

**LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 16, 2016**

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

Absent: None

Also in attendance - 4 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, Anderson seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

MINUTES – Thompson moved, Blough seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 18, 2016. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Benedict asked about releasing the \$4,000 bond for the former DenHouter sand mine to Advanced Homes (Advanced Building and Construction) who are reclaiming the property to develop it. Vanderziel moved, Anderson seconded, to release the bond to Advanced Homes. Motion carried.

Benedict talked about the CDARS program for investing Township money as recommended by the auditors. The Township has several CD's maturing in May and would like to reinvest through the program. Thompson moved, Regan seconded, to authorize the Treasurer to use the CDARS program through First National Bank of Michigan to invest Township funds. Motion carried.

Vanderziel moved, Thompson seconded, to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

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

Addorio	Computer Maint	\$500.99
Bowne Twp Treas	Fire	\$10,190.21
BS&A Software	Tax System Support	\$2,535.00
City of Lowell	Water/Sewer	\$14,068.15
Dell Marketing	Computer	\$548.52
Election Source	Supplies	\$744.00
Etna Supply	Sensus Annual Sup	\$2,500.00
Horians Lawn Care	Mowing	\$595.00
Hungerford, Nichols	Audit	\$8,000.00
Infrastructure Alternatives	Water/Sewer Op	\$3,351.50
KC Treasurer	Pictometry Project	\$1,462.16
Land & Resource	Engineering North Park	\$5,633.70
Lowell Ledger	Advertising	\$1,214.00
MI Municipal League	Policy Premium	\$835.00
Main Street Planning	Planning Svcs	\$3,308.60
Richard Anderson Bldrs	Pole Bldg, Repair	\$25,080.00
Wolverine Power Systems	Lift Station Generator	\$683.28

Motion carried.

Vanderziel moved, Blough seconded, the current bills be approved; General Fund - \$37,712.22; Sewer Fund - \$20,842.96; Park Fund - \$5,633.70; Water Fund - \$25,467.91; Check Nos. 11154-11195; Payroll Nos. 1655-1679. Motion carried.

REPORTS – The Ordinance Enforcement Officer, Fire Authority, Alto Library, and Sheriff's Department submitted written reports. Blough also reported for the Fire Authority. The retirement party for Frank Martin will be June 15, 2016.

CORRESPONDENCE - The Kent County Road Commission sent an email to the Supervisor about lime stoning the Township's portion of Snow Avenue for a cost of \$13,750. As the project was not budgeted for the current year, there was discussion about whether to do the project this year or wait until next year. Cascade Township is doing their portion of the road this year and it would be cost effective for Lowell Township to have the work completed while the crews are there. Thompson moved, Anderson seconded, to transfer \$8,000 from the park budget to roads and complete the project this year. Motion carried.

NORTH PARK PROJECT - Todd Olin, Land And Resource, was present to review the progress on the North Park project. The Township is currently waiting for a response from the Lowell Area Community Fund before continuing with construction. He also had a proposal to do engineering reviews for other projects.

BUDGET UPDATE - 2015/2016 YEAR END - The Clerk reviewed the year end budget for 2015/2016. Revenues for the General Fund were \$717,141 before transferring \$173,765 for the North Park project. Expenditures for the General Fund were \$630,341.

SUPPORT FOR LOWELL RADIO WRWW-LP - Blough suggested at an earlier meeting that the Township might want to support the local radio station being operated by the Lowell High School. Thompson moved, Vanderziel seconded, to purchase the Premier package for \$300 to support WRWW-LP for a year. Motion carried.

AUDIT CONTRACT - A three year contract with Hungerford Nichols for audit services was reviewed. The cost for the first year (2015/2016) is \$14,000 with an increase of \$500 for the second year (2016/2017) and third year (2017/2018). Vanderziel moved, Anderson seconded, to approve the three year contract with Hungerford, Nichols. Motion carried.

ON LINE BILL PAYMENT - POINT AND PAY SERVICES AGREEMENT - A contract with Point and Pay was reviewed. The Treasurer is currently using another service to take on line tax payments, but it is not compatible with BS&A. Point and Pay is compatible and utility bills could also be set up to be paid online. Any fees charged by Point and Pay would be paid by the user, not the Township. Vanderziel moved, Thompson seconded, to contract with Point and Pay for utility and tax on line payments. Motion carried.

SEGWUN AVENUE SPEED LIMIT - Information about setting speed limits was reviewed. The Township would like to begin the process to lower the speed limit on Segwun Avenue.

PUBLIC COMMENT - Chris Becker, candidate for Kent County Prosecutor, introduced himself to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT – Anderson moved, Thompson seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda S. Regan, Clerk
Charter Township of Lowell

Jerry Hale, Supervisor