

LINCOLN CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
September 10, 2019

THE REGULAR MEETING of the Lincoln Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order on September 10, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. by Dick Stauffer, Supervisor, in the Municipal Building, 2055 W. John Beers Road, and Stevensville.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Marc Florian, Stacy Loar-Porter, Tom Norbey, Deb Peterson, Terrie Smith, Richard Stauffer, and Rick Stone.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Township Engineer Dave Austin.

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was given.

**PRESENTATIONS.**

**Wastewater rate increase presentation.** Dawn Lund from Utility Financial Services, gave a presentation to the board on the financial state of the Sewer Enterprise funds. The funds are healthy now, but the Township has had large expenses with the replacement of Defay lift station, and the portion of the Authority Forced Main project that the Township will be responsible for, as well as the suggested improvements that were identified in the complete SAW grant. Lund showed the township what is suggested for a minimum of cash reserves and how those reserves look with the anticipated expenses. Lund made a suggestion of a minimum 7.9% increase in rates, even with this minimum increase there is a chance that the Township would need to bond at some point to complete all the suggested SAW Grant improvements. There was discussion on having a higher rate and increasing the cash reserve ahead of the anticipated improvements. The board requested Lund send data scenerios for different levels of rate increases. The board will reevaluate the data at the October meeting. **Attachment A.**

**Pickleball Request.** Lois Mahaffey and a group of residents that play pickleball made a request to have pickleball lines added to the tennis court area. They stated that the current two pickeball courts are continuously being used and there are usually people waiting to play, while the tennis courts generally are not used as much. Other places have done this so that the tennis courts can be used for both tennis and pickleball. The consensus of the board was to get information on the cost to add the lines for consideration. Austin will gather the information and report to Smith.

**North Lake Park Landscape Design.** Lori Bolt of Artemis Garden Design presented a draft of a suggested landscaping design for North Lake Park. The design was developed by Lori with a group of Grand Mere residents and Rotary. The design includes; walkway access to connect parking area to the pavillon, as well as walkways throughout the park. They would also like to see the shoreline cleared of the lily pads and cattails so the shoreline is more accessible.

There was much discussion among the board. There are concerns that the walkways will take away from the 'rustic' component of the park. There may be different material besides concrete that is ADA acceptable for walkways, that would serve the same purpose that may be more suitable.

The clearing of the shoreline would be an annual maintenance issue, there would be costs involved.

The board asked for more cost information. Lori will email the design to Loar-Porter, who will send the

design to the board for them to make comments and return it to Lori to begin answering and gathering information, to present at the next meeting.

**ADJUST AGENDA.** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS.** None.

**CORRESPONDENCE.** None.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED.** Stauffer moved, seconded by Stone to approve the consent agenda.

1. Regular Minutes of the August 13, 2019 meeting
2. Approve the 9/11/19 and 8/27/19 bills from the following funds.
 

General Fund	\$ 51,142.73
Parks Fund	15,427.69
Parks Capital Improvement	27,536.97
Cemetery Fund	2,110.81
Building Fund	16,762.17
Township Improvement Fund	0.00
Police Fund	30,681.36
Police Drug	0.00
Police Capital Improvement	0.00
Sewer Enterprise	
Sewer Operating	7,117.75
Sewer Replacement	0.00
Sewer Improvement	0.00
Water Enterprise	
Water Operating	90,447.24
Water Improvement	0.00
Road Fund	100.00
Fire Capital Improvement	15,000.00
TOTAL	256,326.72

**LIBRARY REPORT.** Library Director Jessica Enget gave an update on upcoming events. The teen group is completing a community project, they will be making hats for newborns to send to the hospital. Circulation for August was 17,942 total.

**NEW BUSINESS.** None.

### **SUPERVISOR'S REPORT.**

#### **Appointments/Reappointment.**

**Medic 1 Reappointments. Motion Carried.** Peterson moved, seconded by Norbey to approve;

- A. Dick Stauffer to the Medic 1 Board for one year, term to expire 11/20/20.
- B. Brandon Chiarello as an alternate to the Medic 1 Board for one year, term to expire 11/20/20.

#### **Litigation Update.**

1473 Glenwood- Progress on the home is being made on the property inside and out.

1900 W. Marquette Woods Rd.- there has been multiple complaints on the property conditions. The ordinance enforcement officers have been out, the owner was issued a final notice. It has been reported

by the building department that the owner is actively working on the roof and getting the grass mowed.

**Other Items.**

**Exit 23 Clean up.** There is a cleanup day scheduled for 9/21. The group meets at the Township Hall at 8:00 am.

**Community Fun Day.** The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Fun Day will be held September 14<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm at the Lincoln Township Community Center.

**CLERK'S REPORT.**

**August balances.**

General	\$1,117,072.07	Road	\$252,631.36
Police	\$638,071.13	Parks	\$105,189.99
Cemetery	\$27,955.59	Street Lighting	\$41,895.01
Building	\$431,063.12	Police Drug	\$888.03
Township Improvement	\$68,387.12	Fire Dept. Improvement	\$331,882.49
Police Improvement	\$674.50	Park Improvement	\$239,535.22
Sewer Operating	\$978,836.06	Sewer Replacement	\$2,049,449.77
Sewer Improvement	\$550,244.08	Water Operating	\$7,189.37
Water Replacement	\$1,720,830.44	Water Improvement	\$5,951,164.14
Trust & Agency	\$23,611.78	Tax Collection	\$3,011,170.53
T&A Delinquent Tax	\$1,731.90	Flex Spending	\$2,581.68
Police Bond T & A	\$508.86		

**TREASURERS REPORT.** Smith reported interest collected YTD is \$121,222.21

**PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT.** Florian reported the commission had two matters of business.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading to approve Amend the Articles 2 and 8 of the Zoning Ordinance Motion Carried.**

Florian moved, seconded by Norbey, to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of an ordinance to amend the compilation of ordinances of the Township to amend articles 2 and 8 (the sign ordinance). *Ordinance # z19-01.*

**Attachment A.** Roll call vote: Ayes: Florian, Loar-Porter, Norbey, Peterson, Smith, Stauffer and Stone.  
Nays: None.

The commission created a subcommittee to work on looking into an ordinance regarding eco-friendly homes.

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS REPORT.** No meeting.

**ASSESSOR'S REPORT.** Distributed to board.

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT.** One single-family residential permit was issued in August. There have been 13 single family residential permits issued year-to-date.

**AIRPORT AUTHORITY REPORT.** Distributed to board.

**FIRE REPORT.** Chief Chiarello provided the board with a report on fire calls and activity by the department for the month.

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

**PARKS REPORT.**

**Glenlord Beach project.** Is completed, with the exception of the planting of some grasses.

**North Lake Park.** The project is close to being completed.

**Water/Sewer Authority.** No report.

**Public Comments for items not on agenda.** A resident asked questions concerning the donations made for North Lake. Smith said there was \$24,533 collected in donations and the amount has been communicated with Ms. Kamp. Some of the donations stated specific items they would like their donation used for, if there was not a specific item the funds will be used for improvements to North Lake Park.

**Board Member Comments.** None.

ADJOURN. There being no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.

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Stacy Loar-Porter, Clerk

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