

Rochester Hills Mayor  
Rochester Hills City Council  
Rochester Hills City Clerk  
Rochester Hills Engineering Department

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SEP 04 2015

Re: Petition to Pave Hickory Lawn (see attachment 1) & Opposition Petition to Pave Hickory Lawn (see attachment 2)

Good day,

We started to gather signatures for the "Opposition to Pave Hickory Lawn" Petition between Auburn & Wabash Roads and ran into a few issues that bring into question the legality of the original petition itself.

There are 3 pages to the Hickory Lawn portion of the original petition with a total of 20 signatures. 17 were needed to move forward with the project. City Clerk Ms. Tina Barton had informed me on 8/24/15 that, if there was a signature on the original petition and they signed the opposing petition that would negate the original signature. So that is where we started, and quickly found a few issues with the original petition.

- 1) The first house that my co-circulator went to, she discovered that the person did NOT sign the original petition. The signature on the original petition is not Jill England's signature. That is forgery, which is illegal in the United States. The forgery should make that page, if not the whole petition, invalid, as we cannot be certain if the other signatures are valid at this time (see item #2). Jill stated that it was not her husband's signature either; which also would have been illegal for a circulator to knowingly watch a person sign someone else's name. Ms. England then signed the "Opposition to Paving Hickory Lawn" Petition to show her actual signature is not even close to the forged signature on the original petition. (see attachment 3) She is extremely upset and intends to look into the matter as soon as possible. Ms. Barton had informed me at the last city council meeting that a circulator did not need to sign a petition if it was not on a ballot for a vote; maybe this would be a good time to revisit that direction.
- 2) When I called Ms. Barton to inform her of the forgery, she said that the city already knew. Ms. Barton then mentioned that some people's signatures are very different with each signing. She then said there was another signature, on that SAME page, that did not match the driver's license as well. At which time I informed her it was not the case in this situation, that this was an actual forgery. I cannot confirm, at this time, if the second instance is a forgery or not.
- 3) One of the signers no longer owns the house listed on the original petition, it was sold on July 14, 2015. I have attached a copy of the registered deed with the new owner listed. (see attachment 4)
- 4) One of the signatures is invalid. Ms. Barton told me a person's name has to be on the deed of the house to be valid. Holly Coulter signed the petition; her name is not on the deed. I have attached a copy of the registered deed for that one as well. (see attachment 5)
- 5) At this time, we also obtained one signature on the opposing petition that would negate the original signature. Scott Houser was one of the "couple calls" that Paul Davis received who had changed their minds.

With even one confirmed forgery, the original petition should be rendered invalid, illegal.

Also for the record, these issues would bring the number down to 15 signatures, which is not enough to pave our road.

Thank you so much and have a great day!



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