

LINCOLN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
SPECIAL NOON MEETING
April 13, 2010

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LINCOLN CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES WAS CALLED BY SUPERVISOR DICK STAUFFER FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING THE AGENDA OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2010.

Notice was posted April 5, 2010.

THE SPECIAL MEETING of the Lincoln Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Dick Stauffer on April 13, 2010 at 11:31 a.m. at the Municipal Building, 2055 W. John Beers Road, Stevensville.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Florian, Loar-Porter, Norbey, Smith, and Stauffer.
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Gillette, Peterson.

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Dienes and Engineer Austin.

Escrow account for Waverland Bed & Breakfast. Nancy Patterson requested that the Board review the recent invoice her company was sent for expenses associated with the special land use application she filed. She felt the expenses were too high and that the Township Attorney and Planner went above and beyond the requirements and that she should not be responsible for paying for those expenses. Discussion was held on the details of the invoices and services. Loar-Porter stated she felt it was the applicant's responsibility to pay the expenses that were incurred by the Township as a result of the application. All applicants pay an escrow and any additional fees that are incurred. Florian stated that he would like staff to review the invoices and escrow policy and make suggestions at the next board meeting. Dienes stated all expenses on his invoices directly related to the application.

Hollywood Drain. Stauffer reported that the Hollywood Drain assessments have been released and there were no appeals from Lincoln Charter Township residents.

Parker Drain. Stauffer reported this drain covers a large rural area, approximately 776 acres with an assessment district of 77 parcels. The drain begins north of Linco and empties into an open natural drain between Ace Hardware and Martins. The project is a large project and the board expressed concerns over the expense. Roger Zilke is still reviewing the project, no action was taken.

Road Millage. Stauffer presented material to the board requesting support for a possible request on the August ballot for a .25 millage for 5 years for road repairs, improvements and maintenance. A .25 millage would generate approximately \$154,000 per year in revenue. This amount would help cover the large increase in road maintenance that the township has seen. This year there was a 40% increase in slurry and cape seal expenses that were handed down from the Berrien County Road Commission. The Township has 50 miles of subdivision roads to maintain, the current program includes resealing 5-6 miles of these roads a year. This year due to reduced revenues and increased expenses the Township is only sealing 3.5 miles of roads. Norbey

reported that a majority of townships and cities have a road millage with the lowest millage being approximately 2 mills and the highest being 3.5 mills. Engineer Dave Austin stated it is a very good plan to cape seal the roads in the manner that the Township does, it gives the roads longevity and aids in reducing the need for large repairs. Florian questioned if there is anything the Township can do to control costs from Berrien County. He also questioned if the funding that the Township currently receives from the commission would be reduced as a result of a millage. Norbey stated that he spoke to the BCRC and Van Buren Road Commission and neither reduces funding to municipalities that have a millage to support roads.

Discussion was held on increasing the millage request to .5 mills. Smith stated she was concerned that .5 would be too much; the Township may need .25 mills somewhere else in the future. Loar-Porter agreed .25 was all we need, that is was not necessary to ask for more than the Township needs.

Meijer. Austin reported the clean-up work is completed. A local contractor has begun the demolition. The permit has been acquired from the DEQ for sewer. The Township is waiting on 2 easements and the maintenance agreements and amenities on site.

Revolving Brownfield Loan. Austin reported all work ended in March, Meijer has sent in their final payment request. Due to how recent the request was received the review has not been completed. The board will have to hold a special meeting to approve the payment. The quarterly report is due by 4/30/10.

Stauffer reported a resident contacted him about creating a township beautification committee. The committee would like to pick up trash, paint hydrants, etc. After some discussion it was suggested that the group contact Berrien County because the County already has a program of this nature.

Appointment/Reappointments.

Fister to Fire Board. Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Florian to reappoint Pete Fister to the Fire Board, term to expire 6/30/16. Ayes: Florian, Loar-Porter, Norbey and Stauffer. Nays: Smith.

Kozminski to Fire Board. Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Norbey, to reappoint Dayna Kozminski to the Fire Board, term to expire 6/30/16.

Mak to Water Services Joint Operating Board. Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Smith, to reappointment Raymond Mak to the Water Services Joint Operating Board, term to expire 6/30/13.

Dave Boelcke to Water Services Joint Operating Board. Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Norbey, to reappointment Dave Boelcke as an alternate to the Water Services Joint Operating Board, term to expire 6/30/13.

Mak to Southwest Michigan Regional Sanitary Sewer and Water Authority. Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Smith, to reappoint Raymond Mak to the SWMRSS&WA, term to expire 6/30/14.

Planning Commission. Florian report legal counsel is working to complete the licensing ordinance. After completion the ordinance will return to the Planning Commission for consensus before presenting it to the Board of Trustees for approval. Planning Commission is also working on changes to the sign ordinance.

Planning Commission set a Public Hearing for May 10, 2010 at 7:05 p.m. for a special use permit amendment change. The change refers to the replacement of the red lights on a tower. Flashing strobe lights were placed on the tower without an amendment, discussion was held on violations of this action without a permit being pulled.

Parks. Austin reported bids for the water/sewer utilities and restroom/concession stand will be opened April 29th; restroom at 3:00 p.m. and water/sewer at 3:30 p.m. The plans for the bids will be at the Township Hall for distribution. An ad will run in the Herald Palladium announcing the project is ready to bid out. He is hopeful that the work will begin 3 weeks after a bid is accepted.

5 year Recreation Plan. The plan has been reviewed by the Parks Committee and they are waiting on final input from the sport organizations.

Smith reported that TruGreen will be applying four applications to the baseball/softball fields and soccer fields to assist in having the fields in top condition.


Tool & Die Recovery. Smith reported that she has concerns over the process for handling a company who has the recovery tax credit and goes out of business. If the recovery zone agreement states that the company has to stay in business to receive the recovery zone credit, does the Board want the company to be responsible to repay the back taxes due to the tax abatement.

The board consensus was to allow the Treasurer to enforce the terms of the recovery zone credit agreement.

Water Authority. The interceptor project is moving forward. Al Pscholka is resigning from both water and sewer authorities as of 6/30/10. The Township Board will be appointing someone from the Village of Stevensville.

There being no further business, the Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 1:12 p.m.


Stacy Loar-Porter


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