

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

REGULAR MEETING
June 11, 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, Gary Dewey
MEMBERS ABSENT: Ed Stielstra
STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township Manager
Diane Ybarra – Recording Secretary

ARTICLE II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Township Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer 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 May 14 and special May 29, 2014 meetings, **a motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Gary Dewey 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 May 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 – No report.
- C. PLANNING COMMISSION – Al Meshkin

Al Meshkin reported that the Planning Commission met on June 6 and the following items were discussed: Draisma Special Use and Rezoning Requests. The Special Use request was approved and the Commission has made recommendation to the Township Board to approve the Rezoning Request from R-1 Rural Estate District and I-1 Industrial District to MU Mixed Use District.

D. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – Al Meshkin

Al Meshkin reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals did not meet in May.

E. PARKS COMMISSION – Linda Howell

Linda Howell reported that the Parks Commission did not meet in May. Progress has been made on the backyard project. Representatives from Michigan State University will be at the next meeting to discuss the blueberry fields at Huyser Farm. The next meeting is scheduled for June 18 at 7:00pm.

F. DEPUTY SHERIFF – No report.

G. FIRE CHIEF AND FIRE BOARD

Al Meshkin reported that Chief Haverdink is responding to a downed power line issue and cannot be present. He asked to remind residents about the annual 4th of July Pancake Breakfast at the Fire Station. This year the event will be a fundraiser to purchase a Lucas automatic CPR device that costs approximately \$30,000. This heart compression tool would be a great asset for the medical emergency response calls.

H. DDA – No report.

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

Cindy Gamrat introduced herself as a candidate running for the 80th District State Representative seat. She reviewed what she feels are the present issues are in government today and her plans to address them if she is elected to this office.

Mary Whiteford reintroduced herself also as a candidate in the county explaining that her approach is to personally visit every household in the county to get the stories from the real people who live here so she can be a voice in Lansing.

ARTICLE IX. OLD BUSINESS - None

ARTICLE X. NEW BUSINESS

A. RYMORE WOOD CONTRACTS

Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer explained the Rymore Wood Contracts are for the PUD and Water and Sewer Special Assessment. Al Meshkin added that the contracts are standard verbiage with no special conditions. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to approve the Rymore Wood Contracts. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS VOTE - MOTION APPROVED**

B. HIGHER CLIMB REZONING

Supervisor Hofmeyer reviewed the request to rezone property known to most as the Cut Above located in the Blue Star Highway Corridor. The request is to rezone from R-1 Rural Estate District and I-1 Industrial to the new MU Mixed Use District zoning. Al Meshkin gave an overview of the current zoning and the new Mixed Use District for the Blue Star Highway Corridor. The property will have residential, industrial and commercial uses.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Gary Dewey to approve the Higher Climb Rezoning Request. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

C. CULVERT REPLACEMENT ON 147TH AVENUE

Al Meshkin explained that as part of the 147th Avenue resurfacing project, it was found that the culvert

on the stretch between 60th and 62nd Streets was deteriorating and must be replaced at the expense of the township for a cost of approximately \$25,000. The current culvert is galvanized steel and the replacement will be concrete.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to approve 147th Avenue culvert replacement. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED.**

D. TOWNSHIP BOARD APPOINTMENT

Supervisor Hofmeyer explained that there is an open Trustee position on the Township Board. The following individuals were interviewed at a special meeting held on May 29: Randy Becksvoort, Lee Britton, Udelis Kuipers, Linda Howell, Jim Lorence and Todd Szakacs. One of the six candidates will be appointed by the Board to fill the open position. During the interviews all candidates were asked if they are not selected would they have interest in other open positions on other boards. All candidates expressed interest in serving in the Township. Terry expressed his appreciation to all the quality candidates that have expressed interest stating that all had something unique to offer.

Gary Dewey commented that he wished we had this many qualified candidates for all open positions to serve in the Township. Wendy Van Huis supported the comments made by both Terry and Gary regarding the quality of the candidates that came forward.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Gary Dewey to appoint Linda Howell as Trustee to the Township Board. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

Terry added that the appointment of Linda Howell will create openings on other Boards that she currently serves on. Appointments could be made by the Board from the pool of interviewed candidates or subject to others that may express interest.

ARTICLE X. CITIZEN’S COMMENTS - None

Randy Becksvoort of 3930 Beeline Road congratulated Linda Howell on her appointment and wished her well. Randy asked if the resurfacing of 146th Avenue was a township or county project. Al Meshkin responded that it was a county project with no expense to the township.

Keith Becksvoort of 4468 64th Street asked if there is an update on the 145th Avenue culvert. Al Meshkin responded that he has nothing new to report.

Linda Howell of 6443 Kingsway Court thanked the Board for the vote and also expressed gratitude for the good competition she had in the other candidates. She asked to make a formal resignation from the Parks Commission at the next meeting and to take her oath after that occurs.

ARTICLE XII. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 P.M. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTON APPROVED

Wendy Van Huis, Township Clerk

Diane Ybarra, Recording Secretary