

LINCOLN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
June 9, 2021

THE REGULAR MEETING of the Lincoln Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order on June 9, 2021, 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, Deb Peterson (7:05), Terrie Smith, Richard Stauffer, and Rick Stone.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

ALSO, PRESENT: None.

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was given.

PRESENTATIONS.

Assistant Fire Chief Scott Wiederwax presented firefighter Chris Malich with a plaque of appreciation of service and retirement. Malich provided 18 years of service to the Lincoln Charter Township Fire Department.

ADJUST AGENDA.

CORRESPONDENCE. None.

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

1. Approval of minutes for the Regular Meeting of May 11, 2021.
2. Approve the 6/9/2021 and 5/26/2021 bills from the following funds.

General Fund	\$ 103,391.17
Fire Fund	23,132.00
Parks Fund	15,285.32
Parks Capital Improvement	2,755.78
Cemetery Fund	4,455.62
Building Fund	61,175.59
Township Improvement Fund	0.00
Police Fund	72,275.28
Police Drug	0.00
Police Capital Improvement	1,693.00
Sewer Enterprise	
Sewer Operating	57,381.02
Sewer Replacement	0.00
Sewer Improvement	0.00
Water Enterprise	
Water Operating	60,129.27
Water Improvement	0.00

Road Fund	0.00
Fire Capital Improvement	0.00
Brownfield Fund	1,891.50
TOTAL	\$403,565.55

LIBRARY REPORT. The Library Director gave update on recent events at the library. The Teddy Bear Picnic will be held June 11th. They are preparing for their annual Summer Reading program. Mary Ann Ware has been promoted to Head of Youth Services. Circulation counts for May; 7,056. Digital circulation; 20,573.

NEW BUSINESS. None.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT.

Berrien County Road Department

Ultra-seal projects for this year have begun.

Other Items

North Lake Scout Project.

Boy Scout Nathan Malich presented his idea for a project at North Lake Park. Nathan just acquired his Tenderfoot badge and he is working towards his Second Class badge. His project had to relate to an environmental issue and what he would do to help solve that issue. Nathan has three fishing line and tackle disposal tubes to place down at North Lake Park. This will allow fishermen to dispose of the broken lines and hooks safely to prevent wildlife from getting hooked or snared and humans from getting punctured from hooks. The board consented on the completion of the project and thanked Nathan for choosing North Lake Park for being part of his scout journey.

Berrien County Bike, Hike Paddle Trail Master Plan.

Marcy Hamilton made a presentation to the board on behalf of the Friends of Berrien County Trails. The group is engaging with the entire County, local governments, community groups and citizens in developing a trail master plan that will connect cities, townships and parks throughout the county. The group is looking for financial support to create a master plan to inventory existing trails and to plan for future trails. The total estimated cost of the project is \$45,000. They have commitments of financial support from Whirlpool, Lakeland and other local municipalities.

Approval of Master Plan Services. Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Gillette, to approve an expense of \$2,000 for the Berrien County Bike, Hike, and Paddle Trail Master Plan.

Short Term Rental Bills SB 446 and HB 4722.

Stauffer presented copies of the two bills; The issue in both bills that directly affects us is provision (b) where the legislation states that a short-term rental is not subject to a procedure different from those required of other dwellings in the same zone. The bills would take away our ability to utilize our Rental Ordinance. Our rental ordinance is a valuable tool that helps maintain the quality and safety of our residential rental stock and protects both renters and landlords. This provision is a step back for our township.

Resolution of Opposing Short Term Rental Bills. Motion Approved. Stauffer moved, seconded by Gillette, to approve a resolution opposing Senate Bill 446 and House Bill 4722 regarding short-term rentals. *Resolution # 21-2. Attachment A.* Roll Call vote: Ayes: Florian, Loar-Porter, Peterson, Smith, Stauffer and Stone. Nays: None.

Strategic Leadership Dues. Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Peterson, to approve annual dues of \$250 for the Township to be members of the Southwest Strategic Leadership Council.

Mix Path Water Service.

Engineer Austin presented information regarding the Township past practice of participating in water line installations. The Township has not ever paid for water lines to be installed for residents. At the October meeting several board members expressed concern about setting any type of precedence and charged Austin with establishing a procedure that would be uniform and equitable if the board were to choose to participate.

The questions the board needs to consider are:

1. Is the project residential?
2. Is the area around the project served by the water system?
3. Will the project cause an existing or proposed dead-end water line to be looped?
4. Will the project benefit the water system; pressure; redundancy; fire protection enhances; other?
5. Will the project benefit other parcels?
6. Is the project supported by those impacted and those who will fund it?
7. Are there adequate resources available to participate?

Austin presented different scenarios of other private paths within the Township that have similar situations.

Attachment B. The Township is not required to participate in these types of improvements and can still choose to use the previous assessment method, but could also chose to participate finanically if they feel that there is a benefit to the water system as a whole. The board did not make a decision, but asked Austin to create a proposed formula that would be used that included measurable benefits to the water system as a whole.

Exit 23 Clean Ups.

Exit 23 clean ups are scheduled for the Saturdays on July 17th and October 2nd. Those interested in helping can contact Glenn Youngstedt at 269-861-0596 or the Township at 269-429-1589.

CLERK'S REPORT.

April balances.

General	\$1,701,679.00	Road	\$407,456.34
Fire	\$335,262.71	Police	\$1,497,003.19
Parks	\$102,098.92	Cemetery	\$109,041.11
Street Lighting	\$47,035.88	Building	\$538,906.30
Police Drug Fund	\$902.79	Brownfield	\$178,100.51
Township Improvement	\$338,182.92	Fire Improvement	\$95,832.58
Police Improvement	\$1,756.07	Park Improvement	\$282,364.84
Sewer Operating	\$1,834,226.62	Sewer Replacement	\$1,177,225.16
Sewer Improvement	\$657,446.26	Water Operating	\$67,040.69
Water Replacement	\$1,634,733.04	Water Improvement	\$5,845,955.80
Trust & Agency	\$10,387.72	T&A Delinquent Tax	\$264.35
Tax Fund	\$15,576.25	Police Bond T & A	\$509.29
Flex Spending	\$2,362.37		

May balances.

General	\$1,929,309.08	Road	\$407,617.09
Fire	\$292,904.60	Police	\$1,315,747.15
Parks	\$71,751.94	Cemetery	\$99,361.88
Street Lighting	\$47,089.24	Building	\$543,111.83

Police Drug Fund	\$902.91	Brownfield	\$178,100.51
Township Improvement	\$334,209.03	Fire Improvement	\$95,911.95
Police Improvement	\$20,071.72	Park Improvement	\$280,735.00
Sewer Operating	\$1,831,972.14	Sewer Replacement	\$1,177,452.06
Sewer Improvement	\$657,543.08	Water Operating	\$68,392.04
Water Replacement	\$1,634,941.41	Water Improvement	\$5,846,700.60
Trust & Agency	\$12,847.03	T&A Delinquent Tax	\$666.03
Tax Fund	\$15,819.62	Police Bond T & A	\$509.31
Flex Spending	\$1,616.55		

Auditor are planning to be at the August meeting to present the audit.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Investment totals YTD through May are; \$3,484.58. Summer tax bills will be sent out July 1st.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT. Florian presented two items the Planning Commission addressed. 1. Reviewed the final site plan for the Williams Building Project; there were some conditions placed on the plan, Williams completed all the conditions, the site plan was approved. 2. They reviewed the Eco-Friendly ordinance, as the wording was received just shortly before the meeting, the members were asked to review and bring their comments to the next meeting in July.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS REPORT. No meeting.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT. Distributed to board.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT. 3 single-family residential permits were issued in May. There have been 17 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. Chief Chiarello provided the board with a report on fire calls and activity by the department for the month.

PARKS REPORT.

Soccer Complex.

Construction on the new Cleveland entrance parking lot is 80% complete.

Community Center Splash Pad.

The preconstruction meeting will be held soon.

WATER/SEWER AUTHORITY.

Meeting is this Thursday

Public Comments for items not on agenda. None.

Board Member Comments. None.

ADJOURN. There being no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 8:39 pm.

Stacy Loar-Porter, Clerk

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