

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

December 13, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER

Township Supervisor Linda Howell called the regular monthly Board of Trustees meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the township hall. Zoom option available for the public.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Amber Davis, Jim Delaney, Patrick Dietrich, Linda Howell, Jim Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township manager
Michelle Sall – Community development director
Jim Hayden – Public information coordinator

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Dietrich, to approve the minutes of Oct. 11, 2023, as presented. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE

3. FINANCIAL REPORT/REVIEW & APPROVE BILLS

The board discussed the proposed bills.

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Davis, to approve the October and November bills as submitted. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE

4. REPORT OF OFFICERS

State Representative Nancy DeBoer: Howell invited State Rep. DeBoer to address the board. DeBoer shared information from Lansing.

- a. County Commissioner Jim Storey: Reported on Allegan County board.
- b. Planning Commission: Johnson. Reported on Dec. 6 meeting.
- c. Zoning Board of Appeals: Delaney reported on Nov. 22 meeting.
- d. Parks Commission: No parks commissioner present. No report.
- e. Graafschap Fire Department: Chief Doug DenBleyker presented November calls: Fire/rescue calls -- 67 total, Fillmore – 3 fire calls, 13 medical/rescue calls; Laketown – 11 fire calls, 29 medical/rescue calls; Assists – 4 fire calls, 1 to Holland, 2 to Saugatuck, 1 to Hamilton; 7 Medical/Rescue Calls Assists – 1 to Hamilton. 1 to Saugatuck; 4 to the Allegan County Sheriff's Department for drone; Assists from other departments – 1 from Ganges, 1 from Hamilton, 6 from Holland, 2 from Overisel, 2 from Park Township, 2 from Saugatuck.

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE ON OLD AND NEW BUSINESS AGENDA ITEMS

Start: 6:39 p.m.

Two people spoke.

Topics: Holland Aquatic Center

Howell presented a plaque to Sara Giesler to thank her for 15 years on Holland Aquatic Center board.

End: 6:46 p.m.

6. OLD BUSINESS -- None

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Community Enhancement Program Additional Funding

Meshkin explained the Macatawa Area Coordinating Council Community Enhancement Program, noting participants are Laketown, Park and Holland townships and Holland and Zeeland cities. Laketown has \$50,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funds to possibly contribute to the CEP as a one-time action.

The board discussed the possible donation. Delaney plans to meet with CEP representative Gary Dewey to learn more about the program. Delaney questioned a cap on grants, noting Fellinlove Farm in Laketown needing money. Dietrich noted the CEP vetting process. Delaney said there is a gray area in the CEP, if Laketown groups will get grants.

A motion was made by Dietrich, seconded by Davis, to approve sending \$50,000 to the Community Enhancement Program as presented. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION APPROVED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE. YES – DAVIS, DIETRICH, HOWELL, JOHNSON. NO – DELANEY.

b. Early Voting Resolution

Meshkin explained the state requirements of early voting, saying all three precincts in Laketown Township will early vote at the township hall for nine days, including weekends, prior to the election from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Davis, to approve Resolution 2023-10 Early Voting Resolution as presented. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION APPROVED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE.

c. Parks Commission Resignation

Howell said the board has 45 days to fill the opening on the Parks and Recreation Commission after the resignation of Chairperson Jeremy Van Hoven. The process was discussed at workshop.

A motion was made by Davis, seconded by Johnson, to accept with regret and appreciation the resignation of Parks and Recreation Commission Chairperson Jeremy Van Hoven. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE.

d. Board appointments

Howell presented appointments: ZBA (renewal) – Barb Hibiske; Planning Commission – Ray Buursma, (renewal) -- Chad Nienhuis and Dick Becker; Fire Board – Patrick Dietrich and Jim Johnson; Building Authority – Bob Slikkers; Pool – Coleen Hill; Saugatuck Community Recreation – Open.

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Dietrich, to confirm appointments as presented. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE.

e. Additional Compensation for Manager

Howell explained the board performed its annual review for township Manager Al Meshkin at the Dec. 6 workshop in closed session.

A motion was made by Davis, seconded by Dietrich, to approve Resolution 2023-11 Manager Performance Pay Resolution as presented with the amount of \$12,500. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE.

8. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Start: 7:14 p.m.

Seven people spoke.

Topics: Parks commission, emails, ARPA, 3-minute clock, manager compensation, culverts along bike paths, Open Meetings Act.

End: 7:24 p.m.

9. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Davis, to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE.