

LINCOLN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
BUDGET WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 26, 2009

THE LINCOLN CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES SET A BUDGET WORKSHOP FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2009.

THE BUDGET WORKSHOP of the Lincoln Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:35 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2055 W. John Beers Road, Stevensville.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Florian, Peterson, Smith, Stauffer, Loar-Porter, Norby, and Gillette arrived at 6:50 pm.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Cornerstone Presentation. Wendy Dant-Chessor and Ken Kozminski presented the board with the benefits of Cornerstone Alliance.

General Fund Budget Review. Loar-Porter presented the proposed revenues, departmental budgets, and transfers. Loar-Porter presented a new insurance plan that could possibly save the Township \$18,000 per year. The plan was presented to the employees and they all were in favor of the new plan.

Compensation. The budget was prepared with 2½ % increases. The Compensation Committee consisting of the Trustees approved 4% increase for the treasurer, with an allocation to the parks fund; 2% increase for the supervisor and no increase for the clerk; and no increase for the trustees. Stauffer stated he appreciated the increase but chose to remain at the same salary base for this year.

Fire Department Budget was discussed. The full-time fire chief was removed from the budget. Discussed the need for a new truck in the next 2 years. It will be unfeasible to save enough money to purchase the truck without a loan; the board will save money to pay for new equipment that may be needed if a truck is purchased. The funds will be saved in Township Improvement.

Township Improvement was discussed and the transfer from General will be less this year due to the number of budgeted projects not being completed in the 2008/09 budget year. Discussed the Maintenance department need for another truck. All but one truck is over 10 years old. The Board stated now is the time to buy a vehicle. The Board instructed Loar-Porter to go out for sealed bids.

Parks Capital Improvement was discussed and the transfer from General will be less this year. In 2008/09 there were several projects that had the possibility of being funded by a grant so the projects were put on hold. Recently the Board was informed that the Township did not receive the grants. The funds were already transferred to Parks Capital and will be available through the Fund Balance. The projects are scheduled to be completed in 2009/10.

Cemetery was discussed. The Board will review increasing the lot purchase prices and opening and closing fees at the March 10, 2009 meeting. Lots in section I at Hickory Bluff Cemetery will be available for purchase beginning June 1, 2009. This should bring in additional revenues in 2009/10. It was decided that no funds would be transferred from General in 2009/10 to the Cemetery. Also requested were funds for a cemetery program that would better track and record cemetery activity for a cost of \$ 4995.

Building was discussed. Revenues are down and the board suggested that hours of the employees needed to be reduced to help reduce the budget. The executive committee will meet with Jim Pheifer in the next week.

The above changes were the only items to be adjusted for the draft budget proposal for the budget public

hearing to be held at 7:05 p.m. on March 10, 2009. Loar-Porter reviewed water and sewer funds.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Stacy Loar-Porter

Certified Copy