

LINCOLN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
January 10, 2023

THE REGULAR MEETING of the Lincoln Charter Township Board of Trustees was called to order on January 10, 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.

ADJUST AGENDA. Move adoption of Multi-Hazard, Multi-Jurisdictional Plan to the beginning of the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE. None.

PUBLIC HEARING. See Parks report.

BERRIEN COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Berrien County Captain Rockey Adams presented the updated mitigation plan to the Board of Trustees. The plan identifies mitigation projects and actions for each jurisdiction within the county. One of the projects for Lincoln is to develop a public outreach campaign to promote awareness and education of all weather-related hazards. This can be obtained by putting notices on our social media accounts directing residents to the Emergency Management/ Homeland Security Division website.

Resolution of Approval of 2022 Berrien County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motin Carried.

Stauffer moved, seconded by Gillette to approve Resolution to adopt the 2022 Berrien County Multi-hazard, multi-jurisdictional mitigation plan. *Resolution 23-1. Attachment A.* Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Florian, Gillette, Loar-Porter, Peterson, Smith, Stauffer and Stone. Nays: None.

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 F.**
3. Approve the 1/11/23 and 12/28/2022 bills from the following funds.

General Fund	\$	69,897.46
Fire Fund		3,789.37
Parks Fund		5,518.93

Parks Capital Improvement	0.00
Cemetery Fund	1,822.74
Building Fund	12,555.85
Township Improvement Fund	6,726.32
Police Fund	40,016.54
Police Drug	0.00
Police Capital Improvement	0.00
Sewer Enterprise	
Sewer Operating	32,129.14
Sewer Replacement	488.06
Sewer Improvement	0.00
Water Enterprise	
Water Operating	26,544.50
Water Improvement	0.00
Road Fund	0.00
Fire Capital Improvement	0.00
Brownfield Fund	0.00
ARPA Fund	35,939.58
TOTAL	\$235,428.49

LIBRARY REPORT. Joelle Wake, Library Director, presented the library report and upcoming events. She announced the library is looking into the possibility of creating a Lending Library, the concept is to provide items that someone may only need occasionally; i.e. tools, blender, record players, karaoke machine, as well as larger items; kayak, snowblower. She stated they would likely start with smaller items. They are still looking into the liability insurance coverage for this type of lending. Circulation for the month of December for the Township was 5,509.

NEW BUSINESS. None.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT. None.

CLERK'S REPORT.

December Balances.

General	\$2,797,982.57	Road	\$128,328.16
Fire	\$250,245.51	Police	\$290,300.60
Parks	\$68,750.64	Cemetery	\$94,632.37
Street Lighting	\$37,772.01	Building	\$655,605.80
Police Drug Fund	\$908.66	Brownfield	\$126,294.39
Township Improvement	\$288,667.39	Fire Improvement	\$90,097.87
Police Improvement	\$965.92	Park Improvement	\$108,240.45
Sewer Operating	\$2,768,148.67	Sewer Replacement	\$1,273,716.79
Sewer Improvement	\$596,870.18	Water Operating	\$45,192.12
Water Replacement	\$1,642,073.66	Water Improvement	\$5,741,501.13
Trust & Agency	\$4,287.29	T&A Delinquent Tax	\$1,429.70
Tax Fund	\$2,175,835.98	Police Bond T & A	\$509.70
Flex Spending	\$5,442.26	ARPA Fund	\$749,844.16

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 23-2. Attachment B.* Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Florian, Gillette, Loar-Porter, Peterson, Smith, Stauffer and Stone. Nays: None.

Budget Adjustment. Motion Carried. Smith moved, seconded by Peterson, to approve a budget adjustment of \$9,000 in Parks Operating for the cost of soccer field paint needed for the spring.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Smith reported year to date interest earned is \$33,606.23.

Class C Liquor License. Smith reported a local hotel contacted her about acquiring a Class C Liquor license that would provide the hotel the ability to sell and guests consume purchased alcohol on hotel premises. After discussion among the board the consensus by the board was if the hotel applied for the license, it would be denied. The Township only has 2 Class C Licenses available and would prefer they be saved for possible future restaurants that may be developed within the Township.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT.

1st Reading to Approve Ordinance to Amend PUD for Maiden Lane. Motion Carried. Florian moved, seconded by Stone, to amend the zoning map of the compilation of ordinances for Lincoln Charter Township for a major PUD amendment to add a portion of a parcel located at 588 Maiden Lane. *Ordinance # Z23-01. Attachment C.* Roll call vote: Ayes: Florian, Gillette, Loar-Porter, Peterson, Smith, Stauffer, and Stone. Nays: None.

1st Reading to Approve Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Map. Motion Carried. Florian moved, seconded by Stauffer, to amend the zoning map of the compilation of ordinances for Lincoln Charter Township to rezone a 1.99 acre parcel located at 5120 Red Arrow Hwy from Commercial Mixed Use District to Highway Commercial Mixed Use. The amendment would allow for the building of a hotel on the parcel. There was discussion on the necessity of an additional hotel, Florian stated that there is need for additional hotels in our area and a new hotel would create tax revenue increase. *Ordinance # Z23-02. Attachment D.* Roll call vote: Ayes: Florian , Gillette, 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. No single-family residential permits were issued in December. There have been 26 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.

Stauffer reported he received a phone call from the property owner from the commercial building at Lincoln and John Beers, the site of a structure fire in January. The owner praised the work of the department and was grateful for the quick response time.

MEDIC 1 REPORT. Distributed to the board.

PARKS

Township Engineer submitted the draft of the 5-Year Parks and Recreation Plan to the Board of Trustees. The draft plan was posted on the township website and at Township Hall for 30 days.

Clerk reported 2 emails with comments on plan were received, shared with trustees and engineer.

Supervisor opened comments open to public in regards to draft plan:

Chuck Lucas, 3255 Chicago Path, commented on access for Lincoln Beach and objected to the word ‘public access’ under the descriptions for Chicago Beach.

There were no other public comments.

Resolution to Approval of 5-Year Parks and Recreational Plan. Motion Carried. Loar-Porter moved, seconded by Smith, to approve the Resolution adopting the 2023-2027 5-Year Parks and Recreation Plan. *Resolution 23-3. Attachment E.* Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Florian, Gillette, Loar-Porter, Peterson, Smith, Stauffer and Stone. Nays: None.

Lincoln Beach. Township engineer reported he has ordered the survey to properly located wetland areas. Once survey is complete and there is clarification on critical dune and wetland areas, reviewing improvement options that can take place.

WATER/SEWER. Meeting is Thursday.

Public Comments for items not on agenda.

A resident inquired on an update on County Broadband project. Stauffer stated that more funds have been allocated by the Federal government and the committee at the County level is still reviewing applications submitted by the local jurisdictions.

Board Member Comments.

Florian commented on appointments made during the consent agenda; questioning the schedule of performing RFP’s for attorney, engineer and audit.

Florian stated AEP did remove several of the abandoned poles in the Township, but feels there are still several present. Loar-Porter stated she would review creating a Google form where residents could report abandon poles.

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

Stacy Loar-Porter, Clerk

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