

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

March 12, 2008

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer called the regular monthly Board of Trustees meeting to order at 8:30 P.M.

ARTICLE II. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board members reviewed the minutes of the February 13, 2008 meeting. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve the minutes as submitted. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE III. TREASURER’S REPORT/REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Supervisor Terry Supervisor reviewed the bills for the month of February, 2008. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to approve and pay the bills as submitted. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE IV. CORRESPONDENCE – None

ARTICLE V. CITIZEN’S COMMENTS ON OLD AND NEW BUSINESS – None

ARTICLE VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Amend FY 2007-08 BUDGET

Al Meshkin gave a brief overview of the amended budget explaining that there was a slight increase in revenue and expenditures. The increase in expenditures was for the resurfacing of 144<sup>th</sup> Street, clearing space at Gibson Cemetery and plan reviews for the Flying J project.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Bob Scanlan to approve the FY 2007-08 Amended Budget. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC HEARING ON FY 2008-09 BUDGET

Al Meshkin gave a detailed overview of the FY 2008-09 Budget.

Supervisor Hofmeyer opened for public comment.

Cal DeMaagd of 3719 64<sup>th</sup> Street stated that the salaries should be reviewed because he felt they were very large. He suggested considering keeping salaries flat or replacing staff with less expensive employees.

Supervisor Hofmeyer stated that we do have qualified employees who are well trained that provide fine service to the residents of the Township. They do quality work and we should reward them for it. He also compared a neighboring township's proposed manager's position salary which is in line with where we are. He thanked Cal for his comments.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Bob Scanlan and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve the budget. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

Gary Dewey stated that he feels we get a lot accomplished with limited amount of expenditures compared to other townships.

Bob Scanlan agreed with that and stated that the Township is successful because of the people.

#### B. RETAIL ALCOHOL SALES PROHIBITION REPEAL ORDINANCE

Supervisor Hofmeyer reviewed the Retail Alcohol Sales Prohibition Repeal Ordinance stating that if it is repealed we could be looking at this item being on the August ballot.

One letter from a resident in support of the repeal was read.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Ed Stielstra to repeal the Retail Alcohol Sales Prohibition. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

Supervisor Hofmeyer stated that he has not seen or heard resident communication in regards to repealing this ordinance.

Gary Dewey stated that the Township would set the guidelines for restrictions and regardless if we approve it, it goes to the voters.

Terry confirmed there might be up to three liquor licenses that would be available if approved by the State. He anticipates if they are approved, it would be primarily for food service establishments. He would recommend that over half of revenue come from food sales. Terry asked if this would allow for non-profits to apply for the one day 24-hour liquor license. Al replied that it would and in the past the Felt Mansion has actually lost rental opportunities for such events.

Following discussion, **a second motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to table this item until the April Board meeting to allow more time for resident feedback. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

#### C. CONTRACT WITH PAT MEYER RESTORATION LLC

Al Meshkin reviewed the proposal submitted by Pat Meyer for a 3- year contract that would include an 18% discount for a 3-year agreement. The contract also includes a 90 day notice of separation from either party instead of a 30 day notice.

Following discussion **a motion was made by Bob Scanlan and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve the contract. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

Ed Stielstra clarified that the position would focus on the marketing aspect of the Felt Mansion.

Bob Scanlan stated that Pat Meyer's work, dedication and professionalism has shown that we should accept this contract.

Pat Meyer stated that it has been a great experience working with the Township and thanked the Board for the opportunity. She also recognized the great support of the Township staff and noted that they are definitely worth their salaries.

Terry Hofmeyer commented on the miraculous improvements that have been made to the mansion with the many volunteers and most recently with the paid contractors. He invited all residents to visit the Felt Mansion and enjoy the vast improvements that have been made over the last year.

Ed Stielstra asked if Al has things in place to pick up the duties that Pat will no longer be responsible for such as the newsletter, website and the Parks Commission activities. Al responded that he is working on this but the Parks Commission will have to absorb part of this workload.

#### D. T-MOBILE CELL TOWER PROPERTY LEASE

Al Meshkin reviewed the contract for T-Mobile Cell Tower Property Lease. The sites requested were reviewed. The final location selected is a piece of property on 142<sup>nd</sup> where it dead ends into the highway. A lease was negotiated and if approved there will be \$2,000 paid upfront for a one year option and \$1,200 per month for rent with each additional carrier at \$400 up to \$3200 per month. This would be revenue earned on land that was donated many years ago and has remained unused. Al Meshkin has recommended approval subject to the Township Attorney's review.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve the property lease subject to the attorney review and also pending advice to the neighboring property owners. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

Terry Hofmeyer asked if it was \$400 for each additional carrier and Al responded that it is. Al also noted that the Township would have the ability to install a microwave antenna for emergency use at no charge.

Ed Stielstra asked if we should get feedback from the adjacent property owners. Terry Hofmeyer agreed and noted there are two billboards on the site now. Al Meshkin reported that there is one home at a bit of a distance as this property is dead ended to the highway. He also stated that the structure would be a monopole.

#### ARTICLE VIII. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Wendy Van Huis noted that Allegan County Clerk Joyce Watts will hold a session on April 3 on how to run for a public office. Information on the meeting is available at the Township Office. The deadline to submit a name for ballot is May 14 at 4:00 P.M.

Chuck Strabbing of 144<sup>th</sup> Avenue stated that the Parks Commission has a partnership with the Outdoor Discovery Center. There will be a joint bird watching event on May 17<sup>th</sup> at Sanctuary Woods and all are welcome to attend. There will also be a salamander and frog event at Farview Park on April 18<sup>th</sup>. More information about these events is available at the Township Office. Chuck also noted that the new parks maps are available and will be mailed this month to all residents of the Township. He expressed much gratitude for the efforts of Pat Meyer stating that she continues to do an outstanding job at the mansion and he is thankful that her contract was renewed.

Randy Becksvoort of 3930 Beeline Road asked if the bike path will be on the east side of the road. Al responded that it will be on the east side. Randy also asked if the Township will be changing to a single garbage hauler and if so, will it guarantee a lower price. Al responded that this is still being researched. Randy also asked if the Township would receive payment on the percentage of calls based off of this new tower. Al responded that those types of contracts are pretty non-existent today.

Cal DeMaagd of 64<sup>th</sup> Street asked if there would be a review of the type or style of tower that would

be installed as there are more aesthetic options used in other states.

ARTICLE IX. ADJOURN

**A motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 P.M. UNANIMOUS DECISION-MOTION APPROVED**

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Wendy Van Huis, Township Clerk

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Diane Ybarra, Recording Secretary