

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

REGULAR MEETING  
May 14, 2014

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, Ed Stielstra, Gary Dewey  
MEMBERS ABSENT: none  
STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township Manager  
Cal Haverdink – Graafschap Fire Chief  
Diane Ybarra – Recording Secretary

ARTICLE II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Trustee Ed Stielstra 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 April 9, 2014 meeting, **a motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Ed Stielstra 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 April 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 V. CORRESPONDENCE – None

ARTICLE VI. REPORT OF OFFICERS

- A. STATE REPRESENTATIVE GENETSKI – No report.
- B. COUNTY COMMISSIONER KAPENGA – Dean Kapenga

Dean Kapenga discussed the proposed increase for the senior millage proposal is necessary to meet the needs of so many seniors on the waiting list for services. Services covered by this millage are adult day care, home delivered meals, in-home support, personal emergency response system, transportation, counseling and others. Information on all services covered is available at the Township Office. Dean also reported that there will be a \$3.00 surcharge on all devices used to access

the 911 radio system. The current system needs updating and should be replaced but the Director of Finance feels the surcharge will cover the necessary updates until the county can afford to fund a full replacement. A new system would be estimated to cost between \$8-\$10 million dollars. Lastly, the senior medical care facility will be hosting an open house on May 31 to showcase its new “in-home” style facility that will attempt to mirror a resident’s home environment versus a basic room. Overall, the county is doing well with no further items to report. Ed Stielstra asked if the increase in the senior millage is to cover additional services or is it due to an increase in the number of people needing services. Dean said it is due to the number of people on the waiting list. Cal Haverdink asked how the \$3.00 surcharge amount was determined and what exactly would it cover. Dean said they didn’t bid out the system but this is an estimate to keep the current system running. Cal said he doesn’t see signs of support for the fire departments in the county budget. He would like to see each truck equipped with a computer and a new system, not repairs to the current outdated one. Al Meshkin said Director of Finance should evaluate what the true need is for an appropriate system and then determine how the funding can be achieved. He suggested looking at the system that the State has in place. Keith Becksvoort said he thought something was done 3 years ago when they put another tower up. Dean said yes, towers have been put up but it needs more updating. The system we have is from 2001 and the parts are becoming too outdated to obtain. Dean said if we don’t do the surcharge it falls to property taxes, which is unfair. Al suggested doing both. Randy Becksvoort said it seems the hills are always an issue, is there something we can do to talk to people to understand how others do it in this type of topography. Dean said we have had experts in to look at what we could do but the sand dunes and water are a challenge. Gary Dewey commented that communication seems to be a stone wall with the finance director not listening to what the commissioners are saying. Dean said there have been additional meetings and it is getting better but more work needs to be done.

C. PLANNING COMMISSION – Ed Stielstra

Ed Stielstra reported that the Planning Commission met on May 7, 2014 and the following item was discussed: tabled the Draisma Special Use Request for an event center pending written report and resolution by Township Attorney Ron Bultje.

D. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – Al Meshkin

Al Meshkin reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals met on April 28 and the following item was discussed: Conant Variance Request to construct a home that does not meet the required front yard setbacks. The variance request was approved due to the existence of an unavoidable hardship.

E. PARKS COMMISSION – Linda Howell

Linda Howell reported that the Parks Commission met on April 16 and discussed the Township Recreation Park project and dirt will begin moving this week to be completed by the end of July. Wendy Van Huis noted the Felt Mansion will host “Third Thursday” concert nights beginning on May 15 through September. The free concerts will be held on the stage near the Carriage House and Salt of the Earth will provide food for purchase and the Friends of the Felt will provide a cash bar. Cards listing all of the dates and performers are available at the Township Office.

F. DEPUTY SHERIFF – No report.

G. FIRE CHIEF AND FIRE BOARD – Chief Cal Haverdink

Chief Haverdink reported the response calls for the month of April were as follows: 32 calls total, 24 calls from Laketown, consisting of 19 rescue and 5 fire, 6 calls from Fillmore, consisting of 4 rescue calls and 2 fire calls. There were 2 fire assist calls to Saugatuck Fire Department. Cal noted that next Wednesday, May 21 the Township Board members are invited to the Awards Banquet to be held at the Fire Station. Please advise Cal if you plan to attend.

H. DDA – No report.

ARTICLE VII. CITIZEN COMMENTS ON OLD AND NEW BUSINESS - None

ARTICLE IX. OLD BUSINESS - None

ARTICLE X. NEW BUSINESS

A. SCHEDULE SPECIAL MEETING FOR INTERVIEWS

Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer there will be a special board meeting scheduled for May 29 at 4:30pm to interview candidates for the open Trustee position. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to approve the May 29 date for the special meeting.** Al Meshkin will contact the candidates to schedule the interviews. **Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS VOTE - MOTION APPROVED**

B. REVIEW AND APPROVE BID FOR PARK PROJECT FINANCING

Supervisor Hofmeyer reviewed the bids from Macatawa Bank, West Michigan Community Bank and Lake Michigan Credit Union for the Park Project financing. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve the bid from Macatawa Bank for at 3.19% interest rate for the park project financing.** Gary asked about the Major League Baseball Grant. Linda Howell responded that she is working on it with Al and hopes to obtain \$40,000 or more. Gary Dewey will contact someone in Zeeland for resources to support efforts on this grant. **Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

C. ROAD RESURFACING BIDS

Supervisor Hofmeyer reviewed the bids received for Project LH4747 – 147<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 62<sup>nd</sup> to 60<sup>th</sup> Street – 1.01 miles in Laketown Township. Allegan County Road Commission recommends the low bid of \$128,152.75 from Michigan Paving & Materials. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve the Michigan Paving & Materials bid of \$128,152.75 for the repaving on 147<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 62<sup>nd</sup> to 60<sup>th</sup> Streets.** Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. **UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED.**

ARTICLE X. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS - None

Keith Becksvoort of 4468 64<sup>th</sup> Street asked if 147<sup>th</sup> Street would be ground before paving. Al Meshkin said it will not be. Keith asked if there is an update on the 145<sup>th</sup> Avenue culvert. Al responded that the easement has been obtained but due to new DEQ rules, it is on hold pending an additional DEQ permit. August is the current target to begin construction.

ARTICLE XII. ADJOURN

**A motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 P.M. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTON APPROVED**

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Wendy Van Huis, Township Clerk

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Diane Ybarra, Recording Secretary