

Regular Meeting of the Lovells Township Board
May 15, 2018

Present: Gary Neumann, Ann Duby, Cheryl Hopp, Heather Lovell

Absent: Cynthia Infante-Inman

Also Present: Marcie McKinney, Dave Lovell, Matt & Erica Letts

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

Neumann advised us of an additional New Business item (1A) to add to the agenda re: Chickens and goats. The Board had no objection to adding this item.

Neumann moved, Hopp supported a motion to accept the minutes of the April 10, 2018 Regular meeting of the Board as presented. All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

Neumann moved, Hopp supports a motion to approve pre-paid vouchers dated April 6 through May 9, 2018 as presented: General Fund totaling \$5, 029.87; Fire Fund totaling \$5, 469.43; Landfill Fund totaling \$ 2,556.97 and Liquor Fund totaling \$77.84

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Duby mentioned that there was a balancing discrepancy in the General Fund Account that would be cleared up upon Infante-Inman's return to the office but that is was not going to be an issue...just a matter of cross checking items.

Correspondence: None

Department Reports:

Assessing—Neumann reported that the 20% parcel inspection has been completed at both lakes. The only parcels pending inspection are those with open building permits and those will be done in the fall prior to the taxes being issued.

Fire Dept—No report

Liquor Inspector—Received and on file

Zoning Administrator—No activity for April

Zoning Enforcement Officer—Neumann reported he was filling in till vacancy has been filled and said his report will be discussed as New Business 1A

Commissions and Boards:

Board of Review: Neumann expects that July meeting will be scheduled.

Historical Society—Lovell Reported on the success of the Opening Day activities and informed the board about the proposed expansion to the Fly Fishing Museum, asking for the board approval to move ahead with the project and fund raising efforts. Bob Bumgardner will be the contractor for the exterior and hire out the electrical but that members will finish off the inside. Board discussed it and would like to see a blue print or some rendering of what the expansion will look like. Rich Perry or Eric Bankhead will follow up with Supervisor Neumann.

Lovells Media and Reading Center—Hopp reported that thing are going well and expected things to pick up as summer people return.

Crawford County Planning Commission/Lovells Twp Planning Commission—No report, Neumann mentioned that they did meet last evening and expected to get a report when Infante-Inman returns.

Zoning Board of Appeals—No report; nothing pending

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. The board discussed Hopp's progress with acquiring new picnic tables for the pavilion. This subject has been tabled until next meeting when Hopp expects to have more information from the two suppliers we are considering.

NEW BUSINESS:

ADDED: 1A. Matt & Erica Letts who live on a parcel located just outside of Warblers, which is less than one acre, discussed why they believed they should be able to keep their animals and chickens on their property. Neumann mentioned that he had two complaints from area home owners. He also addressed the Board on the current Ordinance (3.11) which outlines what animals (domestic and “farm”) are allowed in residential districts. The Ordinance allows for “farm” animals on ten (10) acres or more. The Board discussed options and suggested that first we contact the township lawyer. Neumann will be the lead contact on this and follow up at our next meeting. In the meantime, any enforcement action will be “pending” until we have had a discussion with our attorney.

1. Neumann suggested that the township again donate \$400.00 toward the paper products needed for the Bridge Walk in August. Neumann moved, Lovell supported the expenditure of \$400.00 towards the 2018 Bridgewalk. All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.
2. Township Newsletter will need to be printed up and ready to go with taxes by July 1st. Any articles submitted must be to Lovell no later than June 4, 2018. Subjects discussed: Gary will do Cabin Quilts and Bamboo Bend Project; Cindy will do an update on Bridge Walk; Cheryl will do a Reading Room update. Other subject to be determined.
3. Neumann updated us on the river access project at the Lovells Bridge. He presented a letter in support of the efforts from the Lovells Historical Society. Neumann also explained the DNR Grant process and the Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund (MNRTF). We will need matching funds up to 25% in order to qualify for this grant; the possibility of forming a 501C3 in order to help raise funds was considered and discussed. Due to the fact that this must be done electronically, at the request of Neumann, Lovell will work through the grant process with Neumann.
4. Neumann briefed us on this year’s Bamboo Bend project held in the township hall last week. It was very successful and the participants were pleased with the location. They have asked to return next year at approximately the same time of the year but expanding their days by two or three more. A fee of \$600.00 for their use of the hall was recommended. The Board discussed it and all agreed that it is a good thing and we welcome them back next year.
5. The only Enforcement Officer Applications received were from current employees of the township: Jason Bolf and Ron Tallieu. The board discussed each of the applicants and felt either one could do an outstanding job but eventually decided that Ron Tallieu was the best match for the job. Neumann will make the calls and thank them both for their interest.
6. Marcie McKinney presented a few ideas for us to consider for the township hall’s Cabin Quilt. The Board agreed on a circular patriotic design. Marcie offered to complete it and she and Tom will donate the materials.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Household Hazardous Waste and Tire collection will be held at the Crawford County Courthouse on June 16, 2018 from 9am – 2pm. Each township, county-wide, will also be providing 2-3 paid employees to help assist with the collection of these materials.
2. Leaky Wader update – successful day and thanks to all who helped out
3. Neumann attended a county commissioners meeting on April 26, 2018 where the subject of road millage funds were discussed. Two townships (Maple Forest and Grayling Charter) proposed that part of the \$500,000.00 /1 Mil for county road improvements be used for “non-primary” roads. The current language doesn’t outline primary or non primary. The commissions voted on it and agreed not to change the language on the ballot for the renewal. When Neumann asked what that might do to the current schedule of projects if non-primary roads were added to the schedule he was told it would likely slide the schedule back. (i.e. Twin Bridge is scheduled for 2021 that we could expect that would move further into the future if non-primary roads were added to the schedule.) Ultimately the decision on which roads will be repaired will lie in the hands of the three elected officials.

Public Comment: Opened at 11:26 AM -- ***No public comments*** -- Closed at 11:27 AM

11:28 AM Neumann moved and DUBY supported a motion to adjourn. All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED

Next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at 10 AM

Respectfully Submitted,
Heather Lovell-
Lovells Township Deputy Clerk