

**MINUTES**  
**LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP**  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
4338 BEELINE ROAD  
ALLEGAN COUNTY  
HOLLAND, MI 49423  
**WORKSHOP MEETING**  
Wednesday, April 5, 2017

**ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER –**

Terry Hofmeyer called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Hofmeyer, Linda Howell, Ed Stielstra, Wendy Van Huis  
MEMBERS ABSENT: Gary Dewey  
STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin  
OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Mckee, Consumers Energy

**ARTICLE II. MINUTES –** A motion was made by Howell and seconded by Stielstra to approve the Workshop minutes from March 1, 2017, Unanimous decision – Motion approved.

**ARTICLE III. TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS**

A. OLD BUSINESS - None

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Allegan County Road Commission Bids
2. Resolution 2017-10 Special Assessment Districts for Broadband Internet

**ARTICLE IV. NON AGENDA ITEMS**

1. The Bills from March were handed out for review.
2. Judge Baillargeon is scheduled to give an update on the specialty courts in Allegan County at next week's Regular Township Board meeting.
3. Correspondence: none
4. Consumer's Energy franchise - Dennis Mckee reviewed the 30-year Consumer's Energy franchise agreement. No public vote is required. He noted that Consumer's Energy focuses on their core service, and have no plans to get involved in high speed internet; however, they are required to provide space on their poles. There was a question whether there is a cost involved in the placement of other utilities on their poles. Al requested that Laketown's above ground utility equipment ordinance be included as an addendum in the franchise agreement. Mr. Mckee will get their legal counsel to review.
5. Broadband Internet Service: Al reviewed correspondence with Charter stating the questions from the Township. Discussion also included the recent Broadband meeting; the pilot project in Holland and whether that would include serving other areas. They are not interested in providing phone, video, etc., and are a long way from having a line to serve Laketown Township.
6. Appointment to Community Enhancement Program. The Board discussed various names for appointment to the Community Enhancement Program.

7. Ed Stielstra asked the Board to consider establishing a citizen's committee to design a fiber optics system. Questions arose whether it could effectively be done without requiring seed money, and the need to have a limited time frame.

**ARTICLE V. NEXT WORKSHOP** – The next regular Workshop meeting is scheduled for 4:00 p.m., May 3, 2017.

**ARTICLE VI. – CITIZEN'S COMMENTS –**

**Dick Becker**, 2382 Valley Avenue, questioned why the article on AT&T air gig system was not listed as correspondence at the last Township meeting. The Board members noted that they received this as information, but it is the discretion of the Board as to what correspondence is officially included in the minutes. He suggested that there may be better ways of presenting the budget to the public at the annual Budget meeting. He also referenced the 2016 bill from Kersey Consulting Services that went over the initial approved amount.

**ARTICLE VII – ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 5:13p.m.

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Wendy Van Huis, Clerk