

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

June 14, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER

Township Supervisor Linda Howell called the regular monthly Board of Trustees meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the township hall. Zoom option available for the public.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Amber Davis, Jim Delaney, Gary Dewey, Linda Howell, Jim Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township manager
Michelle Sall – Community development director
Doug Den Bleyker – Graafschap Fire Department chief
Jim Hayden – Public information coordinator

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dewey, seconded by Johnson, to approve the minutes of May 10, 2023. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE

3. FINANCIAL REPORT/REVIEW & APPROVE BILLS

The board discussed the proposed bills.

A motion was made by Dewey, seconded by Davis, to approve the May bills as submitted. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE

4. REPORT OF OFFICERS

- a. County Commissioner Jim Storey: Reported on Allegan County topics.
- b. Planning Commission: Johnson reported on May planning commission action.
- c. Zoning Board of Appeals: No report.
- d. Parks Commission: Jeremy Van Hoven reported on May parks commission action.
- e. Graafschap Fire Department Chief Doug DenBleyker: Gave the May numbers: Fire/rescue calls -- 77 total, Fillmore – 7 fire calls, 19 medical/rescue calls; Laketown – 16 fire calls, 26 medical/rescue calls; Assists – 8 fire calls, 3 to Holland, 1 to Ganges, 4 to Saugatuck; Medical/Rescue Calls – 1 to Saugatuck.

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE ON OLD AND NEW BUSINESS AGENDA ITEMS

Start: 6:22 p.m.

No comments

End: 6:22 p.m.

6. OLD BUSINESS -- None

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Parks Commission Appointment

Johnson explained the process the interview committee went through to recommend a new parks commissioner.

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Dewey, to recommend the township board appoint Brad Laninga to fill the vacant seat on the Laketown Township Parks and Recreation Commission. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 5-0 BY ROLL CALL.

b. SEMCO Franchise Ordinance

Meshkin explained the 30-year franchise agreement.

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Davis, to approve Ordinance No. 207 SEMCO Energy Gas Company Franchise Ordinance as presented. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 5-0 BY ROLL CALL.

c. Huyser House (this item was not on the agenda but was brought up by Trustee Delaney)

Funding for maintenance at Huyser House was discussed. Delaney said no money should be spent on Huyser House because there is no stated purpose or use for the house. The board should stop the Building Authority from spending money on the Huyser house.

Johnson said he wants the house stabilized but doesn't want to waste money on the house if it ends up being torn down. Dewey had no comment. Davis asked about painting.

Howell said the Building Authority has six months to get a plan, limited money is being spent for aesthetics.

Meshkin explained Escape Ministries crew is now doing landscaping work, noted the Building Authority is working on plans but because it has three members, he has to do work to avoid quorum.

A motion was made by Delaney, seconded by Johnson, to not provide any money toward the Huyser House because there is not a stated purpose for the house. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION FAILED 1-4 BY ROLL CALL. YES – DELANEY. NO – DAVIS, DEWEY, HOWELL, JOHNSON.

8. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Start: 6:48 p.m.

Three people spoke.

Topics: Huyser House; Getting questions answered.

End: 6:51 p.m.

Howell noted the “Ask the Board” addition to the website is active and questions will be addressed there.

9. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Dewey, seconded by Johnson, to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE.