

GOLDEN TOWNSHIP
JULY 12, 2023, SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by the Supervisor Carl Fuehring at 10:35 am.

Board present: Carl Fuehring, Connie Cargill, Rachel Iteen, Bill Kolenda, Doug Dykstra

Also present: Senator Jon Bumstead, Cassey Cline and Jody Johnston from the DNR, Dan Gorenflo, Rob Draper, and 10 guests.

Discussion was had on Lighthouse Drive.

Doug Dykstra and Dan Gorenflo took Senator Jon Bumstead on Lighthouse Drive to view the issues with the road.

Lighthouse Drive is the only road in to and out of the lighthouse. Tour buses use this road as well, but there is no turn around for them to use. 90% of the traffic on the road is to the lighthouse. This road has all kinds of traffic and vehicles as well as busses, bicycles and people walking. The road is very narrow in places and at spot(s) measure 7' wide for a lane of traffic. At times bumper to bumper traffic makes walking across the road scarry. Emergency vehicles have difficulties getting out there with the traffic and a few years ago a tree fell and blocked the road for the day. Maybe the turnaround could be put back in at the lighthouse for bus traffic. It was suggested that a one-way road could be investigated coming out in Benona Township on Buchanan or Baseline roads. Cassie Cline, the district superior of the area headed in Cadillac, talked about other road projects like at Traverse City and how they used M-Dot suggestions and set up cameras for data studies.

Everyone agreed that the road needs more than repaving. An Engineering company needs to be hired to address the safety and deteriorating road bed. It also was agreed that if we could incorporate development of a trail at the same time it would be great not only for Golden Township but also the State of Michigan.

Carl Fuehring asked Doug Dykstra *and* Connie Cargill to head a committee made up of Senator Jon Bumstead, Cassey Cline, Tim Beggs, Dan Gorenflo, someone from DOT and EGLE to come up with a plan to: secure funding, hire an Engineering company, fix the road, and develop a concept for a trail.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Iteen
Golden Township Clerk