

LINCOLN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
SPECIAL NOON MEETING
September 8, 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 SEPTEMBER 8, 2009.

Notice was posted September 1, 2009.

THE SPECIAL MEETING of the Lincoln Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Dick Stauffer on September 8, 2009 at 11:43 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 and Peterson.

ALSO PRESENT: Engineer Austin, Attorney Dienes.

2008-2009 Audit Report. Auditor Jim Scarpone reported that the Township's financials are in good order and the staff was cooperative and helpful during the audit process. Some recommendations on additional internal control procedures were given, staff will report next board meeting on the controls set in place. Scarpone was happy with the Township for keeping within their means; equity is about the same as previous year. Township should take pride that the water and sewer funds continue to operate in the positive even with increased expenses.

MABAS/ MEMAC Agreements. Fire Chief Ron Burkett presented the Michigan Mutual Aid Box System (MABAS) Agreement; documents were emailed to all trustees in August. He explained that the agreement allows the department to develop box cards for certain situations, specific to the area and situation which will allow for other municipalities or the county to utilize each others resources in an organized way.

Burkett presented the Michigan Emergency Management Assistance Compact (MEMAC); documents were emailed to all trustees in August. This agreement allows state leverage for our resources.

Approval of MABAS and MEMAC Agreements. Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Norbey to adopt the use of the MABAS and MEMAC. Ayes: 3 Nays 2. **Attachment A and Attachment B.**

Florian would have preferred to wait and read the MEMAC agreement in full and feels there is not a time manner involved.

Lights and Sirens for Fire Department Officer Vehicles. Burkett presented opinions on benefits of the officers having lights and sirens on their vehicles, including; arriving at a scene more efficiently and routing of proper equipment to a scene. He feels the benefits outweigh the liability. Discussion was held on developing guidelines for use such as; semi-annual/annual vehicle inspections, insurance coverage limits and requirements, regulated uniformity of the lights and sirens.

Attorney Scott Dienes suggested that the guidelines should dictate the type of insurance the officers have and that the coverage should be verified and reviewed on an annual basis.

Kevin Gillette presented concerns of insurance coverage and policies via email.

Loar-Porter requested that if approved that the regulations contain clear language to address any misuse.

Discussion was held on the request in the future for all firefighters to have lights and sirens. Burkett stated that response times should dictate whether or not everyone should have lights and sirens, for now response times are good and do not require the need for everyone to have lights and sirens.

Florian stated he would be more inclined to allow lights and sirens pending approval of Standard Operating Guides, policies and uniform requirements being developed.

Dienes stated he could assist the Fire Board in the development of the Standard Operating Guides and policies.

Appointments/Reappointments. Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Norbey, to reappoint Barbara Cheek to the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for one year, term to expire 10/1/2010.

Florian requested that the board review expanding the authority to a 7 person board and review the persons appointed.

Cleveland Ave. 2010 Road Improvements. Stauffer presented the plan for the widening of Cleveland Ave from 22' to 36' and the enclosure of the drains 1825 ft north of Rockey Weed Rd to ½ mile south of Rockey Weed Rd. The project will be funded with Safety and Surface Transportation Funds acquired through the Berrien County Road Commission. The project is not scheduled to begin until after July 5, 2010.

Safe Routes to School. Engineer Dave Austin gave an update on the project. Stated the project is behind schedule and he has had discussion with the contractor concerning the poor restoration work. There is still a significant amount of clean-up work to be completed.

Dienes gave an update on the Meijer project, the project is moving forward in a positive direction. Work continues on the Brownfield Redevelopment.

There being no further business, the Clerk adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Stacy Loar-Porter

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