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June 7, 2024

To: City Commission of the City of Gladstone

From: John A. Lewandowski and Linda S. Lewandowski

Subject: Property Owners Protest of Special Assessment levy for purported police and fire protection costs and expenses in amount of \$564,232.00.

The above referenced property owners are protesting this levy for the following reasons:

- (1.) Funding for the purported additional expenses relating to fire and police protection should have been placed on the ballot for vote of the electorate;
- (2.) The public hearings have revealed that an overwhelming majority of the citizens affected by the City Commissions' Special Assessment Levy object to and disfavor this heavy-handed method of forcing taxpayers to enrich the City's general fund with no guaranty (mandate) that all or any portion of the revenue raised will be utilized for the stated purposes;
- (3.) The Special Assessment is excessive as pointed out by the concerned citizens during public comment at the hearing/public meeting held on May 28, 2024.
- (4.) The subject Special Assessment provides no direct benefit to the above-referenced property owners undeveloped vacant lots.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Lewandowski and Linda S. Lewandowski

62 and 68 Oak Drive

Gladstone, MI 49837