

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

REGULAR MEETING
March 12, 2014

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer called the regular monthly Board of Trustees meeting to order at 8:43 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Hofmeyer, Wendy Van Huis, Ed Stielstra, Gary Dewey
MEMBERS ABSENT: Bob Scanlan
STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township Manager
Kathy Stoike – Administrative Assistant/Finance
Charlene Fields – Deputy Treasurer
Paul Smith – Township Assessor
Janel Hagerty – Township Deputy
Cal Haverdink – Fire Chief
Diane Ybarra – Recording Secretary

ARTICLE II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board members reviewed the minutes of the February 12, 2014 meeting. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Gary Dewey to approve the minutes as submitted. Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion.**
UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED

ARTICLE III. FINANCIAL REPORT/REVIEW & APPROVE THE BILLS

Supervisor Hofmeyer reviewed the bills for the month of February 2014. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to approve and pay the bills as submitted. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion.**
UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED

ARTICLE IV. CORRESPONDENCE - None

ARTICLE V. CITIZEN COMMENT'S COMMENTS ON OLD AND NEW BUSINESS - None

Cal De Maagd of 3719 64th Street expressed his concern regarding the request for a special assessment to pay for another officer. He felt a review should be done of the cost of doing government business including a review of what other municipalities of similar size spend. He also suggested collaborating with Saugatuck Township for legal services and potentially negotiate a lower rate.

ARTICLE VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. FY 2013-14 BUDGET AMENDMENT

Al Meshkin reviewed the amended budget. There were a few adjustments that were not anticipated

at the beginning of the fiscal year. We moved the Felt Mansion into the General Fund as opposed to a stand-alone fund. There was nothing else significant other than the addition of a township maintenance staff member.

**A motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve the amended budget. Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer called for a vote.
UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. FY 2013-14 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer opened the public hearing.

Al Meshkin explained the proposed budget stating that the FY 2014-15 is similar to last year's budget. The far right column is the proposed budget. Everything is fairly stable with minor increases on some things such as an up-tick in construction activity. There was a modest increase in revenue sharing. There was a \$100,000 sale of a bond which will cover half the cost of the back yard project to match the \$80,000 in grants with 5 years to pay off the bond. Bob Slikkers asked about ordinance fines and Al advised Deputy Hagerty issued \$10,000 in parking tickets this year, mostly at the beach and then in other areas. Under Expenditures there was a 3% increase for office staff. Udelis Kuipers commented that the staff should receive a higher increase. There was an increase under Contracted Services for Drains due to the extensive work being done over the years in the township due to the necessary service on several drains some of which was due to the weather conditions. Cal Haverdink asked if this will cover the 145th Avenue drain and Al responded no, that will be another project. The Parks Commission \$200,000 is for the backyard project. Wendy Van Huis asked why the increase in the maintenance wages and Al responded that the maintenance worker does more than parks; he also works on the Felt Mansion, the fire station and the Township Hall.

The Fire Department revenues are down slightly because it is adjusted for emergency access design. Last year there was a \$26,000 grant to replace hose to all standardized hose now. This year there is a shift to 80% Laketown and 20% Fillmore based on tax base and number of runs. Bob Slikkers asked about the increase in salaries and Al said it is due to more runs.

Water and Sewer funds show little change. There is nothing going on with the DDA as we wait for growth in that area. The Debt Service Funds show the debt payments in the Goshorn Sewer area, the Castle Park area and Exit 41 area. Finally, Macatawa Water will hopefully begin construction this calendar year with bonding through Allegan County Board of Public Works for about a \$2.3 million project to pump water into the Mac Hills to be paid by property owners. Keith Becksvort asked how many are in favor of the project and Al said most are. It will also include a pump station on North Hill and also draw water from the south from the Scenic Shores area.

Terry Hofmeyer closed the public hearing. Following discussion, a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve the FY 2014-15 Budget. Terry Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED

B. 2014 ROAD WORK

Terry Hofmeyer explained the projects as presented in the proposal for a total cost of \$146,000. **A motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve 2014 Road Work at the cost of \$146,000. Terry Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion.
UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

C. MILLAGE RENEWAL RESOLUTION

Terry Hofmeyer explained the Millage Renewal Resolution 2014-07 Fire, Road, Bicycle Path and Drain to be on the ballot for the August 5, 2014 election to raise \$688,622 in funds restricted to those items.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve the Millage Renewal Resolution 2014-07 Fire, Road, Bicycle Path and Drain Millage Renewal Proposition.** Wendy Van Huis asked how long it had been in place. Al stated at least 50 years and at one time was 3 mils, reduced to 2 and does not cover actual costs. **Terry Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

D. ARBOR TRAIL STREETLIGHTS

Terry Hofmeyer explained Arbor Trail runs south off of 147th Avenue, a small subdivision noting that it looks beautiful back there and is ready for development. It is a county road and will be maintained by the county. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve the Arbor Trail Streetlights.** Ed Stielstra asked if we specify the type of lighting to be used and Al said it is down lighting and details are noted on the document describing the standard consumers light to be used. **Terry Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION –MOTION APPROVED**

E. RECREATION COMPLEX BIDS APPROVAL

Terry Hofmeyer asked Al to cover the bids explaining they are in two bids due to two different grants. Five bids were received on shelter and four for the excavation and creation of the softball and soccer fields. The Parks Commission recommends accepting the bids from Dan Hoe Excavation Inc.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to approve the Dan Hoe bid of \$65,489.00 for the construction of the park shelter. Terry Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Ed Stielstra and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to approve the Dan Hoe bid of \$129,761.50 for the site work and creation of the softball and soccer fields for the recreation park. Terry Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE VIII. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Randy Becksvoort of 3930 Beeline Road asked what happened to the bike path snow removal this year. Al Meshkin responded that the paths had been plowed at least 20 times but due to the weather they could not be maintained. Terry Hofmeyer noted that there were a few property owners that dumped snow on the paths and letters were sent to them. Randy asked if the emergency access drain issues were caused by an error in design or an issue of the state. Al said MDOT discovered the issue during a scoping meeting and at the end they could not approve it because US 31 goes under the 60th street overpass and the drains under the overpass are an issue. The problem is it is undersized and needs repair work but it can't be made bigger because it would lose clearance from the bridge. It would cost \$2 million to repair it but still can't be done without the DEQ permits which require replacing the bridge which would cost \$20 million. Alternatives are possibly relocating the drain to the north or follow on the east side and cut between the two overpasses. All things are being studied and we should have a preliminary response in May.

ARTICLE IX. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Ed Stielstra to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 P.M. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED

Wendy Van Huis, Township Clerk

Diane Ybarra, Recording Secretary