

MINUTES  
LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
4338 BEELINE ROAD  
ALLEGAN COUNTY  
HOLLAND, MI 49423

REGULAR MEETING  
October 10, 2018

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Township Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer called the regular monthly Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Hofmeyer, Wendy Van Huis, Ed Stielstra  
Linda Howell, Gary Dewey  
MEMBERS ABSENT: None  
STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township Manager  
Diane Ybarra – Recording Secretary

ARTICLE II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Trustee Ed Stielstra led the pledge of allegiance and offered prayer.

ARTICLE III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board members reviewed the minutes of the September 12, 2018 meeting. **A motion was made by Howell and seconded by Stielstra to approve the minutes as submitted. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE IV. FINANCIAL REPORT / REVIEW & APPROVE THE BILLS

Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer reviewed the bills for the month of September 2018. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Van Huis to approve and pay the bills as submitted. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE V. CORRESPONDENCE RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS - None

ARTICLE VI. REPORT OF OFFICERS

- A. STATE REPRESENTATIVE – No report.
- B. COUNTY COMMISSIONER – No report.
- C. PLANNING COMMISSION – HOWELL

Howell reported that the Planning Commission met on October 3, 2018 and the following items were discussed: Darby Planned Unit Development was tabled; Tucker Special Use Request was tabled; Van Hoven Site Plan was approved; Musthaler Special Use Request was approved; Givannucci-Warner Special Use Request was approved; Accessory Buildings Zoning Text Review was reviewed and scheduled for public hearing

D. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – STIELSTRA

Stielstra reported that the ZBA met on September 26 and approved the Condit variance request and the Gallagher variance request.

E. PARKS COMMISSION – MICHELLE SALL

Sall reported that the Parks Commission met on September 19 and the following items were discussed: Meet & Greet for residents; Day of Caring schedule; 14,500 seedlings were planted at Laketown Beach on the Day of Caring; a crew at Shore Acres cleaned the area; a crew at Sanctuary Woods worked on trails and also a crew at Huyser Farm cleaned trails and trimmed areas; a lottery was held for permit only hunters at Huyser Farm; Lakeview School Park plan was received from City of Holland; pack it in pack it out signs were placed at Farview Park as a test site; Ryan Bosscher resigned due to a move out of the township; a request to have trails mapped at all parks was made by a resident. Hofmeyer asked what type of trails and Sall confirmed the request was for walking trails.

F. FIRE CHIEF AND FIRE BOARD – DOUG DEN BLEYKER

Chief Den Bleyker reported the response calls for the month of September were as follows: 57 calls total, 40 calls from Laketown, consisting of 35 medical/rescue and 5 fire calls; 14 from Fillmore, consisting of 11 medical/rescue calls and 3 fire calls. There was 1 medical/rescue assist to Saugatuck. Den Bleyker reported that Sarah Bushee resigned from the Deputy Chief position and Mike Capal is the replacement. Capal has been on the department since 2016 and also served 27 years on the Hamilton fire Department. Capal has extensive experience as a firefighter and paramedic. He recently completed the Fire Inspection School training and will be a great addition to the department as the full-time Deputy Chief. Hofmeyer welcomed Capal to his new role. Hofmeyer asked Den Bleyker if assists to other departments are billable and/or if the department is billed when assisted. Den Bleyker responded that the language of the mutual agreement contract addresses that no charges are made for assists.

ARTICLE VII. CITIZEN’S COMMENTS ON OLD AND NEW BUSINESS AGENDA ITEMS

Keith Becksvoort of 4468 64<sup>th</sup> Street asked about the Comcast installation at Wolters Woods and the contract being presented tonight. Hofmeyer said the agreement presented tonight will allow the township to tie into the network and allow park goers to access service. Meshkin said we have the agreement now because Comcast building throughout the township for residents so now is the best time to enter into an agreement with them. The proposal is for access in six locations in the township, Wolters Woods, Sanctuary Woods, Felt Mansion, Fire Station, Township Hall and Laketown Beach. This access will provide surveillance at the parks including 911 access at the beach for emergency calls. Safety and security measures on our own network with a dedicated camera feed to provide 30 days of historical surveillance. The system will also allow for live feed and recorded township meetings providing full transparency.

Dick Becker of 2382 Valley asked if the cameras are built into this cost. Meshkin said this is for the fiber network and backload capacity only. There will be additional cost for cameras and telephone system.

Becksvoort asked how much will it all cost and Meshkin said he does not have a firm number but for all of the equipment yet.

Jim Delaney of 6298 144<sup>th</sup> Avenue asked if someone from Comcast would be in to explain all of this to us. Meshkin said the township wide build is expected to be complete by the end of the year pending obtaining all attachment permits from Consumers Power.

Becksvoort said the guys trimming the trees said Comcast is setting their own poles. Meshkin said that may be the case in some areas but he is not aware of it.

Delaney asked again, if a Comcast representative would be in to explain what they are doing. Hofmeyer said we could invite a representative to a meeting.

ARTICLE VIII. OLD BUSINESS – None

ARTICLE IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. COMCAST AGREEMENT

Hofmeyer asked Meshkin to explain the Comcast agreement. It is a monthly fee of \$2,487 to cover the six locations, some of which will be offset by cost savings on current bills. This will provide a fiber network to build on over the years. Howell said Comcast is picking up the cost to install all of this which is approximately \$136,000 and still giving bill credit for the first two months with no equipment charges on construction costs.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Van Huis and seconded by Dewey to adopt the Comcast Agreement. Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

B. PARKS COMMISSION RESIGNATION

Hofmeyer read the written notice from Ryan Bosscher stating that he is moving outside of the township, therefore resigning from the Parks Commission.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Howell and seconded by Van Huis to accept with regret the resignation of Ryan Bosscher from the Parks Commission expressing gratitude for his service. Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

C. TOWNSHIP BOARD RESIGNATION

Hofmeyer explained a letter of resignation from the Township Board was received from Clerk Wendy Van Huis effective November 30, 2018.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Stielstra and seconded by Dewey to accept with regret the resignation of Wendy Van Huis from the Township Board expressing gratitude for her 13 years of service.**

Hofmeyer said this is a surprise and the township certainly appreciates all of the hard work Van Huis has done over the many years and it will be very difficult find a replacement. Van Huis said she has enjoyed her years of service and expressed appreciation for the staff and board members she has served with. Hofmeyer said there are two years left on an unexpired term and will be posted in the township newsletter and local newspaper with the intent to have the seat filled by the end of the year.

**Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION - MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE X. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Dick Becker of 2382 Valley asked if Comcast would have to pay a cable franchise. Meshkin explained that it would be some increase from the video sales but in may be minimal amount due to the increase in users of the Internet for specialty channels.

Jim Delaney of 6298 144<sup>th</sup> Avenue asked how to get the topic of ceasing the emergency access project on the township board agenda. Delaney referred to the letter containing resident names in objection that was presented at last month's meeting. Hofmeyer said it is a project we are working on and Meshkin added that the last correspondence from the federal and state highway departments was

received on July 30. No further action was taken due to it being the end of the construction season. No one on the board is interested in ceasing this project. Meshkin said he suggested that Chief Den Bleyker host a meeting for residents to help them understand the importance of the access.

Keith Becksvoort said it should be a dead horse that has been going on for 20 years. The federal highway is not interested in it unless the township purchases the property for it. Time is money and someone on this board is spending time on the project.

ARTICLE XI. ADJOURN

**A motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Van Huis to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 P.M. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

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Wendy Van Huis, Township Clerk

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Diane Ybarra, Recording Secretary