**Regular Meeting of the Lovells Township Board**

**October 11, 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, Sally Brand, Bonnie Maricic, Suzie Moore, Dave Lovell, Joetta Johnson, Ken Ball, Randy Long, Dave Soderquist, Suzanne Rieder, Martha Duby, Tammy Kengel, and Julia Hulka.

Supervisor Neumann called the Board Meeting to order at 10:00 AM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance; Neumann moved New Business Agenda Item #4 regarding the Lovells Recreation Plan to a Public Hearing on the Recreation Plan at the end of this Regular Meeting of the Board.

Neumann moved, Hopp supported a motion to accept the minutes of the September 13, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Board as presented; All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to approve pre-paid vouchers dated September 9, 2022 through October 5, 2022 as presented: General Fund totaling $11,505.06; Direct Deposit Checks totaling $7,725.09; Fire Fund totaling $2,840.03; Landfill Fund totaling $8,719.32; and Liquor Fund totaling $10.76; In a roll call vote: All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

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

**CLERK’S QUARTERLY PROFIT & LOSS:** Infante-Inman reported that another $1,000 was donated to the Public Park Income line item since the printing of the report; Accepted as Presented.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Assessing –** Neumann stated that they are continuing parcel audits

**Fire/EMS Department –** Infante-Inman read Chief Lewicki’s written report: September 2022 total of four runs (2-Fire/2-Medical); Chief will have a fire gear quote for the four new personnel at our next meeting.

**Cemetery Sexton-** No report.

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

**Zoning Administrator** – Infante-Inman briefed on Gauthier’s written report for September; One Zoning Permit issued for a new home on a parcel that had a pole barn illegally constructed; House will bring property into compliance; Neumann briefed on the building built without permission.

**Zoning Enforcement Officer** – Neumann briefed on one case ongoing and stated that the ticket issued last month was pulled as the property was brought into compliance.

**COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS:**

**Board of Review –** Neumann reported that due to State of Michigan changes, we will probably only have a March BOR (no July or Dec.).

**Historical Society –** Lovell reported that the museum is now closed for the season; Museum had many new visitors this year; Hot Stove nights will return this winter at the Township Hall.

**Crawford County Planning Commission (CCPC)-**No report.

**Lovells Township Planning Commission (LTPC) –** No report.

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

**Lovells Media and Reading Center** – Hopp reported new shelving will be arriving in December and awaiting draft plan on “book boxes”.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Neumann briefed on enforcement issues with outdoor lighting ordinances and that properties with outdoor lighting prior to adopting an ordinance would be “grandfathered” in; Infante-Inman asked Szymanski with NEMCOG to give his opinion as he works with many northern MI municipalities; Szymanski stated that a permitting process would most likely be needed in order to determine “grandfathered” properties; Neumann moved, Infante-Inman supported a motion to decline initiating an outdoor lighting ordinance; In a roll call vote: Hopp Nay, Lovell, Nay, Duby Nay, Infante-Inman Aye, Neumann Aye; MOTION FAILED.
2. Neumann briefed on American Rescue Plan Funds; Approximately $5,000 spent on new park infrastructure; Board discussed possible expansion of the Fire Barn as they are in need of more storage for desired rescue equipment; Hopp suggested expanding the children’s playground equipment; Topic will remain on the agenda for further discussions.
3. Neumann briefed on possibly bringing lawn maintenance “in house” as Gary Lewicki is back onboard with township maintenance. Doing so would require purchasing lawn maintenance equipment and a trailer; Board was receptive to the idea and discussed purchasing now at season-end prices.
4. Neumann briefed on second Camp Grayling Expansion Resolution #10-11-2022; Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to adopt Resolution #10-11-2022 as presented; In a roll call vote: All Ayes; RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Neumann called a five-minute recess so that the he and the Clerk could open sealed snowplowing bids and make copies for the Board; 10:52 AM Neumann called for resumption of the Regular Meeting of the Board; Board discussed the two bids for snowplowing; Neumann moved, Hopp supported a motion to accept the $3,900 snowplowing bid from Dave Mullins; In a roll call vote: All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.
2. Board discussed articles for the Winter Newsletter to go out with the Winter Tax Bills; Articles due to Lovell by 11/1/22.
3. Neumann briefed on the scrap metal situation at the Transfer Stations; Board concurred with Neumann’s plan to charge residents $10 (to be collected by the Transfer Station attendants and paid directly to the new scrap metal individual) for appliances containing freon (which covers the fee he pays to have freon removed).
4. Neumann briefed on the upcoming holiday hours for the Township Hall; Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to adopt the holiday schedule as presented; All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.

11:11 AM-Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to recess the Regular Meeting of the Board and opened the Public Hearing on the proposed Lovells Township Recreation Plan; All ayes; MOTION CARRIED. Neumann explained that one of the many benefits of the Recreation Plan will be that it allows for grant funding and introduced Szymanski with NEMCOG who proceeded to brief audience on the Recreation Plan; 11:16 AM Public Comment opened; Soderquist stated that he had problems with Tables 1.8 & 1.9 regarding future planning semantics and lack of vision with Crossroads Park; Board briefed audience on the many PC Meetings, Public input Sessions, Public Hearings, etc. with regards to developing the Crossroads Park Plan; Lovell suggested adding the PC Crossroads Park Plan (turned over to the Board last month) to the Recreational Plan Appendix; Maricic commented on the Lovells Flag design; Kengel mentioned an issue with numbering in the plan; Szymanski addressed concerns by Soderquist and Kengel and made minor adjustments; M. Duby would like Board to move to evening meetings; Soderquist reiterated M. Duby’s comments.

11:59 AM Public Comment closed-Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to reopen the Regular Meeting of the Board; All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.

Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to adopt the Lovells Township Recreational Plan as presented with minor changes as discussed; In a roll call vote: All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:** Actual annual COLA will be available soon; Expecting an increase of 8.7% or so effective 1/1/23; Neumann will use increase in budgeting for wages, salaries, and per diems as is our policy; Possible Crawford Co. recycling brief at our Nov. Mtg; State General Election: Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022, polls open 7 AM to 8 PM at the Township Hall; Due to the Election, the November Board Meeting will be the third Tuesday, not the second.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** 12:04 PM -Neumann opened Public Comment; Johnson and Moore thanked the Board for continuing with the light ordinance; Ball and Soderquist commented on the appliance freon issues; Long suggested that the Board consider using some of the American Rescue Plan Funds on flashing speed signs in the township; Hopp made a motion to purchase said signs; Infante-Inman suggested obtaining pricing first before purchasing signs; 12:15 PM-Neumann closed Public Comment.

12:15 PM- Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to adjourn. All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.

Next Regular Meeting of the Board will be held Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 10 AM at the Township Hall.

Cynthia Infante-Inman

Lovells Township Clerk