

## **SAND LAKE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING FOR WEED CONTROL**

**August 20, 2014**

The Franklin Township Board held a special assessment hearing for proposed weed control for Sand Lake. Supervisor Platt called the hearing to order at 7:30 p.m. Board members present: Supervisor Bob Platt, Clerk Sue Whitehead, Treasurer Terri Moore, Trustees Dan VanValkenburg and Mike Kelley. Absent: none. VanValkenburg moved to approve the minutes from a joint hearing held with the Cambridge Township Board on May 21, 2014. Whitehead seconded and motion carried.

Supervisor Platt gave some past history concerning the weed control project from when it originated in 2009-2010 to the denial of the proposed renewal on 5-21-14 due to over 20% of the property owners protested in writing to not renew. Cambridge Township approved a weed control renewal on 5-21-14. Platt stated that recently 54.70% of property owners signed a petition presented to the Township Board in support of continuing with the Sand Lake weed control project.

Under public discussion Doug Gross spoke in opposition to continuing with weed control due to the Sand Lake Property Owners Association not considering other methods of treatment and felt that the current lake management company was not monitored well enough. Gross felt that the \$40,000 that had been spent eradicating milfoil had been wasted. Gross would like to see a third party lake manager to evaluate what the lake needs, and to also help coordinate the current lake management company instead of only the SLPOA managing it alone. Supervisor Platt responded that the methods of treatment should be discussed and decided at the Sand Lake Property Owners meetings. Dow Parsons with property at 88 Pentecost Hwy spoke in favor of an assessment district to fund the weed control on Sand Lake. Sabrina Gross was present and felt that the SLPOA is being taken advantage of by PLM who is managing the treatment process. Gross stated that the Township pays the lake treatment invoices without being aware whether the treatment process is working or not.

Whitehead moved to adopt Resolution #14-04R approving the Special Assessment District for Sand Lake Weed Control. Moore seconded. Roll Call Vote: VanValkenburg-yes, Kelley-yes, Moore-yes, Whitehead-yes, Platt-yes. Motion carried 5-0 unanimously. Whitehead moved to adopt Resolution #14-05R approving the Special Assessment Roll for Sand Lake Weed Control. Moore seconded. Roll Call Vote: Kelley-yes, Moore-yes, Whitehead-yes, VanValkenburg-yes, Platt-yes. Motion carried 5-0 unanimously. Terms are \$100 for 5 years collected through winter taxes. Hearing was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Sue Whitehead, Franklin Township Clerk

