The September 16, 2013 Credit River Township Fern & Birch Public Hearing was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7PM by Chairman Brent Lawrence.

Members Present:
Chairman Brent Lawrence; Vice Chair Tom Kraft; Supervisor Chris Kostik; Supervisor Leroy Schommer

Members Absent: Supervisor Al Novak.

Others Present:
Township Clerk Lisa Quinn, Township Treasurer Sarah LeVoir, Township Engineer Shane Nelson, Township Attorney Bob Ruppe.

Chairman Brent Lawrence opened the meeting at 7PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Township Attorney Bob Ruppe explained the 429 process and that this was the first of two required public hearings on the project.

Township Engineer Shane Nelson gave a presentation regarding the plans and specifications for the Fern & Birch project.

Chairman Lawrence then invited the residents in attendance to ask questions or offer comments.

Resident Comments:

1) Resident Joe McGowen, via email to Chairman Brent Lawrence: Resident states that he and his wife are in favor of the project and feel that the pricing is fair.

2) Resident Beckendorf- Birch Lane. Resident inquires as to why Fern Drive & Birch Lane has not been sealcoated in all the time he has lived there. Supervisor Schommer said that when the Roads were evaluated in the mid 2000’s, by then Fern Drive & Birch Road were already beyond repair by sealcoating. Before that, Credit River Township did not have a good maintenance program. Vice Chair Kraft told resident that that was also why the Township has agreed to pay 40% in most reconstruct cases, to address the fact that perhaps the best preventative maintenance had not been done in the past. Resident asked for water control in the new road because water from the road runs through his yard. Engineer Nelson assured the resident that those issues will be looked at in the engineering phase of the new road.
3) Resident C. Helgeson, Birch Road. Resident Helgeson does not want her road to look like a “Target Parking Lot” as she described the Lynn & Monterey project. Supervisor Schommer assured her that Fern & Birch would not be ‘widened out’ as much as Lynn & Monterey, but there will be some clearing of the right of way that will take place. Resident also wants to know what the road access will be like after the project starts. Engineer Nelson answered that the contract with the Contractor will require that access must be maintained at all times, but it may not be great access. Resident wanted to know if a poor subgrade is found, would the costs to the residents be increased. Engineer Nelson answered that soil borings are done every 500 ft. or so, but if project costs increase due to poor conditions, those increases are not passed along to the affected residents, rather any increases of this nature are absorbed by the Township Road Fund. Resident wanted to know if the amount is paid in full by the certification deadline, would there be any discounts. Attorney Ruppe answered that the assessment amount is the amount due prior to any interest being added.

4) Resident C. Mikesell, Birch Lane. Resident states that the road is needed at this point. Resident wants to know when they will be notified if or when the road will be moved. Engineer Nelson says that he can be contacted during office hours once the plans & specs are constructed and he can answer any questions that the residents may have.

There being no further questions or comments from the residents in attendance, Chairman Lawrence asked for a motion to close the Fern & Birch Public Hearing #1.

**Vice Chair Kraft made a motion to close the public hearing for the Fern & Birch Reconstruction Project. Supervisor Kostik seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.**

The public hearing was closed at 7:50.

Resolution 2013-20, Resolution Ordering Improvement of Fern Drive and Birch Lane, was introduced.

**Vice Chair made a motion to accept Resolution 2013-20, Resolution Ordering Improvement of Fern Drive and Birch Lane. Supervisor Schommer seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.**
Resolution 2013-21, Resolution Ordering Preparations of Plans & Specs for the Fern Drive and Birch Lane Improvement Project, was introduced.

**Supervisor Kostik made a motion to accept Resolution 2013-21, Resolution Ordering Preparation of Plans and Specifications for the Fern & Birch Improvement Project. Supervisor Schommer seconded. Motion passed 4-0.**

Resolution 2013-22, Resolution Declaring the Official Intent of Credit River Township to Reimburse Certain Expenditures from the Proceeds of Improvement Bonds to be Issued by the Township, was introduced.

**Supervisor Schommer made a motion to accept Resolution 2013-22, Resolution Declaring the Official Intent of Credit River Township to Reimburse Certain Expenditures from the Proceeds of Improvement Bonds to be Issued by the Township. Seconded by Vice Chair Kraft. Motion passed 4-0.**

Engineer Nelson updated the Board that he would be contacting a couple geotechnical firms to conduct soil borings for the Fern & Birch project. Supervisor Schommer recommended that borings be done in obvious trouble spots. Vice Chair Kraft recommended that some work be done on Fern & Birch on patching to get it through the winter.

There being no other Fern & Birch business before the Board, a motion to adjourn was heard.

**Supervisor Kostik made a motion to adjourn the Fern & Birch Public Hearing. Supervisor Schommer seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.**

The Fern & Birch Public Hearing #1 was adjourned at 8:03.

Engineer Nelson offered a few quick updates on the Overlay project. He also reported that the pile of aggregate has been removed, and also that the Lynn & Monterey punchlist items are scheduled to be done this week.