

MINUTES
LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
4338 BEELINE ROAD
ALLEGAN COUNTY
HOLLAND, MI 49423
REGULAR MEETING
April 12, 2017

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Township Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer called the regular monthly Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Hofmeyer, Wendy Van Huis, Linda Howell, Ed Stielstra
MEMBERS ABSENT: Gary Dewey
STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township Manager
Diane Ybarra – Recording Secretary

ARTICLE II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Clerk Wendy Van Huis opened the meeting with prayer and led the pledge of allegiance.

ARTICLE III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board members reviewed the minutes of the March 8 and March 29, 2017 meetings. **A motion was made by Howell and seconded by Van Huis to approve the minutes as submitted. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE IV. FINANCIAL REPORT / REVIEW & APPROVE THE BILLS

Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer reviewed the bills for the month of March 2017. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Van Huis and seconded by Howell to approve and pay the bills as submitted. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE V. CORRESPONDENCE

Hofmeyer reported two emails were received: Robin's Flower Garden asking for the name of the township attorney; Ryan Bosscher regarding the emergency access suggesting four other options to the site currently proposed.

ARTICLE VI. PRESENTATION ON SPECIALTY COURTS IN ALLEGAN COUNTY BY
JUDGE BAILLARGEON

Judge Baillargeon provided the annual report for the Allegan County Courts and an update on the Allegan County Specialty Courts. Baillargeon also noted the Supreme Court mandate for public surveys to be offered to all court clients. Initially, the majority of judges were not in favor of the surveys but it has found to be very beneficial. The Drug Treatment Court which has been in place for seven years has produced 25 graduates who are not back in the public system moving forward in a positive way with their treatment plans and employment. Reviews of current participants are done bi-weekly and graduates frequently attend these sessions to provide support. Allegan has been in the forefront of this initiative serving as a model for many other courts in the state. The Mental Health Treatment Court and Veteran Treatment Courts have also served as models statewide.

Baillargeon presented a problem solving book, "Solving Problems" – Saving Lives, that is used by all courts statewide. The next step for Allegan County is the Sobriety Court. Many counties start with this court but Allegan started with more serious drug issues so the Drug Treatment Court was first to be established. The Sobriety Court allows individuals to have a restricted driver's license if they are following the court rules which, allows them to travel from home to work and home to treatment. It is a requirement to get treatment so it is a benefit in rural communities where public transportation is not available.

Howell asked what the process is for someone to be assigned. Baillargeon said it depends but typically happens at the court discussion when attorneys and prosecutors review the case. An application goes before the Specialty Courts Board for evaluation. Howell asked who is on the review team. Baillargeon said each court has its own team to evaluate.

ARTICLE VII. REPORT OF OFFICERS

- A. STATE REPRESENTATIVE – No report.
- B. COUNTY COMMISSIONER KAPENGA – No report.
- C. PLANNING COMMISSION – LINDA HOWELL

Howell reported that the Planning Commission met on April 5, 2017 and the following items were discussed: West Wind Lake Estates P.U.D.; West Wind Village Report Amendment and Nelson Site Plan Review.

- D. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – ED STIELSTRA

Stielstra reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals met on March 22 and the following items were discussed: Nelson Variance Request and Weiss Variance Request both of which were in Castle Park and both approved.

- E. PARKS COMMISSION – MICHELLE SALL

Michelle Sall said the Commissioners met on March 15 and the following items were discussed: public hearing on two grant applications; Laketown Beach; Huyser Farm; invasive species; dog park; Saugatuck community representation; pickle ball and the annual parks review assignments were made.

- F. FIRE CHIEF AND FIRE BOARD – CHIEF DEN BLEYKER

Chief Den Bleyker reported the response calls for the month of March were as follows: 39 calls total, 29 calls from Laketown, consisting of 26 rescue and 3 fire, 8 calls from Fillmore, consisting of 4 rescue calls, 3 fire calls and 1 smoke alarm install. There were 2 fire assists to Saugatuck Fire Department. Den Bleyker introduced Sarah Bushee as the new full-time Deputy Fire Chief.

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

ARTICLE IX. OLD BUSINESS – None

ARTICLE X. NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2017 ROAD WORK BIDS

Supervisor Hofmeyer reviewed the projects as follows: 142nd Avenue from the Township park to the cul-de-sac at I-196 – 2.48 miles; Wildcreek Drive east of Wildcreek Road - .15 mile; Reserve Way

east of 64th Street - .13 mile; Jack Pine Drive south of 146th Avenue .11 mile. The recommended low bid from Michigan Paving & Materials is in the amount of \$353,969.50.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Van Huis and seconded by Howell to approve the 2017 Road Work Bid for \$353,969.50.**

Howell confirmed the PASER ratings are used to determine the roads that require work. Stielstra asked if patching and resurfacing can be done when excavation is done on our roads for water/sewer installation. Stielstra previously proposed a sinking fund be available for resurfacing of such conditions. Meshkin stated the road commission issues the permits for the road cuts that are done for utilities. Stielstra would like to bring it to the road commission for consideration.

Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED

B. SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS FOR BROADBAND RESOLUTION

Supervisor Hofmeyer reviewed the proposed resolution to be sent to our representatives for a proposed bill that is in House right now. If this would be approved by the state we would have the opportunity to have the option to create Special Assessment Districts for broadband internet meaning it would be treated as a utility. Hofmeyer read the complete resolution.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Howell and seconded by Stielstra to approve Resolution 2017-10 Special Assessment Districts for Broadband.** Howell confirmed that this resolution gives us the option assuming the state approves but is not a specific plan for action. **Supervisor Hofmeyer asked for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED.**

ARTICLE XI. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Mitra Delaney of 6298 144th Avenue asked if the resolution and the road project details will be available for residents. Hofmeyer provided copies. Delaney read a letter submitted regarding the emergency access to I-196.

Rhonda Allen of 4623 66th Street asked if developers address the broadband access when planning a new development. Meshkin responded that the developers are required to extend certain utilities but at this time, broadband is not one of those utilities. Hofmeyer confirmed the units currently under construction are in area are within the area that has broadband access.

Jim Delaney of 6298 144th Avenue spoke to broadband and the towers currently in the township. He asked why the towers are not being considered to expand the broadband. He also questioned why we would not erect more towers to create better line of site.

Tom Crum of 144th Avenue said it seems the board has a short memory as we voted against the optics at the meeting a month ago. The people asked why it is still in the budget and you are still trying to stick us with something we don't want. What is the object of the board cramming this down our throats? Don't you have better things to do than harass the people.

Mitra Delaney asked that the monthly budget be posted on the website.

ARTICLE XII. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Howell and seconded by Stielstra to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 P.M. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTON APPROVED

Township Clerk, Wendy Van Huis

Recording Secretary, Diane Ybarra