

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC HEARING
January 9, 2008, 5 p.m.
Continued from December 6, 2007**

Board Chairman Charles Quale reconvened the public hearing at 5 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisors Ron Smith and Nancy Karjalahti, Clerk Candace Bartel, Treasurer John Brula, township attorney Troy Gilchrist; property owners Winifred Tillman, Scott Nelson, John & Pat Daine, Rich Biernat; realtor Don Pearson, Jay Smedburg representing Gary Kirt Properties, attorney for Gary Kirt Properties, Henry Brucker; and Peter Ganzen, Aitkin Co. Planning & Zoning.

The purpose of the hearing was to act on the petition presented by Gary Kirt Properties to alter and vacate a section of 197th Avenue (T-141) located in the Shore Acres plat, section 9, in Shamrock Township.

An engineered design was to have been submitted to the board prior to the continued hearing. The design was given to the board just before the hearing reconvened. The design contains changes recommended by John Welle, Aitkin County Engineer. The design moves the turnaround and includes a five-foot drainage and utility easement. It was noted that the property on the south is owned by the State of Minnesota.

After a lengthy discussion that included concerns about proposed road width and grade, construction schedule, future road maintenance, erosion, and wildflowers, Charles Quale asked for comments from the adjoining property owners. Don Pearson spoke on behalf of John & Pat Daine, they were not aware of the five-foot easement. It was mentioned that the proposed location of the turnaround could cause the Daine's driveway to be filled with snow. Scott Nelson was concerned about the proposed grade and width but is not totally against the proposal; he can see positive aspects. Mrs. Tillman shared concerns regarding yellow ladyslippers growing just north of the pump house on the down slope in the utility easement. She is also concerned about the grade, drainage, and the blending of the new and old sections of road; she is not totally opposed to the project. She stated she is satisfied with the current road.

Peter Ganzen, Aitkin Co. Planning & Zoning, said moving the road would benefit the lot sizes. If this were a new plat, a 66-foot road right-of-way would be required. This is a meets and bounds lot line adjustment. Input should be requested from Aitkin Co. Soil and Water.

Motion by Ron Smith, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti, to direct the township attorney to prepare an order approving the petition as discussed for consideration and final action at an upcoming Board meeting; motion carried on the following vote: Smith, aye; Karjalahti, aye; Quale, aye. The order will contain a list of conditions that must be met. The Board will hire an engineer to get another opinion on the proposed road; fees for this will be paid by Gary Kirt Properties.

6:45 p.m. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith, to close the hearing with the record on this to be held open until the February 7th regular board meeting; motion carried.

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Township Clerk

Charles Quale
Shamrock Township Board Chairman

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE
JANUARY 10, 2008 REGULAR BOARD MEETING.**