

PROPOSED MINUTES
LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
4338 Beeline Road, Allegan County, Holland, MI 49423
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, Aug. 30, 2023

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Linda Howell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Michelle Sall, community development director; Doug DenBleyker, Graafschap Fire Department chief; Jim Hayden, public information coordinator

ARTICLE II. INTERVIEWS

Howell explained the interview process for the night's meeting. Each candidate gets 30 minutes. Opening statement, questions from board members, closing statement. Sall to keep track of time.

5:01 p.m. **Ray Buursma:** Said wisdom and integrity important for trustee; transparency important; Huyser House emotional issue; new township manager needs to be a people person. End 5:31 p.m.

5:32 p.m. **Stacy LeFevre:** Submitted packet of resume, letters of support; watch spending levels; transparency important; listen to citizens; new township manager needs honesty and integrity, financial knowledge. End 5:50 p.m.

5:51 p.m. **Jay Cravens:** 41 years of experience in government, knows fiduciary responsibilities; growth key issue; new township manager should have experience, master's in public administration, check credentials and background; need better communication. End 6:26 p.m.

6:27 p.m. **Patrick Dietrich:** Coast Guard service, family in Laketown; growth key issue; hold line on variances; transparency important; new township manager need experience but have a fresh approach. End 6:55 p.m.

6:56 p.m. Johnson and Davis leave meeting for break.

6:59 p.m. Johnson and Davis return to meeting.

7 p.m. **Mike Van Putten:** Looking to get involved; township needs to attract younger families, have more playgrounds; transparency and communication important, use surveys; growth needs to be controlled. End 7:23 p.m.

ARTICLE III. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Start: 7:24 p.m.

Twp people spoke.

Topics: Trustee candidates.

End: 7:26 p.m.

ARTICLE IV. BOARD DISCUSSION

The board discussed the candidates for trustee. All agreed all candidates good.

Johnson said replacement of township manager is key.

Delaney said trustee needs billing experience and transparency.

Howell said new manager important as is handling growth.

Davis said all I candidates have experiences they can contribute to the board.

Motion by Howell, second by Johnson, to appoint Patrick Dietrich as trustee. Howell called for a vote. ROLL CALL VOTE. YES: DAVIS, HOWELL, JOHNSON. NO: DELANEY. PASS 3-1.

Johnson said Dietrich was passionate about township and could serve on planning commission.

Delaney wanted LeFevre because of financial background.

Davis said Dietrich brings leadership experience.

Howell said Dietrich is qualified.

ARTICLE V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Johnson, second by Davis. To adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. VOICE VOTE. PASS UNANIMOUSLY.