

LINCOLN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
SPECIAL NOON MEETING
October 13, 2009

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 OCTOBER 13, 2009.

Notice was posted October 8, 2009.

THE SPECIAL MEETING of the Lincoln Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Dick Stauffer on October 13, 2009 at 11:36 a.m. at the Municipal Building, 2055 W. John Beers Road, Stevensville.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Engineer Austin, Attorney Dienes.

Appointments/Reappointments. Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Florian to appoint Al Todd as the Township representative to the Southwest Michigan Airport Authority, term to expire 12/31/12.

Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Norbey, to appoint Stacy Loar-Porter as the Township representative alternate to the Southwest Michigan Airport Authority, term to expire 12/31/12.

2009 Street Light Special Assessments. Motion Carried. Loar-Porter moved, seconded by Peterson to approve the 2009 Street Light District Special Assessments. **Attachment A.** Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Florian, Loar-Porter, Norbey, Peterson, Smith, and Stauffer. Nays: None.

Authorize the Publication of a Notice of Intent to enter into a contract with Southwest Michigan Regional Sanitary Sewer and Water Authority. Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Peterson, to approve the resolution to authorize the publication of a notice of intent to enter into a contract with the SWMRSS & WA in connection with the issuance of bonds by the authority for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the Hickory Creek Sanitary Sewer Interceptor and expressing the intent of the Township to reimburse itself its share of certain costs related to such improvements to the authority sanitary sewer system from the proceeds of such bonds. *Resolution # 09-19.* **Attachment B.** Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Florian, Loar-Porter, Norbey, Peterson, Smith, and Stauffer. Nays: None.

Lake Michigan Shoreline Water and Sewage Treatment Authority Budget.

Smith presented the request by the authority to approve the budget and for the Township to waive any time deadline for the submission of the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 budget. The funds that are remaining in the Authority will be applied to the cost of the interceptor project thereby lowering the amount that will be bonded by the townships.

LMSW&STA 2009-2010 Budget. Motion Carried. Smith moved, seconded by Peterson, to approve the waiving of the deadline for the Lake Michigan Shoreline Water and Sewer Treatment Authority 2009-2010 budget. *Resolution # 09-20. Attachment C.* Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Florian, Loar-Porter, Norbey, Peterson, Smith, and Stauffer. Nays: None.

Sewer Rate Study. Mark Beauchamp of Utility Financial Solutions, LLC, presented a Long-Term Financial Projection for the Wastewater Department. Purpose of the study was to assist the Township in determining the best possible way to fund the Hickory Creek Interceptor project bonds. Key notes of the projection included:

- Suggest changing the flat rate of the first 9 units and lower the number of units allowed in the flat rate. This should be reviewed each year, his suggestion was:

<u>Current Year</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
37.91	36.10	34.00
9 Units	6 Units	4 Units

Continuing this process until the flat rate no longer exists.

- Suggest changing the metered rates to be based on the water meter size, which creates fairness among customers by having those that place more demand on the system with larger meters billed accordingly.
- Suggest only an average 9% increase; the average customer will see an increase of \$5.13 per quarter.
- Township has healthy cash reserves, though not excessive because the reserves have to incorporate the cost of the replacement of lines. Your reserves should be able to fund that replacement cost. You want to avoid having people fund the usage and damage being done to lines now verses have people pay in the future for past customer usage.
- Projection strongly recommends against using current reserves to pay down debt, because other townships are growing at a more rapid rate and our township would be giving subsidy to other townships if we paid debt up front.

Austin and Beauchamp both advised that a 5-year Capital Improvement plan is critical and should be addressed.

Stevensville DDA. Dienes stated that the Village of Stevensville DDA is going to send a letter stating that the DDA will abide by the DDA guidelines and the confines of the plan. When this letter is received Dienes recommends that the Township release the DDA funds that have been collected.

Release of DDA Funds. Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Florian, to release the DDA funds contingent on receiving in a form acceptable to the township attorney stating funds will be used in the confines of the DDA plan.

Dog policy at Township Parks. The focus is on banning dogs at the sporting facilities. Current ordinance states that dogs are allowed, but must be leashed. Norbey and Dienes will work on updating the ordinance to ban dogs from certain parks.

Smith reported vandalism at the Community Center. On 9/30/09 at about 12:45 am 2 persons gained access to the Community Center and did extensive damage to the toilets causing flooding, dumped all of Rocket Football's food inventory in the water, then stuffed paper towels and charcoal into the stove and turned on all burners and oven, there was extensive smoke damage.

The persons also tried to steal several ice chests filled with beverages that belonged to Rocket Football. The estimated cost to repair the damage is \$7,800.

There being no further business, the Clerk adjourned the meeting at 1:27 p.m.

Stacy Loar-Porter

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