

Larkin Charter Township
Regular Board Meeting
3027 N Jefferson Rd, Midland
Tuesday, September 12, 2023 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Members present: *Sadow, Moe, Benter-Rich, Owens, Hitchcock, Draves*

Absent: *Deitsch*

Guests: *None*

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Acceptance of agenda with addition of addendum for the purchase offer for township property.

Motion to accept agenda as revised by Draves, support from Owens.

Roll call vote:

Yeas: *Moe, Benter-Rich, Hitchcock, Owens, Draves, Sadow*

Nays: *None*

Absent: *Deitsch*

Correspondence

None.

Public Comment

None.

Action Items:

- *Water Moratorium.*

The current water moratorium expires September 30, 2023. The moratorium needs to be extended another six months.

Motion by *Sadow*, support by *Draves*, to extend the water moratorium for another six months.

Yeas: *Benter-Rich, Owens, Hitchcock, Draves, Sadow, Moe*

Nays: *None*

Absent: *Deitsch*

- *Form L-4029 Millage Rate.*

Form L-4029 is prepared and submitted to the Midland County Department of Equalization annually. The rate of 2 mills for Larkin Township needs to be approved by the Township Board.

Motion by Hitchcock, support by Moe to approve the rate of 2 mills for the L-4029 Form.

Yeas: *Owens, Hitchcock, Draves, Sandow, Moe, Benter-Rich*

Nays: *None*

Absent: *Deitsch*

■ *Bids for Columbarium Pad and Benches.*

We received three bids for the columbarium pad from local contractors. Since Supervisor Sandow provided a subcontractor bid for two of the three bids, she asked to abstain from voting.

Motion by Hitchcock, support by Benter-Rich, to permit Supervisor Sandow from voting on this motion.

Yeas: *Hitchcock, Draves, Moe, Benter-Rich, Owens*

Nays: *None*

Absent: *Deitsch*

Abstain: *Sandow*

Bids received:

Mid-Michigan Masonry	\$5,200
Sczepanski Concrete	\$6,900
Weckesser Builders	\$6,130

Motion by Draves, support by Owens, to contract with Mid-Michigan Masonry for the Columbarium pad.

Yeas: *Draves, Moe, Benter-Rich, Owens, Hitchcock*

Nays: *None*

Absent: *Deitsch*

Abstain: *Sandow*

After reviewing the bench options presented, the Board has asked the Cemetery Sexton for more options.

■ *Home Occupation & Fence Ordinances.*

The Planning Commission has written a Home Occupation Ordinance and Fence Ordinance. They are asking the Board to introduce these ordinances.

Motion by Benter-Rich, support by Draves, to introduce the Home Occupation Ordinance and the Fence Ordinance.

Yeas: *Sadow, Moe, Benter-Rich, Owens, Hitchcock, Draves*

Nays: *None*

Absent: *Deitsch*

- *Placement of Acorn Path.*

As discussed at previous meetings, the surveyed path and the actual current path from Acorn Lane to the Park are not the same. The Board needs to determine which path should be used for improvements.

Motion by Benter-Rich, support by Moe, to improve the path as surveyed. Trees will need to be removed and the Township will fund the gate at the entrance of the park. The Board will work with Zailey Archbold to obtain necessary EGLE permits.

Yeas: *Moe, Benter-Rich, Owens, Hitchcock, Draves, Sadow*

Nays: *None*

Absent: *Deitsch*

- *Contract with County Clerk for Early Voting Super Centers.*

Proposal 2 requires nine days of early voting for all state and federal elections. The State is encouraging jurisdictions to work together to create super centers for voting. The County is planning a super center for all townships and cities in Midland County. An agreement was presented to the Board.

Due to Clerk Benter-Rich's involvement with the County Super Center, she asked to abstain from voting on this contract.

Motion by Hitchcock, support by Owens, to permit Clerk Benter-Rich from voting on this motion.

Yeas: *Owens, Hitchcock, Draves, Sadow, Moe*

Nays: *None*

Absent: *Deitsch*

Abstain: *Benter-Rich*

Motion by Hitchcock, support by Moe, to enter into agreement with the County for the Early Voting Super Center. Contract will be reviewed by Township Attorney, Andrew Thompson, before signing.

Yeas: *Hitchcock, Draves, Sadow, Moe, Owens*

Nays: *None*

Absent: *Deitsch*

Abstain: *Benter-Rich*

- *Budget Workshop Schedule.*

Two budget workshops are set for October 16 and October 23, both at 6:00 pm at the Township Office Conference Room.

▪ *R&A Myers vs. Larkin Township Case Update.*

There was a hearing on September 10th appealing the Cease & Desist Order. They have been permitted to continue digging the ponds but are not permitted to sell the sand.

The Township does not currently have a Pond Ordinance.

Motion by Sandow, support by Benter-Rich, to request the Planning Commission to create a Pond Ordinance.

Yeas: *Draves, Sandow, Moe, Benter-Rich, Owens, Hitchcock*

Nays: *None*

Absent: *Deitsch*

▪ *Addendum to purchase offer on Lot B of Township Property.*

The party who has submitted a purchase offer for Lot B of Township Property have asked for an addendum to the purchase offer, allowing them to withdraw from the offer if the easement requirements are not agreeable.

Motion by Draves, support by Benter-Rich, to approve the addendum to the purchase offer for Lot B.

Yeas: *Sandow, Moe, Benter-Rich, Owens, Hitchcock, Draves*

Nays: *None*

Absent: *Deitsch*

Consent Agenda

Approval of September Payroll, August/September Invoices, August 8th Special Board Meeting Minutes and August 8th Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Motion by Draves, support from Hitchcock.

Yeas: *All*

Nays: *None*

Absent: *None*

Department Reports:

Fire Department:

- 29 calls since last report:
 - 16 Medical

- 8 Vehicle Accidents
 - 2 Electrical/Tree Hazards
 - 1 Gas Leaks
 - 1 Automatic Fire Alarm
 - 1 Fire Investigation
- Truck Purchase Update: Cab shell has been completed and painted.
 - Provided first aid and fire coverage for Little League Tournament. All went well.
 - Planning open house/safety day for October 3rd from 6 pm – 8 pm.

The draft report from CPSM has been delivered. Supervisor Sandow would like to form a committee including herself, Trustee Draves, Clerk Benter-Rich, and Charles Goodman, Planning Chair.

Motion by Hitchcock, support by Moe, to form committee to review the CPSM study.

Yeas: *Sandow, Moe, Benter-Rich, Owens, Hitchcock, Draves*

Nays: *None*

Absent: *Deitsch*

Clerk:

- Thank you to Chief Hammond for providing instructions and setting up AED equipment for staff.

Treasurer:

- No report

Township Code Authority:

- Building Permits: 6 (1 new construction)
- Plumbing Permits: 17
- Mechanical Permits: 9
- Electrical Permits: 5

Park/Park Committee:

- Need to replace little playhouse on large playground.
- Bench delivered from community art project.

Cemetery:

- No additional updates.

Hall:

- No updates.

Assessor:

- Assessor Tait is retiring. Board will place ads in various professional publications.
- There is one pending Michigan Tax Tribunal appeal - Robert Granett 3075 Alderberry Court. The appeal has been answered and currently waiting for a court date.
- The 2023 Assessment roll 660 Audit was June 28, 2023. Attached are the results.
- We have 1 pending STC (State Tax Commission taxable value appeal for 4251 Monroe Road. This hearing will be in Lansing and should be scheduled for September.
- Working on measuring new construction and entering sale data in the computer.
- June deeds have been entered in our database.
- Working on the sales study with Equalization for the 2024 assessment roll.

Planning Commission:

- Public Hearing for Fence Ordinance and Home Occupancy Ordinance is scheduled for September 6th.

Zoning Board of Appeals

- No report.

Zoning Enforcement:

- Investigating smaller complaints at this time: noise, blight.

Roads:

- Roundabout is open. Lighting needs to be installed by Consumers.
- Letts Road information open house at Township Hall was earlier today September 12th. Survey is available for one week.

Supervisor:

- No report.

Public Comment: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lisa Benter-Rich, Clerk



Maria Sandow, Supervisor