

LINCOLN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
January 9, 2024

THE REGULAR MEETING of the Lincoln Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order on January 9, at 7:00 p.m. by Dick Stauffer, Supervisor at the Municipal Building, 2055 W. John Beers Rd, Stevensville, MI 49127.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Marc Florian, Kevin Gillette, Stacy Loar-Porter, Deborah Peterson, Terrie Smith, Richard Stauffer, and Rick Stone.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Brandon Mieras, Township Engineer.

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was given.

PRESENTATIONS. None

CORRESPONDENCE. None.

PUBLIC HEARING.

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

1. Approval of minutes for the December 13, 2022.
2. Approval of reappointments. **Attachment A.**
3. Approve the 1/10/24 and 12/27/23 bills from the following funds.

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| General Fund | \$ 129,541.06 |
| Fire Fund | 9,208.87 |
| Parks Fund | 37,742.80 |
| Parks Capital Improvement | 4,955.46 |
| Cemetery Fund | 13,540.69 |
| Building Fund | 15,906.85 |
| Township Improvement Fund | 0.00 |
| Police Fund | 39,281.57 |
| Police Drug | 0.00 |
| Police Capital Improvement | 0.00 |
| Sewer Operating | 50,199.52 |
| Water Operating | 32,672.19 |
| Road Fund | 0.00 |
| Fire Capital Improvement | 28,216.95 |
| Brownfield Fund | 611.00 |
| ARPA Fund | 0.00 |
| TOTAL | \$361,876.96 |

LIBRARY REPORT. Joelle Wake, Library Director, presented the library report and upcoming events. She stated the library was working on their 2024-25 budget. Check outs for Lincoln for the month of December was 7,621.

NEW BUSINESS. None.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT.

Other Items.

John Beers Pathway Project to Village.

Stauffer reported the Township received a Legislative Earmark Grant sponsored by Joey Andrew's State House Office for \$400,000. An additional \$400,000 was also awarded through a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality grant, along with \$ 104,100 from a Carbon Reduction Project. Total grant funding of \$904,100 towards the project estimated cost of \$927,300, leaves the Township with a local match of \$23,200. The construction on this project is scheduled to begin in 2025.

Approval of Local Match. Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Gillette, to approve and commit an expenditure of \$23,200 for the John Beers Path Project JN215348. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Florian, Gillette, Loar-Porter, Peterson, Smith, Stauffer and Stone. Nays: None.

2023 Graham Woodhouse Intergovernmental Effort Award. Stauffer announced the Township was awarded the 2023 Graham Woodhouse Intergovernmental Effort Award for its funding for the Berrien County Trails Master Plan.

CLERK'S REPORT.

December Balances.

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| General | \$3,570,211.13 | Road | \$2,099.21 |
| Fire | \$241,576.98 | Police | \$419,053.84 |
| Parks | \$25,744.17 | Cemetery | \$113,567.36 |
| Street Lighting | \$35,623.48 | Building | \$652,339.27 |
| Police Drug Fund | \$8,723.37 | Brownfield | \$376,895.91 |
| Township Improvement | \$319,317.77 | Fire Improvement | \$186,114.78 |
| Police Improvement | \$21,921.04 | Park Improvement | \$114,526.17 |
| Sewer Operating | \$5,663,023.49 | Water Operating | \$7,533,245.21 |
| Trust & Agency | \$22,754.61 | T&A Delinquent Tax | \$4,434.42 |
| Tax Fund | \$4,798,334.39 | Police Bond T & A | \$523.80 |
| Flex Spending | \$6,656.64 | ARAP | \$670,426.13 |

Summer Tax Collection. Motion Carried. Loar-Porter moved, seconded by Peterson, to approve the resolution to collect summer tax for Lakeshore, St. Joseph and Bridgman Public Schools, Lake Michigan College, and Berrien RESA. *Resolution 24-1. Attachment B.* Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Florian, Gillette, Loar-Porter, Peterson, Smith, Stauffer and Stone. Nays: None.

Website Launch. The new website software launches 1/11/24. People will be able to be sign up for notifications through Notify Me as soon as site is live.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Smith reported year to date interest earned is \$393,787.05. Reported 98% of the summer taxes have been collected, 56% of the winter taxes have been collected.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT.

Florian reported that the Commission will be submitting an opinion on the subject of chickens, which will be emailed to the board for review at the next meeting.

The Commission set a public hearing to review the Drive and Shine site plans.

Florian requested Supervisor Stauffer speak with MDOT, to confirm a sidewalk connection going west on the north side of Red Arrow Hwy from under the bridge to the proposed location of the Drive and Shine, as the owner will be required to install a sidewalk in front of his property.

Master Plan review is proceeding as scheduled, plan to utilize the new website notification system for sending surveys to our residents for the Master Plan.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS REPORT. No Meeting.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT. Distributed to board.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT. Two single-family residential permits were issued in December. There have been 10 single family residential permits issued year-to-date.

AIRPORT AUTHORITY REPORT. Distributed to board.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT. Distributed to the board by e-mail.

FIRE REPORT. Distributed to board.

MEDIC 1 REPORT. Distributed to the board.

PARKS.

Community Center Improvements. Township Engineer reported the plans for the Community Center improvements are being reviewed for scale back options, plan is to rebid within the next two weeks, with a bid opening in mid-February, awarding of bid at the March meeting.

Lincoln Beach Improvements. Florian and Township Engineer continue to work with EGLE on their comments concerning the proposed parking area at the beach.

WATER/SEWER. Meeting is Thursday.

Lift Station #14. Improvement is out to bid, bid opening will be 2/6/24.

Public Comments for items not on agenda.

A resident from N. Teakwood expressed concern for recent unlawful activities at a home on the street. Board will share concerns with the Police Chief and Ordinance Enforcement. Board recommended the neighbors call the non-emergency number when activity is happening so the Police are able to address the situation as it is taking place.

Board Member Comments. None.

ADJOURN. There being no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 7:39 pm.

Stacy Loar-Porter, Clerk

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