeted and taxed us for \$100K, \$150K and this year \$50K and have spent no more than \$7K per year.

You need to delete the Contingency fund from any Township Budget in the future.

2. In the GRB Contractual Services – You have budgeted for the wash bay recycle equipment - \$45K, \$50K and \$29K in past years and spent \$25K last year to replace this equipment.

Why are we budgeting another \$29K this coming year?

3. In the Bridge Repairs account you have budgeted \$50K for the past 3 years and have spent no money in the last 5. I think that you should stop budgeting for this acct.

4. Rentals you have budgeted \$100K, \$100K and \$85K when you have never spent more than \$77K in any one year

5. Salt supplies, we all know that we need adequate supplies of road salt. In past years you budgeted \$290K, \$375K and only spent \$136K and \$133K. Last year we used minimal salt, I believe you said you used 1/3 the amount of salt that we used during the prior bad winter. So why are you budgeting \$390K for this year when we did not need as much salt to replenish our stockpile – understanding that the price of salt has increased substantially the past couple of years.

6. Capital Outlay – in 2014 we budgeted \$200K and used \$7K, 2015 we budgeted \$200K and spent \$93K and this year you are budgeting \$355 K. What is that to be used for- and why are we not using the \$300K of reserve money that you have already collected in taxes to purchase this years new equipment rather than tax us again.

7. Page 3 - Looking at the Road MTCE act. In total —budget vs actual...

8. Page 1 - GRB Overall – budget vs actual

9. Permanent Hard Road – again we have been charged \$125K for the past 2 years in taxes and again doe the coming year in the contingency account where I see no record of ever spending a dime from this fund for the past 5 years. This practice must stop – as we are being taxed for services that no one is receiving – with the only result of putting money into your reserve account.

10 Page 4 - Permanent hard road Overall budget vs actual.