

LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP  
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
4338 Beeline Road  
Holland, MI 49423

February 17, 2021  
Regular meeting  
6:00 p.m. through Zoom

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Tom Shuff called the regular Parks & Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dick Becker (Zoom from Laketown residence),  
Karen Simmons (Zoom from Laketown residence),  
Tom Shuff (Zoom from Laketown residence),  
Kathleen Dearborn (Zoom from Laketown residence),  
Jeremy Van Hoven (Zoom from Laketown residence)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township Manager (Zoom)  
Jim Hayden – Recording Secretary

ARTICLE II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion by Becker seconded by Simmons to approve January 20, 2021, minutes with the change of “Decker” to “Becker.” Shuff called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED BY ROLL CALL**

ARTICLE III. APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT

**Motion by Dearborn seconded by Van Hoven to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Shuff called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED BY ROLL CALL**

#### ARTICLE IV. TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORTS – Meshkin

Meshkin reported the township board at its February 10 meeting set salaries for all board members, approved a poverty exemption resolution and approved new parks commissioner Jeremy Van Hoven. Shuff welcomed Van Hoven to the commission.

#### ARTICLE V. STAFF REPORTS – Meshkin

Meshkin noted the township is keeping the bike paths plowed.

#### ARTICLE VI. HUYSER CARETAKER REPORT – NONE

#### ARTICLE VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. PARKS SIGNS: WELCOMING, DOGS AND OTHER. -- NONE

B. PARKS MILLAGE DISCUSSION.

Meshkin will invite Tom Page to talk to the commission when in-person meetings are permitted, possibly April. Commissioners spoke of other means of funding parks other than a millage, including a special assessment. Meshkin will further investigate it.

#### ARTICLE VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. PICKLEBALL BIDS.

Commissioners discussed the eight bids for pickleball improvements. Meshkin said if the township board approves the recommendation, construction could be in July or August with completion by the end of summer. The bid was slightly more than estimated, but if the decision is delayed a year, the price will likely go up. **Motion by Becker seconded by Dearborn to recommend the township board approve Katerburg VerHage Inc. of Grand Rapids with the low bid of \$147,983 for the Township Hall Park Pickleball Improvements. Shuff called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED BY ROLL CALL.**

B. MEMORIAL.

The commission discussed a memorial bench for Parks Commissioner Ellen Fitch who passed away recently. Meshkin said there was no hurry to decide because the bench company was running a February special on shipping, but you needed to purchase at least \$5,000 to qualify, so a delay will not cost the township any more money. The money will be included in the budget so the parks commission can decide more details at a later date. Meshkin noted the township has received about \$700 in donations in Fitch's name.

C. SANCTUARY WOODS ROAD SIGNS

Becker suggested the township put up "Park Entrance" signs on 66<sup>th</sup> Street at Sanctuary Woods. Meshkin will contact the Allegan County Road Commission about getting the signs installed.

ARTICLE IX. CITIZENS COMMENTS – None

ARTICLE X. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion by Shuff seconded by Van Hoven to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m.  
Shuff called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION  
APPROVED BY ROLL CALL**