

Regular Meeting of the Lovells Township Board

April 19, 2022

PRESENT: Ann C. Duby, Cheryl Hopp, Cynthia Infante-Inman, Heather Lovell, and Gary A. Neumann

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Denny Inman, Sally Brand, Ron Larson CCRC, Jo Johnson, Randy Long, and Dave Lovell.

Supervisor Neumann called the Board Meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to accept the minutes of the March 9, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Board as presented; All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.

Neumann moved, Hopp supported a motion to accept the minutes of the March 31, 2022 Special Meeting of the Board as presented; All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.

Neumann moved, Duby supported a motion to approve pre-paid vouchers dated March 3, 2022 through April 14, 2022 as presented: General Fund totaling \$25,224.09; Direct Deposit Checks totaling \$6,883.39; Fire Fund totaling \$12,724.82; Landfill Fund totaling \$2,736.85, and Liquor Fund totaling \$10.20; In a roll call vote: All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's March Report Received and Accepted as Presented.

Clerk's Quarterly P & L Report: Received and Accepted as Presented.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letter from I.T. Right RE: Supply chain shortages and 7% rate increase based on the cost-of-living index for this year; Letter from our Attorney Bryan Graham RE: Rate increase due to rising costs and inflation rate.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Assessing – Neumann stated that no one appeared at their March Board of Review; They did address five applications regarding veteran property tax exemptions.

Fire/EMS Department – Infante-Inman briefed on Chief Lewicki's report; For the month of March, six runs total (Fire-one/EMS-five); Reported two street lights out; Infante-Inman to staff.

Cemetery Sexton- No report.

Liquor Inspector- Infante-Inman reported March Inspection Forms received and on file.

Zoning Administrator – Infante-Inman briefed on Gauthier's written report for March; Three Zoning Permits issued; No other Zoning Matters to report.

Zoning Enforcement Officer – Neumann stated no applications submitted for this open position; Lovells asked what the plan is? Neumann stated that we will wait until we have a complaint and then possibly share resources with another Township or the County.

COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS:

Board of Review (BOR) – No report.

Historical Society (HS) – Lovell stated that they will hold the Leaky Wader Event with commencement from the new access site following the site dedication; New exhibits this year entitled "Artisans of the

Lovells Township Planning Commission (LTPC) – Inman provided the Board with their 2021 Annual Report; PC will conduct a public hearing on Friday, April 29 at 5 PM for the Township's Recreational Plan; Inman will provide the Board with the goals and objectives for our review.

Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) – No report.

Lovells Media and Reading Center – Hopp stated that they have lots of books in storage and are looking at making some changes for housing more books.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Neumann briefed on Fire Truck #321 repairs; Neuman moved, Lovell supported a motion to approve the CSI repair invoice totaling \$20,089.69; In a roll call vote: All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.
2. Neumann briefed on the Charter/Spectrum Video Franchise Agreement; Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to accepted as presented indicating our fee at 5%; All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.
3. Neumann briefed on DNR request to convert the late Gerry Lake property into a public access site thus improving the current access; Board will seek additional public input via the township newsletter and at the PC's Public Input Meeting on April 29.
4. Neumann briefed on request for port-a-pottys at the Transfer Stations for the attendants; Neumann to obtain bids.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS: School Election is May 3, 2022, Polls open 7 AM to 8 PM here at the Township Hall; Hopp briefed on her request to revisit our Board Salary Resolutions; Neumann briefed on history of budget adoptions; Long interjected that the Trustee Salaries were not included with the other Board Resolutions in his packet; Infante-Inman looked at Long's packet from said Board meeting and pointed out where they were included with the other Salary Resolutions; Neumann, Lovell, Infante-Inman all believed their vote to adopt the budget included all the Board Salary Resolutions; Board debated the issue; Neuman suggested we set a standard moving forward to vote on each salary resolution individually; Board concurred.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 11:30 AM -Neumann opened Public Comment; Infante-Inman read the following statement: "At the end of our last meeting, Cheryl Hopp commented that it was a conflict of interest to have Heather Lovell serve as both Trustee and Deputy Clerk. The fact is that, when I asked Heather to serve as my Deputy years ago, she asked if it was okay to serve in both positions? We contacted Michigan Townships Association and they stated that it was permissible. Therefore, there is no conflict of interest as stated by Hopp. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Heather Lovell for her excellence in service to Lovells Township. With the ever-increasing demands put upon the Clerk's Office, especially during Elections, I could not do it without her. Thank you, Heather."; Hopp disagreed and questioned our integrity in voting on Board issues; Infante-Inman stated, "For Hopp to insinuate that Heather Lovell does not vote on her own without influence from me is just wrong! Heather votes of her own accord without influence from me and talks to her constituents, as I hope Hopp does too, and to assume otherwise is shameful!"; The conversation then turned confrontational and inflammatory; Infante-Inman stopped recording comments; Johnson inquired on the status of her Light Ordinance request; Neumann stated that he would pass on to the PC as is the proper process; Long thanked the Board for listening to his questions with the budget even though they were addressed outside of public comment; Ron Larson addressed the packet he left for Neumann; Neumann stated that it would be correspondence at our next meeting. 11:45 AM-Neumann closed Public Comment.