

**LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2011**

Present: Hale, Regan, Anderson, Blough, VanderZiel
Absent: Stougaard, Thompson

Supervisor Jerry Hale called the meeting to order in the Township Hall at 7:00 pm.

AGENDA APPROVAL – Hale asked to add Bowne Fire Department request under No. 3, New Business. Blough moved, VanderZiel seconded, to approve the agenda with the addition. Motion carried.

MINUTES – Blough moved, Anderson seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting and budget hearing of February 22, 2011. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Anderson moved, Regan seconded, to accept the Treasurer’s report. Motion carried.

BILLS – Blough moved, Anderson seconded, to pay the special bills:

Bowne Twp Fire	4 th Qtr Pymt	\$14,687.57
Bowne Twp Treas	Tax Bill Sewer	\$592.54
City of Lowell	Water/Sewer	\$18,043.80
GR Eastern RR	Pk Rd Crossing	\$694.58
Infrastructure Altern	Water/Sewer	\$5,599.30
KCI	Postage	\$700.00
Lowell Twp Water	Hydrant Fees	\$10,000.00
MainStreet Planning	Planning Svcs	\$1,929.00

Motion carried.

Anderson moved, VanderZiel seconded, the current bills be approved; General Fund - \$37,688.40; Sewer Fund - \$9,164.65; Water Fund - \$15,610.62; Check Nos. 18713-18744, Payroll Nos. 9127- 9150. Motion carried.

REPORTS – The Ordinance Enforcement Officer and Fire Authority submitted written reports. Blough reported for the Purchase of Development Rights program. Blough also updated the Board about the Fire Authority meeting earlier in the day.

CORRESPONDENCE – None.

ORDINANCE NO. 02-2011 OUTDOOR FURNACES – Dave Simmonds, Planning Commission Chair, was present to give an overview of the proposed ordinance for outdoor furnaces. The planning commission, at their February meeting, recommended the Township Board adopt the ordinance. Anderson moved, Regan seconded, to adopt Ordinance No. 02-2011 Outdoor Furnaces; ayes – Hale, Regan, Anderson: nays – Blough, VanderZiel. Motion carried.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP FIRE AGREEMENT – An amendment to the fire agreement between Bowne and Lowell Township was reviewed. This agreement changes the formula for compensation for the Bowne Township Fire Department which services the southern twelve sections of Lowell Township. After discussion, VanderZiel moved, Anderson seconded, to table the agreement until it is reviewed by the Township attorney. Motion carried.

2010/2011 YEAR END BUDGET AMENDMENTS - Budget amendments for revenues and expenditures were reviewed. Blough moved, Anderson seconded, to amend the 2010/2011 as presented. Motion carried.

LUSCIOUS LANDSCAPES MOWING PROPOSAL – Luscious Landscapes submitted a proposal for mowing and maintenance of the Township Hall, Park and cemeteries. At the February meeting it was sent back to LL for revision. Several items were deleted and the revised proposal was discussed. Anderson moved, VanderZiel seconded, to accept the revised proposal from Luscious Landscapes. Motion carried.

ALTO 5K WALK/RUN – A letter of request from the Alto Elementary PTO was reviewed. They would like permission from the Township to allow use of the roads for the 5K Walk/Run which will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2011 beginning at 8:30 a.m.. The roads will not be closed and traffic warnings will be provided. Anderson moved, Blough seconded, to allow use of the roads in Lowell Township for the Alto 5K Walk/Run. Motion carried.

HOME BASED OCCUPATION – The issue of a home occupation allowing outside employees was discussed. The current definition does not allow anyone not living in the home to be employed at the home occupation. Several Board members would like to see this changed. There was discussion about various ways to allow businesses to operate from their homes under a special use permit. Everyone agreed to bring this back for more discussion at future meetings.

BOWNE FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST – The Bowne Township Fire Chief is writing a grant to the Lowell Area Community Fund to request \$50,000 toward a pumper truck and asked for a letter of support from the Board. After discussion, it was agreed that any requests for funds should come from Lowell Township. The Board did not support this request.

PUBLIC COMMENT – One citizen commented.

ADJOURNMENT – Regan moved, VanderZiel seconded, the meeting adjourn at 9:14 p.m.. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda S. Regan, Clerk
Charter Township of Lowell

Jerry Hale, Supervisor