

LINCOLN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
REGULAR MEETING
January 12, 2010

THE REGULAR MEETING of the Lincoln Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order on January 12, at 7:01 p.m. by Dick Stauffer, Supervisor, in the Municipal Building, 2055 W. John Beers Road, Stevensville.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Gillette, Marc Florian, Stacy Loar-Porter, Tom Norbey, Deb Peterson, Terrie Smith and Dick Stauffer.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was given.

CHANGES TO AGENDA. None.

PRESENTATIONS. None

CORRESPONDENCE. Letter from Comcast announcing new service tiers for several channels. Letter from Comcast announcing new features on standard/expanded basic channels.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED. Stauffer moved, seconded by Gillette, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

1. Minutes of the 12/8/09, special noon, regular meeting
2. Minutes of the 12/4/09, special meeting.
3. Approve the 1/13/10 and 12/30/09 bills from the following funds.

General Fund	\$ 125,342.53
Parks Fund	5,985.20
Parks Capital Improvement	-0-
Cemetery Fund	1,239.75
Building Fund	13,157.81
Township Improvement Fund	-0-
Police Fund	116,456.84
Police Drug	-0-
Police Capital Improvement	-0-
Sewer Enterprise	
Sewer Operating	56,928.45
Sewer Improvement	-0-
Water Enterprise	
Water Operating	5,152.74
Water Improvement	-0-
TOTAL	324,263.32

4. Reappointments for expiring terms on boards and offices. **Attachment A.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS. None

NEW BUSINESS. None.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT.

Drain Commission. Chapter 20 Drains. Stauffer reported he submitted a letter opposing the change to Chapter 20 drains to the Berrien County Commissioners. County Commissioner Deb Panozzo was present in the audience. She stated the issue was discussed, has been placed in committee and has not gained any momentum. Stauffer requested if the issue of changing to Chapter 20 drains is proposed again that the Township be informed.

Meijer Report. Contractors are on schedule to complete clean-up by the end of March with site construction to begin in April.

CLERK'S REPORT.

Book Balances at 12/30/09 are as follows: \$780,854.44 in the general fund; \$414,673.84 in police; \$831.83 in parks; \$69,971.77 in cemetery; \$39,716.34 in building; \$144,460.92 in township improvement; \$8,022.03 in police capital; \$33,993.18 in parks capital; \$2,122,302.68 in sewer operating; \$1,995,234.51 in sewer replacement; \$276,002.81 in sewer improvement; \$2,264,259.34 in water operating; \$719,111.75 in water replacement; \$4,675,423.98 in water improvement; \$100,246.35 in trust & agency; \$206.00 in Glenlord sidewalk special assessment; \$263.77 in DeFay Rd. special assessment; and \$119,473.27 in street lighting. We also have funds in T & A delinquent taxes \$3,325.54; tax account \$2,065,573.84; fire station debt \$72,112.73; library bond \$133,921.55; flex spending \$4,928.79.

2010/11 Budget Workshops. Workshop for Police, Parks and Fire Department budgets are set for Wednesday, February 17th at 6:00 pm. General and remaining funds budgets, Tuesday, February 23rd at 6:00 pm.

Summer Tax Collection. Motion Carried. Loar-Porter moved, seconded by Gillette, to approve the resolution to collect summer tax for Lakeshore, St. Joseph and Bridgman Public Schools, Lake Michigan College, and Berrien RESA. *Resolution 10-01. Attachment B.* Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Florian, Gillette, Loar-Porter, Norbey, Peterson, Smith and Stauffer. Nays: None.

RFP for Auditing Services. Loar-Porter reported she sent out Request for Proposal requests for auditing services as requested by the Board in December 2008. The request was sent to 5 firms. The requests must be submitted by January 29th at 4:00 pm.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Smith reported earnings of \$117,534.80 in interest YTD. Summer tax collection is at 94% and winter tax collection is at 35%.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT. Florian reported Planning Commission held discussion regarding the Bed & Breakfast application for Waverland Path, majority of the commission is in support of the special use, they are reviewing the possibility of creating a Bed & Breakfast license. A property owner in opposition to the special use was concerned about the site plan being waived. Building Inspector Jim Pheifer will provide an analysis to the commission for the reason the site plan was waived.

Two text amendments are in review and expect to be presented to the board next month.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS REPORT. Met to approve the previous month minutes.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT. Distributed to board. The report included the Berrien County Equalization assessed value ratios. Agricultural Class increased 6.11%, Commercial Class increased .45%, Industrial

Class decreased 2.95% and Residential Class decreased 5%.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT. No single family residential permits were issued in December. There were a total of 9 permits issued for single family dwellings in 2009, average estimated value of \$241,801. Total construction for 2009 permits for Commercial, Agricultural, and Resident districts estimated \$4,609,850. This is down \$ 4,955,944 from 2008.

AIRPORT AUTHORITY REPORT. Distributed to board.

FIRE BOARD. Minutes were distributed. Peterson reported that the fire board is still reviewing the cost recovery ordinance. Wendy Dant Chessor has moved out of the township therefore the fire board is looking for a new member. Any interested party should send a letter of interest and resume to Dick Stauffer, he will forward all interests to Chairperson Pete Fister.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT. Distributed to the board by e-mail. Police Chief Dan Sullivan stated that the State Police cutbacks have caused our department to be short handed at times because our officers now have to respond to highway calls more frequently.

LIBRARY REPORT. None.

PARKS REPORT. Smith reported she and Norbey will be meeting with South Shore Racquet Club in the next few weeks to finalize the summer tennis program. The restroom building for the soccer complex is in the final stages and should be sent out for bids shortly.

WATER/SEWER.

Sewer Interceptor Project. The project is being sent out for rebid. It was determined by the authority that the originally accepted bid had an honest error. Therefore the authority chose to rebid the project to have accurate cost amounts.

Public Comment. None.

ADJOURN. There being no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Stacy Loar-Porter, Clerk

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