



Milton Township

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**Official Minutes for Milton Township Board of Trustees
SAD 2016-01 Public Hearing
Milton Township Hall - 32097 Bertrand St., Niles, MI
Thursday June 23, 2016 7:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm and the pledge was recited.

Present: Robert Benjamin, Treasurer Susan Flowers, Clerk Steve Sante, Trustee Eric Renken

Absent: Trustee Kelly Sweeney

Guests Present: Township Attorney Catherine Kauffman, Assessor Bill Gibert

Public Comment

None

Benjamin indicated that the meeting was for the purposes of considering the special assessment roll for the previously established Milton Township Fire Protection Services Special Assessment District Number 2016-1.

Attorney Kauffman read a statement indicating the district has already been established and the assessment roll has been prepared. The purpose of the meeting is to hear objections to the assessment roll.

At this point Benjamin allowed public comment.

Jackie Pflug is opposed to the special assessment. (See Letter On Page 3)

Motion: Benjamin made a motion to close the public comment portion of the meeting.

Second: Sante

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Flowers Y, Renken Y, Sante Y, Benjamin Y

A resolution approving special assessment roll for fire protection services for FY beginning April 1, 2016 was presented by Benjamin. It was read aloud to the public.

Motion: Benjamin made a motion to pass resolution 2016-19R as read to the public.

Second: Sante

Discussion: There are two spelling errors in the resolution that need to be corrected.

Roll Call: Flowers Y, Renken Y, Sante Y, Benjamin Y

Motion: Benjamin made a motion to adjourn at 7:21pm.

Second: Renken

Discussion: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

OFFICIAL

Milton Township Board & Assessor,

June 23, 2016

I am opposed to the proposed increase millage rate for the Milton Township Fire Protection Services Special Assessment District No. 2016-1. Unfortunately, I am not able to make it to the public hearing. I don't think it is appropriate for a few individuals to make an important decision that will have an impact on the residents of Milton Township for several years. I feel this is a decision for the residents and they should have a voice and be able to **vote** on whether they want the proposed millage increase.

It is amazing that when the Township is unable to balance their budget, they look to the people to fix the problem of the Township's Boards inadequacies. Perhaps the Township needs to make some cuts to help balance the budget. Many residents have not budgeted for an increased millage or increase in the taxes. Many are on fixed incomes and do not receive a cost of living adjustment annually. Many individuals in the Township do not receive annual wage increases. Is the Township going to help the residents balance their budget? Is the Township going to supply food, clothing and shelter when an unexpected expense occurs that is not budgeted for by the residents?

The Township Board has created this problem and should be held accountable and rectify their lack of being able to budget the Township funds appropriately without the tax payers support. Perhaps there should be salary cuts or monitor electric & heat usage, cut back on office hours to save money. Maybe the funds collected for building rental could go into the fire fund. The board could try having fund raisers as some alternative suggestions to the millage increase.

Sincerely,

Jackie Pflug