

PROPOSED MINUTES
LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
4338 Beeline Road, Allegan County, Holland, MI 49423
WORKSHOP MINUTES
Wednesday, January 3, 2024

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Linda Howell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

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; Doug DenBleyker, Graafschap Fire Department chief; Jim Hayden, public information coordinator

ARTICLE II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Johnson, second by Dietrich, to approve the workshop minutes of Dec. 6, 2023. Howell called for a vote. VOICE VOTE. PASS UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.

ARTICLE III. FINANCES

The board discussed the bills and came to a consensus to put the December bills on the regular January meeting agenda.

ARTICLE IV. TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Full list of reports expected. Howell will reach out to Gary Dewey for reports on Herrick District Library and the Community Enhancement Program.
- b) The board discussed the proposed changes to the open burning and rental ordinances. The board came to a consensus to put the amendment ordinance on the regular January meeting agenda.
- c) The board discussed the salary resolutions for trustees (proposed Resolution 2024-01), clerk (proposed Resolution 2024-02), treasurer (proposed Resolution 2024-03) and supervisor (proposed Resolution 2024-04). The amounts remain the same as last year except Howell proposed paying the clerk an extra \$5,000 per election. The board came to a consensus to put the issue on the regular January meeting agenda.
- d) The board discussed proposed Resolution 2024-05 Poverty Exemption Guidelines Resolution with an Asset Level Test of 100 percent of household income. The board came to a consensus to put the issue on the regular January meeting agenda.
- e) The board discussed the interview process to fill an opening on the Parks and Recreation Commission and came to the consensus to interview the top three candidates – Eshenaur, Gogolin and Hoekman. Each will be allotted up to 15 minutes of interview time. The board came to a consensus to put the issue on the regular January meeting agenda.

ARTICLE V. NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Howell informed the board that Dietrich will attend Parks and Recreation Commission meetings but not speak for the township.
- b) Meshkin handed out a year-end review of public outreach from the public information coordinator.

- c) Meshkin went over the first draft of the proposed 2024-2025 budget, noting changes including breakouts of special voted millages, Graafschap Fire Department, Wolters Woods mortgage and Felt Estate bond as well as contracted services.
- d) Dietrich asked about the survey by Friends of Laketown LLC. Howell said the private survey is not a township board issue.

ARTICLE VI. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Start: 6:37 p.m.

Three people spoke.

Topics: Parks and Recreation Commission interview, Fellinlove Farm, budget, Felt Mansion, \$5,000 per election for clerk.

End: 6:43 p.m.

ARTICLE VII. NEXT WORKSHOP – The next regular workshop meeting is 5 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2024.

ARTICLE VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Johnson, second by Dietrich, to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 p.m. Howell called for a vote. VOICE VOTE. PASS UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.