

MINUTES  
LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
4338 BEELINE ROAD  
ALLEGAN COUNTY  
HOLLAND, MI 49423  
REGULAR MEETING  
September 13, 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, Gary Dewey  
MEMBERS ABSENT: None  
STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township Manager  
Diane Ybarra – Recording Secretary

ARTICLE II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Treasurer Dewey led the pledge of allegiance and offered prayer.

ARTICLE III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board members reviewed the minutes of the August 9, 2017 meeting. **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 August 2017. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Stielstra 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 – No report
- B. COUNTY COMMISSIONER – No report
- C. PLANNING COMMISSION – LINDA HOWELL

Howell reported that the Planning Commission met on September 6, 2017 and the following items were discussed: Eldean / Gator Properties Special Use Request for a marina and camping development was denied; Nienhuis special use for accessory building was approved; Kruithoff special use for accessory building was approved; public hearing on property rezoning was held and was tabled. Howell commended the residents on the civility shown during the public hearing.

D. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – ED STIELSTRA

Stielstra reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals did not meet in August.

E. PARKS COMMISSION – KAREN SIMMONS

Karen Simmons said the Commissioners met on August 16, 2017 and the following items were discussed: meet and greet hot dog dinner for proposed 5-year parks plan draft; September 20 public hearing for the 5-year plan; United Way Day of Caring is scheduled for 9/21 for volunteer groups working in Wolters Woods, Sanctuary Woods and Huyser Farm; discussion with City of Holland regarding partnership for Lakeview Park; request for proposals for Huyser Farm house restoration; lottery drawing for deer hunt at Huyser Farm; proposed change to allowance for dogs in parks and recent maintenance project updates for all parks.

F. FIRE CHIEF AND FIRE BOARD – HOFMEYER

Hofmeyer reported for Den Bleyker noting the response calls for the month of August were as follows: 58 calls total, 46 calls from Laketown, consisting of 32 medical/rescue and 14 fire, smoke alarm install 10 calls from Fillmore, consisting of 8 medical/rescue calls and 2 fire calls. There were 2 assists, 1 fire assists to Fennville, 1 medical assist to Holland.

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

ARTICLE VIII. OLD BUSINESS – None

ARTICLE IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. GUARDIAN BREWING LIQUOR LICENSE PRESENTATION

William Franks, attorney for Guardian Brewing Company LLC presented the plan for the brew pub to be located in the Red Barn Theatre and banquet facility. Franks explained that his client wants to work closely with the township, county and state to ensure the renovations meet all requirements. The intent is for patrons to have a holistic experience with the beer/liquor complementing the food served. The establishment would stimulate the economy and provide a quality venue serving residents year-round.

Hofmeyer asked what the anticipated opening date would be and owner Kim Collins responded 12-15 months. The venue would provide a banquet facility, restaurant, bar, outdoor area with an emphasis on education of brewing and pairing of food. Hofmeyer said it will be exciting to have the addition to the Blue Star Highway corridor.

Keith Becksvort asked who owns it and Kim Collins responded that she is the owner. She most recently comes from Denver, Colorado with a background in education and philanthropy and hopes to bring her experience together in this project. She hopes to employ 20-25 people at the year-round business. Dewey said the business plan was very impressive and he is excited about the project. Collins said there will be no change to the footprint, maintaining the historical aspect, saving as much of the barn as possible, the banquet facility will be used for brewing, office space, conference room and classroom. Delaney asked what the name will be and Collins responded Red Barn Guardian Brewing Company.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Van Huis to approve the resolution recommending approval of the Guardian Brewing Liquor License.** Van Huis agreed with Dewey, it is a very complete business plan. **Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

B. DOMESTIC ANIMALS IN PARKS RESOLUTION

Hofmeyer explained the resolution was recommended by the Parks Commission to amend the ordinance for domestic animals in parks. Basically, dogs maintained and controlled on a leash at all times with a leash not longer than six feet at the following parks: Farview Park, Sanctuary Woods, Shore Acres, Huyser Farm, Wolters Woods (not allowed in playground area), Township Hall Recreation Complex and horses allowed on trails designated for use by horses at: Farview Park and Shore Acres.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Howell and seconded by Dewey to approve Resolution 2017-15 Domestic Animals in Parks. Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

Hofmeyer congratulated the Parks Commission on all that they do and asked that the information be announced in the next newsletter.

C. PARKS COMMISSION RESIGNATION

Hofmeyer reported that a letter was received from Jan Lozon resigning from the Parks Commission.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Stielstra to accept the Lozon resignation from the Parks Commission with regret and gratitude for time served. Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

D. RESOLUTION TO CANCEL WATER S.A.D. NO. 12

Hofmeyer explained the resolution to cancel the Macatawa Water S.A.D. No. 12.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Van Huis and seconded by Stielstra to adopt Resolution 2017-16 to discontinue collection of assessments for Water Special Assessment District No. 12. Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED.**

Meshkin said refund checks have been mailed and this is the final steps in the process.

E. APPOINTMENT TO PLANNING COMMISSION

Hofmeyer explained there is a vacancy on the Planning Commission and proposed the name of Marcia Perry who has been a long-time volunteer in the township and currently serves on the Zoning Board of Appeals. This seat would be a liaison between the two boards.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Howell to approve the appointment of Marcia Perry to the Planning Commission. Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE X. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Biz TerHaar of 4695 64<sup>th</sup> Street asked stated that she was surprised to see all of the trees cut down by the new owners of property on 64<sup>th</sup> Street just south of 32<sup>nd</sup> Street. She also noticed a sign there from the DEQ noting a violation of the wetlands. She asked if there had been input from anyone regarding the sand that is being moved on 64<sup>th</sup> Street south of 143<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. Meshkin responded that the alleged violation of DEQ wetlands is not regulated by township but the state and federal government. Sand removal is regulated by the township and that individual will be at the next Planning Commission meeting to address the action as movement in excess of 500 yards requires a special use permit. Van Huis asked if the movement has been halted and Meshkin said it has been. TerHaar also commented that the new rules for dogs in the parks may require new signage.

Karen Massengill of 6271 147<sup>th</sup> Avenue expressed her gratitude for Ryan Bosscher and the quality of his communication on work of the Parks Commission. She asked that all of the boards communicate on the developments in the township to keep people engaged. Massengill asked for clarification on meeting conduct guidelines; specifically on how resident questions and concerns are addressed noting it is difficult to find information on the township website.

Biz TerHaar asked if the Japanese Knotwood is being sprayed for in the township and Meshkin said only in the parks.

Massengill asked again if there are procedures anywhere on when and how will questions are answered. Hofmeyer said we post the agendas for all meetings and if you have a question you can call the office; rules are laid out in the agenda and Roberts Rules of Order are used. Meshkin noted that extensive communication is cost prohibitive and would require additional staff noting there are two part-time employees that do their best to communicate township information to the public. All township employee email addresses are on the website and all board members are accessible for questions. Meshkin said we are a legal unit of government and must have a structured voice to the public. The City of Holland has a full-time person for their media but the township cannot financially support such a position with a levy of .5 mil.

Keith Becksvoort of 4468 64<sup>th</sup> Street asked if the water resolution was for Mac Hills and Meshkin responded that it is. Becksvoort said the repaving on 60<sup>th</sup> Street looks good but the joint is horrible, up about 1/8 of an inch. Becksvoort also asked who is responsible when they haul sand and spread the Japanese Knotwood to other areas of the township.

Mitra Delaney of 6298 144<sup>th</sup> Avenue spoke in opposition to the emergency access at 60<sup>th</sup> Street and 144<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Hofmeyer explained that this is a project that goes back many years, was recommended by the fire chief at that time and approved by the Fire Board which is made up of Laketown and Fillmore township representatives. It was approved by the MACC, MDOT and Federal Highway Administration. Hofmeyer recommended that Delaney take her concerns to those agencies to rescind their decision.

ARTICLE XI. ADJOURN

**A motion was made by Howell and seconded by Van Huis to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 P.M.  
UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTON APPROVED**

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Wendy Van Huis, Township Clerk