

LINCOLN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
FEBRUARY 8, 2022

THE REGULAR MEETING of the Lincoln Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order on February 8, 2022, 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, Terrie Smith, Richard Stauffer, and Rick Stone.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Dave Austin, Township engineer, Alfonso Chavez- LYBSA President, Brittney Dunham-LYSL representative.

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was given.

PRESENTATIONS.

Police Chief Soper introduced two of the newer police officers to the Board of Trustees; Wesley Springer-Grounds and Jean Vicario.

ADJUST AGENDA. Move budget request items to the beginning of the meeting.

BUDGET PRESENTATION

Each department presented their budget request items. **Attachment A.**

Loar-Porter stated all the items on the budget list with the exception of;

- Building inspector hire
- The 2 education items in Fire dept request
- Hollywood, Newman, Alabaster drain payments
- \$120,000 savings for non-motorized path (cannot put ARPA funds aside for savings) and there is a concern the project will not develop within the time frame allowed with ARPA.

Trustees are to send Loar-Porter their list of budget items they would like to see funded with ARPA funds.

The board will hold a special budget workshop meeting at 5:30 pm on February 22 to review the proposed 2022/23 budget.

CORRESPONDENCE.

1. Letter from Indiana Michigan Power requesting ordinance approval for new franchise.

PUBLIC HEARING. None.

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

1. Approval of minutes for the Regular and Special Meeting of January 11, 2022.
2. Approve the 2/8/2022 and 1/28/2022 bills from the following funds.

General Fund	\$ 80,185.24
Fire Fund	11,058.98
Parks Fund	1,852.47
Parks Capital Improvement	0.00
Cemetery Fund	1,403.28
Building Fund	6,018.61
Township Improvement Fund	46,965.66
Police Fund	36,748.15
Police Drug	0.00
Police Capital Improvement	0.00
Sewer Enterprise	
Sewer Operating	98,034.42
Sewer Replacement	0.00
Sewer Improvement	0.00
Water Enterprise	
Water Operating	294.38
Water Improvement	0.00
Road Fund	0.00
Fire Capital Improvement	0.00
Brownfield Fund	0.00
TOTAL	\$282,561.19

LIBRARY REPORT. The Library Director, Jessica Ishmael, reported upcoming events at the library. Circulation for January was; 6,817. Digital circulation was 21,048. They offered 36 programs for the month of January; total attendance was 799. She announced her last day with the library is 2/11. She expressed that it was her honor to serve the Lincoln Township community.

NEW BUSINESS. None.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT.

OTHER ITEMS

Engineering Update.

Township Engineer Dave Austin stated that he would be retiring in May. The new contacts for Township projects will be Brandon Mieras and Nathan Breese. Austin will continue to lend his knowledge and assistance on projects that are currently in the works.

Approval to compensate Clerk for Election Work. Motion Carried. Stauffer moved, seconded by Peterson, to compensate Clerk Loar-Porter for 21 hours of work at the at the City of Benton Harbor associated with the November 2021 election, the hours were worked outside the normal M-F 9-5 at the Township. The Township was reimbursed by the City of Benton Harbor \$4,000, the pay to Clerk Loar-Porter, total of \$777.00, will be paid from these funds. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Gillette, Peterson, Smith, Stauffer and Stone. Nays: None. Abstain: Loar-Porter.

CLERK’S REPORT.

January Balances.

General	\$1,754,245.65	Road	\$138,429.51
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Fire	\$85,666.84	Police	\$16,466.79
Parks	\$125,922.41	Cemetery	\$55,550.51
Street Lighting	\$47,652.45	Building	\$579,959.39
Police Drug Fund	\$904.74	Brownfield	\$169,079.51
Township Improvement	\$334,497.99	Fire Improvement	\$3,271.18
Police Improvement	\$4,393.96	Park Improvement	\$152,922.89
Sewer Operating	\$2,555,430.07	Sewer Replacement	\$1,178,998.26
Sewer Improvement	\$627,621.64	Water Operating	\$99,004.85
Water Replacement	\$1,636,362.38	Water Improvement	\$5,851,804.23
Trust & Agency	\$25,463.00	T&A Delinquent Tax	\$1,016.06
Tax Fund	\$3,868,035.30	Police Bond T & A	\$509.46
Flex Spending	\$4,798.96	ARPA Fund	\$704,965.46

TREASURER'S REPORT. Smith reported 79% of the winter taxes and 98% of the summer taxes had been collected so far.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT. Florian reported the Planning Commission held a public hearing for the Eco-Friendly Housing Ordinance. Florian stated the purpose of the ordinance is to provide alternative for eco-friendly. He reminded the board that section 230.305 has always allowed Accessory Dwellings in the AG districts for temporary housing for workers engaged in agricultural employment. The amendment to the current ordinance will allow for eco-friendly dwellings associated with the benefits of eco-tourism and encouraging a style of living that is different from conventional suburban models most commonly available in the Township.

1st Reading to approve Amend the Zoning Ordinance to Add Regulations Concerning Eco-Friendly Housing. Motion Carried. Florian moved, seconded by Stone, to approve the 1st reading of an ordinance to amend the compilation of ordinances of the Township to add regulations concerning eco-friendly housing/ *Ordinance # Z22-01. Attachment B.* Roll call vote: Ayes: Gillette, Florian, Loar-Porter, Peterson, Smith, Stauffer and Stone. Nays: None.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS REPORT. No meeting.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT. Distributed to board.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT. 4 single-family residential permits were issued in January. There have been 4 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.

PARKS REPORT.

WATER/SEWER AUTHORITY. Smith reported there were 3 absent board members, so many items were tabled until the next meeting.

Public Comments for items not on agenda. None.

Board Member Comments.

ADJOURN. There being no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 9:05 pm.

Stacy Loar-Porter, Clerk

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