

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FILER
PUBLIC HEARING ON
FILER TOWNSHIP DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT**

**Filer Township Hall
2505 Filer City Road
Manistee, Michigan 49660
August 17, 2016**

Present: Dean Kruse, Shirley Ball, Terry Walker, Ruth Skiera, Brian Krus and Tom Chycinski.

Absent: Dale Kolanowski

Also Present: Brian Sousa, Wade Trim, Richard Wilson, Township Attorney and Eric Williams, Attorney for the Downtown Development Authority

Hearing called to order by Supervisor Walker at 7:03 p.m.

Purpose of the hearing is to receive written and verbal comments regarding the proposed Special Assessment District to undertake a wastewater collection system to serve properties located in and near the Charter Township of Filer Downtown District along US 31 in the township including new force mains, gravity sewer line and pump stations together with all appurtenances and attachments to the City of Manistee Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Public Comment

Speakers Included

Gary Schlinkert, Representative of Pine Ridge Owners: Presented written letters requesting exclusion of US 31 owners in the Pine Ridge Development from the sewer project, along with an opposition letter from Nicholas LeFevre, counsel for CC&P Developers.

Tom Voss, Pine Ridge Resident: Opposed because Pine Ridge septic systems are working and sewer would cause unnecessary expense.

Charles McDougall, S. US 31: Opposed because he owns four (4) houses in the proposed sewer district. Septics are working ok and is retired on a fixed income.

Joe Kittlaus, Pine Ridge Resident: Leave Pine Ridge out of this plan. Costs are not definite and there are too many unknowns.

Bonnie Bigalke, Business owner representing Kowalski Trucking on 28th Street: Their business doesn't need sewer to operate. Septic is fine. Unnecessary. Cost to property owners with no definite way at this time to know actual cost.

Donald L. Vadeboncoeur, V.F.W. Commander: Received notice of hearing late. V.F.W. is tax exempt. How will their service be billed? What about septic removal and property damage during construction? Need more information before deciding. Not against the project at this time.

Pat Zwiefka, US 31: Doesn't want the yard torn up and expense of a sewer. She puts upgrades to her property right along and doesn't want the sewer.

Nancy Fortier: Wants the sewer so the township can grow. No new growth for some time. Sewer will make it easier to sell her property.

Kathe Cabot: Doesn't want sewer because of cost. The City of Manistee could increase rate to Filer Township at their will. The city has overflow problems and we could become liable for their problems.

Others spoke in opposition citing above reasons and requesting a written response from the township showing those who will not be in the special assessment.

Letters received by the Clerk before the hearing at 7:00 p.m. included:

V.F.W. Post Commander – Don Vadeboncoeur

Tom & Helen Chycinski

Pat Zwiefka

Chuck & Carol McDougall

Dave & Kathe Cabot

Nancy & Daniel Kowalski

Manistee Crystal Properties LLC

Kari Rozmarek

Attorneys Wilson and Williams and Engineer Sousa answered questions about how homes would be treated in the 200 ft. area of the D.D.A. District, the Residential Equivalent Unit measurement method and how each property would be given their REU value. Property restoration timeline of project, cost estimates, as we know them at this time were among topics addressed.

Supervisor Walker declared the hearing adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted,

Shirley Ball, CMC

Charter Township of Filer Clerk