

**LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2017**

Present: Hale, Regan, Benedict, Anderson, Blough, Thompson, Vanderziel

Absent: None

Also in attendance - 1 Citizen

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** – Vanderziel moved, Thompson seconded, to approve the agenda with the addition of noise control and guns under new business. Motion carried.

**MINUTES** – Thompson moved, Anderson seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 19, 2016. Motion carried.

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

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

Addorio Technologies LLC	Computer Maint	\$3,069.99
Bloom, Sluggett, Morgan	Attorney	\$836.00
City of Lowell	Water/Sewer, Fire	\$53,499.43
HUB International	Insurance	\$7,941.00
Infrastructure Alternatives	Water/Sewer Op	\$4,695.50
Robert Toland Consulting	Planning Svcs	\$1,862.50

Motion carried.

Anderson moved, Vanderziel seconded, the current bills be approved; General Fund - \$54,809.50; Sewer Fund - \$8,477.32; Water Fund - \$16,562.92; Check Nos. 11524-11551; Payroll Nos. 1829-1852. Motion carried.

**REPORTS** – The Ordinance Enforcement Officer, LAFA and Bowne Township Fire Department submitted written reports. Blough reported for the Lowell Area Fire Authority. Blough talked about the budget and questions were asked about the purchasing of supplies. Vanderziel moved, Regan seconded, to ask for the opinion of the Fire Authority attorney about the ethics of purchasing equipment and supplies from the company that Captain Shannon Witherell is employed with. Motion carried. There was also a question about firefighters with concealed carry permits being allowed to carry weapons on medical calls. Thompson moved, Regan seconded, to request that LAFA obtain a written opinion from the attorney regarding new authorization for allowing firefighters with a CWP to carry weapons while responding for the LAFA and to request the insurance company tell us what the liability coverage is regarding the carrying of weapons. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE** - None.

**NORTH PARK PROJECT** - The Board discussed the next step in the development of the North Park. There is a Michigan Economic Development Corporation Grant With the Charter Township of Lowell that needs to be signed by the Supervisor. Thompson moved, Vanderziel seconded, to authorized the Supervisor to sign the grant agreement. Motion carried. Hale asked if the Board would like to be at the Expo in March to help

promote the new park. The Board was in agreement that the Township should participate. The Board talked about what they would like to see accomplished this year. Suggestions were - disc golf course, gaga pit, installing the playground equipment, restroom facilities, and the pavilion. There was also discussion about building pickle ball courts. Hale stated that there will be help with fundraising for the pickle ball courts. The Board was in agreement that money could be used from the State Economic Grant to continue with progress as we wait for the MDEQ permit for the bridge. Blough moved, Anderson seconded, to use \$200,000 from the grant funds toward the park for the restroom, gaga pit, playground, disc golf course and to gravel the path. Motion carried.

**2017/2018 PROPOSED BUDGET** - There were no changes in the proposed budget from the previous month. Thompson moved, Blough seconded, to set the public hearing date for Tuesday, February 21, 2017, the next regular Board meeting. Motion carried.

**WATER SPECIFICATIONS UPDATE** - The Township is still waiting for the MDEQ to approve the changes. This will come back to the next meeting for approval.

**2016/2017 3RD QUARTER BUDGET UPDATE** - The Clerk reviewed the third quarter budget update.

**ZBA APPOINTMENT** - Mary Mayhew has resigned her position on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Two applications have been received - Brian Waalkes and Mary Jo Bieri. Vanderziel moved, Anderson seconded, to appoint Mary Jo Bieri to fill the position for the remainder of the term. Motion carried.

**ZBA REAPPOINTMENTS** - Vanderziel moved, Anderson seconded, to reappoint Herbert Ray Jones and Timothy Clements to three year terms on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion carried.

**SENIOR NEIGHBORS REQUEST - KCCD FUNDS** - The Lowell Senior Neighbors have written a letter requesting the Township support them again next year with their Kent County Community Development Block Grant funds. Anderson moved, Benedict seconded, to allocate \$9,500 of Lowell Township's Kent County Community Development Block Grant funds to the Lowell Senior Neighbors. Motion carried.

**NOISE - GUNS** - There was a discussion about increased gun noise in the Township. There are properties where people are gathering to shoot guns and explosive devises. Vergennes Township has recently adopted an ordinance to deal with this issue. The Board would like to get a copy of the ordinance and direct the Planning Commission to relook at the Township's noise ordinance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** - None.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Anderson moved, Benedict seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Linda S. Regan, Clerk  
Charter Township of Lowell

---

Jerry Hale, Supervisor

