

**Regular Meeting of the Lovells Township Board and
Transfer Stations Special Assessment Public Hearing
August 13, 2013**

PRESENT: Ann C. DUBY, Cynthia Infante, Heather Lovell, Gary A. Neumann and Annette Stimpson

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Assessor Jamie Houserman, Jerry and Jan Bunge, Bill Nash, John Horning, Tom and Marcella McKinney, Fire Chief Lewicki, Dave Lovell, Jim and Rose Dugdale, Joanne Phillips, Darby Kuenzel, Carolyn Swift, Pat Dawson, Walter Kirbitz, John Dallas, Bud and Mary Armstrong, Randy Long, Bob and Roxie Chumack and Charles and Pat Wummel. Not all residents present signed in.

Supervisor Neumann called the Board Meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Neumann moved, Infante supported a motion to recess the Regular Meeting of the Board at 7:01 PM

Neumann called the Public Hearing for the Transfer Stations Special Assessment District to order at 7:01 PM.

Neumann reviewed Landfill Fund background. Neumann stated intent of the public hearing. Neumann asked if anyone in the audience had a written objection to the proposed Special Assessment District. Neumann stated he received one via the mail. No one in the audience had written objections. Neumann then stated the hearing ground rules. Neumann asked if anyone had any objections, revisions, corrections, amendments or changes to the cost estimates or the makeup of the proposed Special Assessment District. There were none. Neumann opened the hearing to public comment at 7:07 PM.

John Horning, after stating his taxable value, asked if it would cost him more. Neumann stated, based upon his taxable value that it would not. Neumann asked how many agreed that this was fair. About 27 residents agreed.

A resident asked what the average cost would be? Neumann stated \$65 to \$70 annually per improved parcel.

A resident asked why we had a surplus in the Landfill Fund. Stimpson and Infante gave background information. Essentially the township set the millage too high.

A resident asked if unimproved parcels would pay a fee. Neumann and Infante answered no. Camping permits are required to camp on an unimproved parcel and our fees will be adjusted upward accordingly.

Charles Wummel asked why we did not give the money from the excessive Landfill Fund Millage back to the people. Neumann and Infante reviewed the many options we discussed as a board. Wummel did not agree with the way the Board arrived at its decision. Neumann asked how many agreed with Wummel. No one raised their hand.

Darby Kuenzel stated that the board has discussed this at many regular board meetings and that the purpose of this hearing is not to rehash those issues. She stated most people will be paying less. Further, she stated that the board, in making its decision, took it to the voters, and the voters passed it. She stated we should move forward. Neumann asked how many agreed with Kuenzel. Approximately 27 people raised their hand.

A resident asked about the handouts provided. Neumann explained.

Kuenzel commented on how high her tax bill was with the old tax millage and how she felt this was fairer. General consensus was favorable.

A resident thanked the board for a job well done.

Fire Chief Lewicki commented on his savings with the new assessment district.

Ann DUBY commented that she agreed with new district, that she would be paying more, but figures she was getting a bargain for years.

Neumann closed the hearing to Public Comment at 7:37 PM.

Neumann moved that the Public Hearing adjourn and the Regular Meeting of the Board reconvene, Lovell supported. All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

7:38 PM Regular Meeting of the Board reconvened.

Neumann moved that our first order of business be to consider the Transfer Stations Special Assessment Resolution, Infante supported. All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

Clerk Infante read verbatim the Resolution 08/13 of 2013. In a roll call vote: All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

Clerk Infante asked Supervisor Neumann if he has made a special assessment roll. Neumann responded that he, with the assistance of the Assessor, has completed a special assessment roll and that (1) it contains a total of 983 parcels and (2) he has officially filed the roll in the office of the Township Clerk per MCL 41.726.

Stimpson moved, Neumann supported a motion to accept the minutes of the 7/09/13 Regular Meeting of the Board with a minor correction. All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

Neumann moved, Lovell supported a motion to approve pre-paid vouchers dated July 10, 2013 through August 13, 2013 as presented: General Fund totaling \$7,998.55; Direct Deposit Checks totaling \$2,635.14; Fire Fund totaling \$5,807.24; Landfill Fund totaling \$3,500.86; and Liquor Fund totaling \$73.05. In a roll call vote: All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

Treasurer's Report accepted as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE: Note regarding Jim Killam's donation of artwork to Town Hall; Note regarding Dan Feldhauser's art donation to Town Hall; Letter from Michigan Township Participating Plan Risk Reduction Grant Program stating they were unable to fund our last project request; Crawford County Central Dispatch Activity Report for July 2013; Website Audience Data as provided by Ponder Consulting; Memo regarding change in the Crawford County Road Commission meeting schedule.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Assessing - Assessor Houserman commented on her written report.

Fire Department – Chief Lewicki reported 5 runs for the month of July (3-Medical; 2-Fire); One half of deposit for fuel tanks was made from last year's Bridgewalk Funds.

Liquor Inspector – Infante received the report and it's on file.

Zoning Administrator – Infante received no report.

Zoning Enforcement Officer - Dave Lovell currently working on one case.

COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS:

Board of Review - No report.

Historical Society - Lovell reported on Annual Beaver, Beer & Banjo proceeds and that one local student will be receiving a \$500 scholarship; Leaky Wader Event will return next year; T-shirts will be available at the museum.

Lovells Township Planning Commission – No report

Crawford County Planning Commission – No Report

Zoning Board of Appeals - Neumann reported that there is a Green Belt Zone appeal that will be heard in a public hearing on 9/3/13 at 3:30 PM in Township Hall.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Neumann provided board with draft/proposed Fire and Landfill Fund Budgets for next month's board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Opened at 8:16 PM; Residents commented on roads. Infante encouraged residents to attend the Road Commission meetings. Randy Long asked about the CCRC's meeting schedule. Infante noted that it was available on County's Website. Residents commented on the fiber optic internet. 8:23 PM comments closed.

Neumann moved to adjourn, Lovell supported a motion to adjourn. All Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM.

Cynthia Infante
Lovells Township Clerk

