

Marys River Estates Road Budget Meeting 2007-2008

June 7, 2007

The meeting started at 7:30pm. The first section was the budget meeting.

The agenda was reviewed. The Commissioners were introduced and all were in attendance – John Vandehey (President), Mark Davis and Andy Evans. Their job description was briefly touched upon. The three other members of the committee were also present – Sean Kutzler, Glen Aukstikalnus and Mike Pinckard. The Budget Officer Mike Miller was present.

A brief history of the district and the responsibility for the roads was talked about. The process of creating and approving the budgets was presented. The goal is to improve the roads enough so that the county will approve them and start taking on the maintenance instead of the homeowners.

The future plans for paving were shown. The first bullet in the plan (it was not in order of priority) was to pave Queen Anne to Iris pavement and the rest of Columbine Drive. Next on the list is to finish paving Iris Circle. Third would be a curb or rail on the steep part of Iris Circle and fourth was walking trails for safety, especially Columbine and MRE Road. Last was the plan to work with the county to better integrate with the road district. The back side of Iris Circle is not currently in the plans and Tansy is on hold for us. That is really the responsibility of the owner of that land to improve the road for access to his property. Per Bardon, the county accepted his road plan to pave Tansy but no one has seen him move on it. He said that he got a bid to do the whole thing for about \$250k.

One of the attendees wanted the walking path on Columbine and MRE Road from the mailboxes up made a priority. The blind curves and tall grass are pretty large safety issues. Another attendee mentioned that the curbs are another priority especially in the winter when the roads can get icy. Shea voiced a concern that if the upper portion of Iris Circle was straightened and paved, that traffic speed would increase. Bardon mentioned that paving was years out. He also said that the price was climbing each year. He said that this summer we were going to try to regrade that curve (shift the road somewhat) and regravell it. This will increase sight distance and safety for that corner.

The presentation continued with what the road district does with the money. There are no permanent employees and no equipment is purchased. Revenue is about \$70k per year. Maintenance materials and services are budgeted for about \$25k and the rest of the money goes toward the big paving jobs.

Next Mike went through the legal forms that are required for the meeting. Bardon passed out the financial statements for the road district. Mike had a handout for all attendees. The first page was the description of the next several pages. The first form was number LB-20 which covered valuation of resources. The next form was number LB-30. This one described what we spent our money on. After these forms/dollars are approved by the committee, then it is sent in to the commissioners.

This year we budgeted a \$50k loan but we may or may not do this. That with the money in the bank makes it possible to do another capital project if the committee moves on that. There are two other forms that summarize the budget in different ways.

A question was asked if we were planning on doing something – have we received any bids? Mark Davis said that we are planning something and that they will be discussing that issue and the road district meeting. Jessica Neebe asked about what was included with the signs/lights expenditures. Bardon told her about street signs and street lights that the county provides we have to cover in our budget. Bardon said that "office" is everything else – post office box, mailing costs, newsletters, Bardon's cost for doing the accounting, etc. Jessica asked what the "other" category is for. Bardon said that it is for the paving and maintenance. Jessica said that looked good.

Andy Evans moved that the members accept the budget as-is. The budget passes unanimously by the six members present. Bardon said that we need to now transition to a budget hearing. It is a public hearing. No issues were raised so the meeting was closed.

Next was open discussion about concerns with the roads. One of the attendees is concerned about high grass. It was brought up that property owners mow their own roadside but the state owned land is an issue. We can't hire a contractor to do it. Shea wanted to talk about the intersection. When the couplet is completed doesn't the designation of the highway change? Bardon said that no one is talking about it. What is wanted is a turn lane in front of MRE Road. Bardon said that this came up in the ODOT meeting and a deceleration lane was estimated at \$700k and was voted down. Mike Miller said that if the couplet means that bigger trucks are running through then we should show up to those kind of meetings and make it known that we need some changes. Andy Evans mentioned that the county is actually giving some roads back to people but that we are a large group of taxpayers and that we can put pressure on them. Mike Miller said that this would take effort and volunteers would be appreciated.

One of the attendees mentioned that we have that fir tree was still out there and that we could carve it up for the curbs. Sean mentioned that the county might see this as a liability issue. Mike Miller said that there was a finding that there wasn't enough dirt to put in additional curbing but that they have curbs that you can just glue to existing asphalt and will use up about six inches. The road committee is looking into this and the initial bid of about \$1800 was very reasonable.

One other question came up about a small pile of sand on top of the hill that could be used for sanding the roads during the winter but folks seemed to think that it was free to take so it didn't work out. He also said that he had some equipment and he would volunteer if trees fell or anything.

Another attendee asked about Tansy Road and the width/paving. Does that have to be completed before he can pave his road? Bardon said that he has to get input from his neighbors and that they weren't going to give permission to put paving on their property. Does Columbine have to be paved? The person that owns the lots up on Tansy came down and gave his neighbors two weeks notice that construction was starting. Bardon

said that it was his understanding that it yes, he has to pave a portion. So it would affect the existing road? Bardon said that Tansy is in our district to improve it and the county owns it. To get a building permit he would have to grade it to fire code. Per Bardon he is grading the road to access all 14 one-acre lots. The road district maintains it but the county owns it. Bardon said that we really don't know what he's going to do. He has been talking about things for years. The attendee said that he told them that he has had a surveyor up there and he is going to be starting things before the end of the month. The county has accepted the plan with no turn around and no second exit however he cannot get a building permit without those two things. One person said that he has three dry wells and another said that he told them that he had one well that was seven to ten gallons per minute. Bardon thought at one time that there would be a hearing for the road district to approve these plans but we were not invited or necessary to get the plan approved. An attendee said that he was asking for easement to hook into their transformers but no one gave approval. Bardon said that there are easements along the borders of the properties that were not recorded when Iris circle went in. The land is zoned for five acre lots but he is grandfathered in and can sell them in one acre lots. The extra wear and tear on our road and extra traffic from these new fourteen homes is a concern. Big trucks during construction is another concern. If he is paying taxes, then he is contributing to the road district now.

Danko's well situation was brought up. This was when the Wren Hill Estates was running all their pumps to fill their reservoir. The Water District from the county said that they would monitor things. Jessica said that they are not running their pumps and Joe is not having any problems at this time. Someone suggested that we get pump readings now so that we can tell when we start being effected. Bardon said that we can resolve these issues in court if it comes to that.

One more unsafe spot was mentioned. Up from Andy's is a spot where the road narrows so much that if two people tried to pass a car could go off the road in a big way. It needs to get fixed and it was suggested that we mark it better.

Someone asked when the mowing was scheduled. Bardon said that they would get done in about a month. A complaint that the summer was half over and that visibility was bad – can we get this done sooner? Bardon said that we are low on the priority list for mowers.

Jessica said that a property owner's meeting would be happening later in the summer and would be posted on the website.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa C Miller