**Regular Meeting of the Lovells Township Board**

**December 13, 2022**

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

**ABSENT:** None.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Eric Szymanski with Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG), Joanne Phillips, Bonnie Maricic, Joetta Johnson, Ken Ball, Denny Inman, Dave Soderquist, and Martha Duby.

Supervisor Neumann called the Board Meeting to order at 10:00 AM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance; Neumann added one item to the top of the agenda: A representative from the Crawford County Citizens Recycling Task Force, to make a Recycling Presentation; After her presentation she entertained questions/concerns from the audience and Board.

Neumann moved, Infante-Inman supported a motion to recess the Regular Meeting of the Board and enter into a Public Hearing on the five-year (1/1/2023-12/31/2027) Lovells Township Recreation Plan; All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.

10:05 AM-Public Hearing opened; Neumann briefed on the minor changes made to the plan and an explanation on why the Public Hearing was necessary to “redo”; No public comment; Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to adopt the Recreation Plan Resolution of Adoption Lovells Township as of today’s date; In a roll call vote: All Ayes; RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

Szymanski commented on the newspaper’s errors in the untimely publication of the Rec Plan Public Hearing Notice and he is working with the DNR on a more efficient process; He stated the Lovells Township Master Plan is now open for the required 63-day review period after which the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on said subject; Neumann moved, Hopp supported a motion to close the Public Hearing and resume the Regular Meeting of the Board; All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.

Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to accept the minutes of the November 15, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Board as presented; All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to approve pre-paid vouchers dated November 11, 2022 through December 8, 2022 as presented: General Fund totaling $21,907.93; Direct Deposit Checks totaling $7,602.23; Fire Fund totaling $5,035.58; Landfill Fund totaling $6,478.90; and Liquor Fund totaling $10.80; In a roll call vote: All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Treasurer’s November Report Received and Accepted as Presented.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Assessing –** Neumann stated that they are working on “closing out” the building permits for the calendar year.

**Fire/EMS Department –** No report.

**Cemetery Sexton-** No report.

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

**Zoning Administrator** – Infante-Inman briefed on Gauthier’s written report for November; Two Zoning Permits issued; No other zoning matters to report.

**Zoning Enforcement Officer** – Neumann briefed on one new case at KP Lake.

**COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS:**

**Board of Review –** Neumann reported that a December BOR is not necessary.

**Historical Society –** Lovell reported that the Hot Stove nights will return this winter at the Township Hall and they may have a lodge lined up for their Historical Lodge Tour this upcoming summer.

**Crawford County Planning Commission (CCPC)-**Inman reported that they meet tomorrow.

**Lovells Township Planning Commission (LTPC) –** Inman reported that the LTPC approved the draft Master Plan for the 63-day review period and it is available for inspection in the Clerk’s office or on the township website: lovellstownship.com.

**Zoning Board of Appeals** – No report.

**Lovells Media and Reading Center** – Hopp reported on draft plan for “book exchange boxes”; Neumann moved, Infante-Inman supported a motion to expend $418 to build the two new book boxes; All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Neumann briefed on the Fire/EMS Dept.’s desire to expand with a stand alone pole barn west of the existing Fire Barn; Board consensus to move forward with generalized plans to construct such building with specifics provided to the Board as they become available; Infante-Inman stated that there is over $40,000.00 earmarked for this project from our recent Bridge Walks in the “Friends of the Fire & EMS Township” Fund and remaining funds available in our American Rescue Plan Funds from the Federal Government; Therefore, should have available funds to complete project without raising taxes as Board desires.
2. Neumann briefed on our Zoning Administrator’s letter regarding the Board’s October 2022 decision to amend the Lovells Township Zoning Ordinance to address exterior/outdoor lighting; Board discussed; Neumann to invite Zoning Administrator, Dale Gauthier, Jr., to our next meeting to confer with the Board; Hopp to research surrounding Township’s Zoning Ordinances and enforcement regarding said subject.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to, once again, utilize KCI for printing and mailing of assessment notices in February 2023 with prepayment of postage as required; In a roll call vote: All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.
2. Neumann briefed on emailed request to change Board Meeting to evenings and briefed on history of “experimentation” with changing the meeting times; Neumann moved, Infante-Inman supported a motion to keep the 10 AM meeting time as is; All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.
3. Neumann briefed on new turnout gear quote to outfit our four new firefighters; Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to approve the $18,358.00 turnout gear quote from Municipal Emergency Services as recommended by Fire Chief Lewicki; In a roll call vote: All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.
4. Neumann briefed, Board discussed purchase of radar “YOUR SPEED IS” signs on CR-612; Infante-Inman stated that there was widespread resident support of the idea based upon the petitions that circulated the township regarding the subject; Board consensus to purchase and possibly fund with American Rescue Plan Funds; Neumann to staff warranties, etc. before Board approves purchase.
5. Neumann briefed on proposed Lovells Township Resolution #12-13-2022 regarding Lovells’ opposition to proposed lessening of altitude restrictions on military aircraft in and around the Lovells Township area; Neumann moved to adopt, Hopp supported a motion to adopt Lovells Township Resolution #12-13-2022, LOVELLS’ POSITION ON THE PROPOSAL TO PERMIT LOW-FLYING MILITARY AIRCRAFT WITHIN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE PRIMARY BUSINESS DISTRICT OF LOVELLS TOWNSHIP; All Ayes; RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:** 1/8/2023-Lovells Township celebrates its 111th Birthday; Draft FY 2023-24 General & Liquor Fund Budgets provide to Board for review; Infante-Inman informed Board of Joanne Phillip’s retirement and thanked her for her service; We have two applicants interested in the open Township Cleaning position and Clerk to post opening for decision at our next Board Meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** 11:53 PM -Neumann opened Public Comment; Ball suggested purchasing four speed limit signs for each entrance into Lovells, rather than just two; Soderquist commented on recycling presentation, light ordinance, and Master Plan; Infante-Inman asked him to email his comments on the Master Plan so that we may review at the Public Hearing in February; 12:03 PM-Neumann closed Public Comment.

12:03 PM- Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to adjourn; All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.

Next Regular Meeting of the Board will be held Tuesday, January 10, 2023, 10 AM at the Township Hall.

Cynthia Infante-Inman

Lovells Township Clerk