

**LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 15, 2017**

Present: Hale, Benedict, Anderson, Thompson, Vanderziel

Absent: Blough

Also in attendance - 12 Citizens

Supervisor Jerry Hale called the meeting to order in the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash SE, Lowell, MI at 7:00 pm.

AGENDA APPROVAL – Thompson moved, Vanderziel seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

MINUTES – Anderson moved, Vanderziel seconded, to approve the minutes of the special meeting of April 26, 2017 with a correction under award of bids for the North Park project, changing "there" to "they". Motion carried.

Anderson moved, Vanderziel seconded, to approve the closed session minutes of the special meeting of April 26, 2017. **(MOTION CARRIED)**

TREASURER'S REPORT – Thompson moved, Anderson seconded, to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

BILLS – Thompson moved, Anderson seconded, to pay the special bills:

Bloom, Sluggett, Morgan	Attorney	\$877.50
BS&A	Tax - Annual Support	\$1,014.00
City of Lowell	Water/Sewer	\$21,707.20
H2O Towers	Wtr Tower Clean	\$4,000.00
Horians Lawn Care	Mowing	\$535.00
Infrastructure Alternatives	Water/Sewer Op	\$15,584.50
Karajen Corp	Gaga Pit	\$3,438.22
Land & Resource	North Park	\$4,371.90
Mika, Meyers, Beckett	Attorney	\$965.00
Robert Toland Consulting	Planning Svcs	\$1,275.00
State of Michigan	Review for Permit	\$1,500.00
Zach's Clean Cut	Park Mowing & Flood	\$3,957.50

Motion carried.

Thompson moved, Vanderziel seconded, the current bills be approved; General Fund - \$52,125.14; Park Fund - \$9,547.10; Sewer Fund - \$12,341.47; Water Fund - \$28,834.83; Check Nos. 11671-11716; Payroll Nos. 1928-1953. Motion carried.

REPORTS – The Ordinance Enforcement Officer and the Lowell Area Fire Authority submitted written reports. Ken Yonker, Kent County Drain Commissioner, was present to talk to the Board about the Bundy and Kilgus Drains. The Bundy Drain needs repair at an estimated cost of \$100,000. He is asking the Township to pay half of the cost. The Board did not agree with paying half and would like to know the actual cost of the repairs. The Road Commission will contribute approximately 6.75%. There are 20 parcels affected by the drain. The Township needs to petition the Drain Commission to start the process to assess and repair the drain. Thompson moved, Vanderziel seconded, to ask the County to obtain cost estimates and quotes, and for the County to give a response to the district for costs. Motion carried. Blough had asked the Drain Commissioner to look into repairing the Kilgus Drain. The estimated cost to repair the

drain is \$27,000. The County can spend up to \$20,000 without asking for approval. Vanderziel moved, Anderson seconded, to adopt the resolution to allow the County to spend \$27,000 to fix the Kilgus Drain. Motion carried.

Hale reported that the Lowell Are Fire Authority voted to allow firefighters with a conceal carry permit to carry a gun while responding to calls.

Bowne Township is repairing their section of 60th Street and asked if the Township would want to repair the section between Alden Nash and Bancroft at the same time to save costs. The Township will get cost estimates from the Road Commission.

CORRESPONDENCE - Correspondence about medical marijuana.

NORTH PARK PROJECT - RESOLUTION 2017-02 - TO ATHORIZE SUMBISSION OF A MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND GRANT APPLICATION. -

Thompson moved, Benedict seconded, to adopt Resolution 2017-02 to authorize submission of the MNRTF grant application. Motion carried. Construction has started on the next phase of the park. There was discussion about clearing the trees for the disc golf course. Land and Resource will give the Township an estimate to put together bid packets for the restroom building at the next meeting.

ORDINANCE AMENDMENT - ORDINANCE 01-2017 - TO ALLOW CHURCHES IN THE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT -

Hale asked to be recused. Thompson moved, Vanderziel seconded, to allow Hale to be recused. Motion carried. Thompson stated that the attorney added item 5 as requested. Anderson moved, Vanderziel seconded, to adopt Ordinance 01-2017 to allow churches in the Commercial District: ayes - Anderson, Benedict, Vanderziel, Thompson; nays - none; abstain - Hale. Motion carried.

2016/2017 YEAR END BUDGET - Revenues for the 2016/2017 year were \$736,084 and expenditures were \$644,933. Funds budgeted for improvements in the North Park project were not spent, so those funds will go into Fund Balance to be used for improvements to the park in the current year. Thompson moved, Vanderziel seconded, to approve the 2016/2017 year end budget. Motion carried.

APPOINT NEW CLERK - Three applications were received to fill the Clerk's position. Thompson moved, Anderson seconded to appoint Monica J. Burt to fill the Clerk's position. Her annual salary will be \$24,500 for clerk and \$7,500 for water. The Treasurer's annual salary will be \$23,500 for Treasurer and \$8,500 for water. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2017-03 - PURCHASE OF VOTING EQUIPMENT - Thompson moved, Anderson seconded, to adopt Resolution 2017-03, a resolution to approve application for a grant from the State of Michigan to purchase new voting equipment Motion carried.

COMPENSATION FOR FIRE AUTHORITY - Thompson moved, Anderson seconded, to authorize compensation of the representatives of the LARA, LAFA and the LCTV boards in the amount of \$75.00 per diem. Motion carried.

WATER CONNECTION APPEAL - Jared Bredeweg, 11260 Foreman, appealed the requirement to connect to the Township's water system. Because of the wetland at the front of his property, he has to build hundreds of feet off the road. After discussion, Vanderziel moved, Anderson seconded, to allow him to not connect to the Township's water system. Ayes - Anderson, Hale, Vanderziel, Thompson; nays - Benedict. Motion

carried. He will still be required to pay the frontage fee. Thompson suggested that the Township look into the ordinance for exemptions for distance requirements.

PUBLIC COMMENT - No comments.

ADJOURNMENT – Vanderziel moved, Benedict seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda S. Regan, Recording Secretary
Charter Township of Lowell

Jerry Hale, Supervisor