

**PROPOSED MINUTES**  
**LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
4338 Beeline Road, Allegan County, Holland, MI 49423  
**WORKSHOP MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2023**

**ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER**

Supervisor Linda Howell called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jim Delaney, Patrick Dietrich, Linda Howell, Jim Johnson

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Amber Davis

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

**ARTICLE II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion by Johnson, second by Dietrich, to approve the workshop minutes of Sept. 6, 2023. Howell called for a vote. VOICE VOTE. PASS UNANIMOUSLY 4-0.**

**ARTICLE III. FINANCES**

Delaney asked how much has been spent on Huyser House. Meshkin said just under \$5,000 for Escape Ministries, supplies, roof repair. Delaney asked if money included wireless. Meshkin said no, that work has not been done yet. Meshkin said he plans to move ahead with \$3,500 for asbestos removal.

The board discussed the bills and came to a consensus to put the September bills on the next regular meeting agenda.

**ARTICLE IV. TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS**

- a) The board discussed the 2024 Proposed Road Work as presented. The plan totals \$1,260,000. Meshkin noted the plan includes information for 2026 to design, engineer, reconstruct and surface 61<sup>st</sup> Street north of 138<sup>th</sup> Avenue that is now a seasonal road. The board came to a consensus to put the issue on the agenda for the next regular meeting.
- b) The board discussed an appeal against the charges for a Freedom of Information Act request. The board came to a consensus to put the issue on the agenda for the next regular meeting.
- c) The board discussed the Huyser House. Delaney said the parks commission wants the house torn down. Dietrich said he has received many emails to tear down the house, only two in support and that his mind is made up about the house. Johnson said he is bothered that the board has not listened to the committee that recommended the house be torn down.

Delaney read a prepared statement because he did not want to be misquoted.

Meshkin explained that the story in The Holland Sentinel about the Sept. 20 parks commission motion on the Huyser House was not the same as the story on the township website.

The board came to a consensus to put the issue on the agenda for the next regular meeting.

**ARTICLE V. NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

- a) Meshkin handed out as information details about an upcoming bill from the Allegan County Drain Commission regarding the Kelly Lake drain. The amount is about \$32,000 for each year for two years.

**ARTICLE VI. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Start: 6 p.m.

Five people spoke.

Topics: Huyser House, building authority, parks commission, Freedom of Information Act, apologies for Sentinel article.

End: 6:11 p.m.

**ARTICLE VII. NEXT WORKSHOP** – The next regular workshop meeting is 5 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2023.

**ARTICLE VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Johnson, second by Dietrich, to adjourn at 6:11 p.m. Howell called for a vote. VOICE VOTE. PASS UNANIMOUSLY 4-0.**