

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

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

5:00 p.m., Tuesday
October 24, 2017

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Terry Hofmeyer called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Hofmeyer, Linda Howell, Gary Dewey, Wendy Van Huis
MEMBERS ABSENT: Ed Stielstra
STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin, Chief Doug Den Bleyker
OTHERS PRESENT: None

ARTICLE II. RESOLUTION 2017-19, RESOLUTION OF NECESSITY

Supervisor Hofmeyer presented the resolution. **A motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Van Huis to approve Resolution 2017-19, the Resolution of Necessity and Authorization to Commence Eminent Domain Proceedings.**

Meshkin gave a brief review of the township's attempts to negotiate an easement for the emergency access to US-31. The Township began formal discussion with the property owner, Broekhuis Growers llc (Broekhuis), in June 2016. Broekhuis, through their attorney requested many documents which the township supplied. Discussions continued over the next year. By July 2017 Broekhuis was on their third attorney. Each attorney asked for many of the same documents. There seemed to be a lack any continuity from attorney to attorney. Seeing little progress with negotiations the township ordered an appraisal of the easement in July 2017. The township presented Broekhuis with a good faith offer and a copy of the appraisal on August 30, 2017. The township requested a response within 21 days. On September 19, 2017 the attorney for Broekhuis requested a two week extension of time to respond which the Township agreed to. The new deadline would be October 4, 2017. On October 4 we received questions from Broekhuis which we responded to the same day. The township attorney began calling and emailing the attorney for Broekhuis asking for a response on October 5. On October 9 Meshkin authorized the township attorney to draft this resolution for board consideration. The attorney for Broekhuis did not respond to the township attorney until October 17 when he stated they were waiting for their appraisal.

Chief Den Bleyker added that he and Deputy Chief Bushee met with Robyn Broekhuis this summer and discussed the need for the emergency access. They took her for a ride to show her how response times are negatively affected by the current route through the City of Holland and how the emergency access will greatly improve response times to crashes along US-31 and I-196.

Board members discussed the emergency access project and the resolution before them. **Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion to approve Resolution 2017-19. UNANIMOUS DECISION – RESOLUTION APPROVED.**

ARTICLE III. CITIZEN’S COMMENTS - NONE

ARTICLE IV. ADJOURNMENT – a motion was made by Howell and seconded by Van Huis to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Wendy Van Huis, Clerk