**Regular Meeting of the Lovells Township Board**

**September 13, 2022**

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

**ABSENT:** Heather Lovell.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Denny Inman, Sally Brand, Allen Cail, Jo Johnson, Ken Minard, Randy Long, Jeana & Brian King, Mindy Bordeaux, Bill Gergosky, and Suzanne Rieder.

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

10:01 AM-Neumann moved, Hopp supported a motion to recess the Regular Meeting of the Board and enter into a Public Hearing on the FY 2023-24 Lovells Township Fire/EMS and Landfill Budgets; All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED; Neumann briefed on the budgets.

10:03 AM- Duby left meeting to collect taxes and returned at 10:07 AM; Neumann opened Public Comment at 10:07 AM; No public comment; 10:08 AM-Neumann moved, Hopp supported a motion to close the Public Budget Hearing and reconvene the Regular Meeting of the Board; All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.

Neumann moved, Infante-Inman supported a motion to adopt the FY 2023-24 Fire/EMS Fund Budget as previously presented and discussed with estimated total income at $96,426 and total budgeted expenses at $96,100; In a roll call vote: All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

Neumann moved, Infante-Inman supported a motion to adopt the FY 2023-24 Landfill Fund Budget as previously presented and discussed with estimated total income at $86,050 and budgeted expenses at $86,050; In a roll call vote: All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.

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

Hopp requested an explanation of the checks made payable to John Petroff; Neumann briefed: Ck. # 12165 was Access Site Roller System repairs and paid for with grant money; Ck. #12166 was for the donated shed’s foundation and driveway, and electricity install at the new Crossroads Park and paid for with American Rescue Plan money received from the Federal Government for infrastructure and previously approved by the Board; Ck. #12178 was for flag poles and flags paid for with donations specifically earmarked for a branch of the military or US flag; Neumann moved, Infante-Inman supported a motion to approve pre-paid vouchers dated August 5, 2022 through September 8, 2022 as presented: General Fund totaling $22,361.48; Direct Deposit Checks totaling $7,244.70; Fire Fund totaling $7,143.86; Landfill Fund totaling $5,713.39; and Liquor Fund totaling $10.78; In a roll call vote: All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Assessing –** Neumann stated that they are focusing on building and demolition permits until Dec. 1 or so.

**Fire/EMS Department –** Infante-Inman read Chief Lewicki’s written report: August 2022 total of seven runs (2-Fire/5-Medical); No other issues to report.

**Cemetery Sexton-** No report.

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

**Zoning Administrator** – Infante-Inman briefed on Gauthier’s written report for August; Five Zoning Permits issued; No other Zoning Matters to report.

**Zoning Enforcement Officer** – Neumann briefed on one case ongoing and stated that a ticket will be issued tomorrow.

**COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS:**

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

**Historical Society –** Infante-Inman reported that they raised $2,500 towards their scholarship fund at their fundraising event on Sept. 10th.

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

**Lovells Township Planning Commission (LTPC) –** Inman reported that the Lovells Township Recreational Plan Public Hearing was held Monday, Sept. 12, 2022; LTPC unanimously voted to accept the Rec. Plan as presented by Eric Szymanski of NEMCOG and are passing it on to the Board for review; PC continues work on the Master Plan with the goal of completing by November 14, 2022; Also, PC conducted a Crossroads Park working session on Monday, August 29, 2022 after holding a couple special meetings with public support of the project and have passed their final recommendations on to the Board for implementation; Donation forms were used at Bridge Walk to generate funds for flags and bricks at Crossroads Park and donations continue to come in; Once the Master Plan & Rec Plan are complete the township will have the tools necessary to apply for Rec Grants to finish the park.

**Zoning Board of Appeals** – Neumann stated no pending cases.

**Lovells Media and Reading Center** – Hopp briefed on new shelving and “book boxes”; Book Sale at Bridge Walk raised $263.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Neumann briefed on request to adopt a township exterior lighting ordinance; Neumann stated that in his 12 years as Supervisor the only complaints have been on one property and the owner was cooperating by removing some of the lighting per his request; Also, per our attorney, the only place to put it would be in our Zoning Ordinance and the properties with existing lighting would be “grandfathered in”; Hopp suggested using the existing Nuisance Ordinance; Neumann looked at that and didn’t think it would work; Hopp disagreed and will work on researching how it might be enforced using this existing ordinance; Infante-Inman stated that she would be in favor of revoking the Special Use Permit for Short Term Rental if, in fact, she is not cooperating with Neumann on the light removal as stated by Johnson; Neumann to visit property to investigate lighting issue.
2. Neumann briefed on the American Rescue Plan Act funds which totaled $65,000 and must be expended by 2025; Some funds have been used for infrastructure at Crossroads Park as previously discussed, but we need to decision a major project(s) to expend these funds; Neumann requested that Board consider options and report back next month.
3. Neumann briefed on Camp Grayling’s Camp Expansion Proposal which has significant constituent opposition and stated that the Anglers of the Au Sable will be taking action and have a great track record in defeating issues they find detrimental to the river and it’s watershed areas; Neumann asked if the Board thought the Resolution we passed last month was strong enough? ; Hopp stated that she did not feel that it was strong enough and asked if members of audience agreed and several agreed with her; Neumann will work on another follow-up Resolution; Hopp and members of audience want a “Just say No” resolution adopted.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Neumann briefed on Fick & Sons propane quote of $1.749/gallon for the upcoming heating season 10/1/22-4/30/23; Neumann moved, Infante-Inman supported a motion to accept quote as presented; In a roll call vote: All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.
2. Neumann briefed on Gary Lewicki’s return as our township maintenance man; Board discussed the possibility of purchasing our own lawnmower and having Lewicki handle the township lawn maintenance; Also, end of the season may be the time to purchase the mower; Neumann to follow-up and report back on the topic.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:** Snowplowing bids due by 10/8/22; Infante-Inman briefed on the success of the 31st Annual Lovells Bridge Walk held August 20; Record-breaking funds with over $16,000 raised and $14,800 after expenses; Many first time Bridge Walkers; Neumann briefed on a Township Focus Magazine article regarding our L-4029 and gave a brief explanation of the form.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** 11:05 AM -Neumann opened Public Comment; Duby left to collect taxes in her office; Gergosky and Cail asked questions on Crossroads Park income & expenses; Neumann addressed and answered those questions; Kings expressed their appreciation to the Board on the park and several members of the audience agreed with this statement; 11:25 AM-Neumann closed Public Comment.

11:25 AM- Neumann moved, Infante-Inman supported a motion to adjourn. All Ayes; MOTION CARRIED.

Next Regular Meeting of the Board will be held Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 10 AM at the Township Hall.

Cynthia Infante-Inman

Lovells Township Clerk