

**LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2006**

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 – Stougaard moved, Blough seconded, the agenda be approved. Motion carried.

MINUTES – Bonn moved, Blough seconded, the minutes of the regular meeting of December 19, 2005 be accepted. Motion carried.

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

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

City of Lowell	Wtr, Swr,	\$12,677.77
City of Lowell	Fire, Rescue	\$4,298.71
Infrastructure Altern	Water/Sewer Oper	\$1,460.00
Lowell Light & Power	Street Lights	\$2,126.41
Michigan Townships A	Conference	\$1,243.00
Mika, Meyers	Attorney	\$4,020.97
Midstate Security	Security System	\$1,572.00
V Tec Engineering	Engineering	\$4,250.00

Motion carried.

Blough moved, Bonn seconded, the current bills be approved; General Fund - \$27,672.37, Sewer Fund - \$7,055.77, Water Fund - \$9,404.59; Check Nos. 15867-15906; Payroll Nos. 7647-7676. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT – BUDGET UPDATE – The Clerk presented the financial report and budget update for the third quarter. Stougaard moved, Bonn seconded, the report be accepted. Motion carried.

PRELIMINARY BUDGET 2006/2007 – The preliminary budget for 2006/2007 was reviewed. Estimated revenues are \$576,980 and estimated expenditures are \$565,985. There is \$10,995 remaining. There have been three requests for funding; Bowne Township Fire Department has requested help in purchasing equipment, Rockford Ambulance has requested \$16,000 toward an addition to the Look Fire Station, and the Lowell Historical Museum has requested \$5,000 per year for operating funds. Regan moved, Stougaard seconded, the public hearing for the budget be set for the regular meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2006. Motion carried.

REZONING – PARCEL #41-20-33-200-001 – Dave Simmonds, Planning Commission Chairman, was present to talk to the Board about the Planning Commission’s recommendation to rezone 64 acres of property owned by Joseph Merriman located at 5214 Bancroft Avenue SE (PP# 41-20-33-200-001) from AG1 to AG2. Mr. Merriman was also present to answer questions. The property is 80 acres, but he is only interested in rezoning the 64 acres that he would like to put in the Farmland Preservation Program. The 64 acre portion of the property is west of the Pratt Lake

Drain and does not include two acres that his house and barn are on. The Purchase of Development Rights Board approved the purchase of the development rights, but their appraisal was not in line with the appraisal that Mr. Merriman obtained. By rezoning the property, Mr. Merriman's appraisal might be reconsidered by the PDR board. There were questions about development of the property if he was not able to reach an agreement with the PDR board. He stated that "there will be no housing developments". He also stated that he would be willing to rezone the property back to Ag 1 if the development rights were not purchased. He would like to have a year to get through the process with the PDR Board. Huver moved, Blough seconded, the Board support the Planning Commission's recommendation and rezone the property to AG 2; ayes – Stougaard, Timpson, Huver, Den Houter, Regan, Blough; nays – Bonn; motion carried.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUNDS – The Senior Neighbors would like the \$5,000 that was allocated to them in 2002/2003 for improvements to the parking area to be used for improving services instead. Huver moved, Stougaard seconded, the Senior Neighbors be allowed to use the \$5,000 as requested. Motion carried. Supervisor Timpson will sign the contract.

DEFIBRILLATOR – A quote from Medtronic for a defibrillator at a cost of \$2,388 was submitted for approval. Bonn questioned the cost of maintenance. Bowne Township's fire department has one and recommends the purchase of one for Lowell Township. Stougaard moved, Regan seconded, the quote be accepted. Motion carried.

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

OTHER – Supervisor Timpson stated that the survey for gypsy moths was complete and he was waiting for the cost per acre to spray for them in the spring. He will bring this information back to the Board for approval.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS – Sandy Graham stated that the light on the flag at the gas station on Alden Nash was excessive. Blough asked about recovering the cost of the fire department responding to the incident on I96.

AJOURNMENT – Regan moved, Stougaard seconded, the meeting adjourn at 8:19 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda S. Regan, Clerk
Charter Township of Lowell

John R. Timpson, Supervisor