

**LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2005**

Present: Timpson, Regan, Stougaard, Bonn, Blough, Den Houter, Huver
Absent: None

The meeting was called to order in the Township Hall by the Supervisor, John Timpson, at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA APPROVAL – Timpson moved, Stougaard seconded, the agenda be approved moving Rockford Ambulance to the top. Motion carried.

ROCKFORD AMBULANCE – Roger Morgan, Rockford Ambulance, and Frank Martin, Fire Chief, were present to talk about the proposal for an addition to the fire station for Rockford Ambulance. The cost of the project is estimated to be \$243,000. They are applying to the Lowell Area Community Fund for a grant for \$125,000 and would like Lowell City, Lowell Township and Vergennes Township to contribute \$16,000 each. Rockford Ambulance will contribute \$70,000. They would also like a letter of support for the grant application. There were questions about cost overrun, need for the size of addition and Rockford Ambulance’s budget. Bonn moved, Stougaard seconded, the proposal be tabled until the workshop meeting so that the Board can review the budget before committing to the project. Motion carried.

MINUTES – Stougaard moved, Huver seconded, the minutes of the regular meeting of November 21, 2005 be accepted. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Regan moved, Blough seconded, the Treasurer’s report be accepted. Motion carried.

BILLS – Bonn moved, Stougaard seconded, the special bills be paid:

City of Lowell	Wtr, Swr,	\$16,143.59
City of Lowell	Fire, Rescue	\$6,952.23
AGI	Annual Maint	\$1,450.00
Infrastructure Altern	Water/Sewer Oper	\$1,445.00
KCI	Tax Bills	\$938.77
Luscious Landscapes	Lawn Maint	\$1,020.00
Main Street Planning	Planning	\$4,304.58
Mika, Meyers	Attorney	\$5,482.86
Michigan Mun League	Insurance	\$8,982.00
Plumber’s Enviromental	Sewer	\$4,535.17
Robert Grooters	Escrow Refund	\$8,275.00
West Michigan Office	Chairs	\$2,415.00

Motion carried.

Stougaard moved, Regan seconded, the current bills be approved; General Fund - \$52,043.02, Sewer Fund - \$10,418.29, Water Fund - \$14,340.60; Check Nos. 15821-15866; Payroll Nos. 7612-7646. Motion carried.

AUDIT PROPOSALS – There were three audit proposals submitted for consideration. Plante and Moran bid \$41,100 for three years, Siegfried, Crandall bid \$31,500 and Hungerford, Aldrin, Nichols & Carter bid \$30,700. Regan moved, Stougaard seconded, the bid be awarded to Hungerford, Aldrin, Nichols PC for \$30,700 for three years. Motion carried.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS APPOINTMENT – Dave Simmonds has submitted his resignation from the Zoning Board of Appeals. Regan moved, Bonn seconded, Gerald Persha be appointed to fill Dave Simmonds' term on the Zoning Board of Appeals which expires March 2006, and to be appointed for a three year term which will expire March 2009. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT – Dave Simmonds' term on the Planning Commission expires January 2006. Regan moved, Blough seconded, Dave Simmonds be reappointed to the Planning Commission for a three year term. Motion carried.

Carlton Blough's term as Board Representative on the Planning Commission expires in January 2006. Leonard Den Houter has expressed an interest in serving on the Planning Commission. Timpson moved, Huver seconded, Leonard Den Houter be appointed to serve as Board Representative on the Planning Commission. Motion carried. This is a three year term.

AGREEMENT – AUCTIONEER – The Treasurer would like to enter into an agreement with Miedema Auctioneering, Inc.. This agreement will allow the Treasurer to collect and sell personal property for tax purposes. Regan moved, Blough seconded, the Treasurer be allowed to sign the agreement with Miedema Auctioneering, Inc.. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUNDS – Stougaard moved, Den Houter seconded, the contract for \$3,000 for the North Kent Transit Service be renewed. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-06 POVERTY EXEMPTIONS – Regan moved, Den Houter seconded, resolution no. 2005-06 be adopted to establish guidelines for poverty exemption; ayes – Blough, Bonn, Stougaard, Timpson, Huver, Den Houter, Regan; nays – none; motion carried.

UPDATE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – The Township needs to adopt a social security number privacy policy by the end of the year and include it in the policies and procedures handbook. The hours required for full time status also need to be changed to 24 hours. Regan moved, Stougaard seconded, the Township adopt the Social Security Privacy Policy and change the number of hours required for full time status to 24 hours. Motion carried.

LAWN MAINTENANCE PROPOSAL – Luscious Landscapes submitted a proposal for lawn maintenance for the 2006 season for mowing the hall, cemeteries and the park. The basic cost of mowing will be the same as last year and there is a quote for additional items that need to be done seasonally. Bonn moved, Den Houter seconded, the proposal be accepted. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MEETING DATES 2006 - Stougaard moved, Huver seconded, the meeting dates for 2006 be approved. Motion carried.

REPORTS – Sandy Graham, Alto Librarian, and Joe Dollar, Ordinance Enforcement Officer, submitted written reports. Carlton Blough reported for the Planning Commission.

OTHER – The MTA conference is in Grand Rapids in January 2006. Bonn moved, Regan seconded, the Township pay for up to 10 people to attend the MTA conference. Motion carried. The applications need to be in to the Clerk by Thursday, December 29, 2005.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS – Dan Kusnic, Lowell Ledger, wanted to clarify the Board appointments. Paula Blumm commented on the Rockford Ambulance proposal.

AJOURNMENT – Huver moved, Stougaard seconded, the meeting adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda S. Regan, Clerk
Charter Township of Lowell

John R. Timpson, Supervisor