

Mark Halkola, Supervisor  
Christa Gardner, Clerk  
Dominique DiVito, Treasurer  
Don Wareham, Trustee  
Aaron Janke, Trustee



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Osceola Township Special Meeting Minutes  
Public Hearing for DWSRF Project  
May 17, 2023, 5:30 PM  
Tamarack City Fire Hall

The Public Hearing of the Osceola Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Mark Halkola on May 17, 2023, at 5:31 PM at the Tamarack City Fire Hall. The purpose of the hearing is to receive any public comments regarding the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Project Plan.

Board members present were Mark Halkola, Aaron Janke, and Don Wareham. Absent was Christa Gardner and Dominique DiVito.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Wareham, supported by Janke to approve the agenda as presented. AVIF

DWSRF Project Public Hearing – Supervisor Halkola began by introducing the reason for the public hearing and turned the meeting over to Andrew Keranen from UP Engineers and Architects.

Mr. Keranen explained EGLE's DWSRF program, process, and schedule. He also addressed the how and why that this opportunity has been undertaken and gave a review of the proposed Project Plan. Initial questions and comments were responded to.

Resident participation was encouraged at this point in the meeting, and residents were invited to join in with any questions or comments.

Questions and comments began with a comprehensive focus on the water quality differences and level of contaminants between Dollar Bay and Tamarack City water sources, and the presence of PFAS, which was indicated as present in the 2021 Water Quality Report for Dollar Bay. Mr. Ham, Mr. Michaelson, and Mr. Westphal raised issues with long term obligations for the Tamarack City system users, lead service line replacements, concerns about sources of the current supply, and the status of the distribution infrastructure including the cost to improve now and in the future. Comments about a well for Tamarack City were discussed, with an explanation from Mr. Keranen and additional discussion about radioactiveness from Mr. Klein.

Next the different options were highlighted by Mr. Keranen. Additional comments offered by Mr. Klein, Mr. Reed, and Mr. Ham included a question about whether the township was offered less than a 75% grant-25% loan could it be turned down at that time? The cost of engineering as well as resident input throughout the process was brought up. Water quality and PFAS were again discussed, as well as a question from Mr. Westphal about the system infrastructure being able to carry water from Dollar Bay to Tamarack City and what equipment is necessary. Finally, the possibilities for rate hikes and repair/replacement of water lines for Tamarack City customers from the water company were also raised.

Throughout the discussion Mr. Keranen and the Township Board members answered questions, provided additional information, and indicated that answers to questions not answered would be sought. Any additional information and answers to unanswered questions would be provided at the Special Meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 24, 2023, at 5:00 PM at the Osceola Township Board Room.

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With specific questions answered, no additional comments were offered.

Public Comment: Public comment opened at 7:05 PM. No additional comments were offered. Public comment closed at 7:06 PM.

Adjourn: Motion by Wareham, supported by Janke to adjourn at 7:08 PM. AVIF