

PROPOSED MINUTES
LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
4338 BEELINE ROAD
HOLLAND, MI 49423
(616) 335-3050

April 23, 2008

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Laketown Township Downtown Development Authority was called to order by Township Manager Al Meshkin at 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Marcia Perry, John Lamb, Peter Ta, Bob Schaafenaar,
Ken Draisma, Al Dogger, Dick Darby and Al Meshkin

MEMBERS ABSENT: Steve Schilling

ARTICLE II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by John Lamb and seconded by Al Dogger to approve the minutes of the March 31, 2008 meeting. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED.

ARTICLE III. OLD BUSINESS

A. RETAIL ALCOHOL RETAIL SALES

Dick Darby noted that prospective developers that he has spoken with stated they would not be interested in the project if alcohol is not available for retail sales.

Al Meshkin stated this would be on the August ballot. Al read the ballot language for the proposal. Additional information will be put in the next Township newsletter. If the voters approve the repeal, it will allow for retail alcohol sales licensing. The Township Board will create guidelines for the approval of these licenses prior to the election in August. Bob Schaafenaar asked how long it would take to receive a license once this is passed and the business applies for the permit. Al responded that he thought the timeframe is approximately 3-4 months. Peter Ta said it would be beneficial to have guidelines for all forms of alcohol, beer, wine and liquor. Al stated that he received only one phone call and one email in opposition of the repeal.

The August 6 ballot will also include the renewal of the millage for road maintenance and the Township Board seats are open. Those interested in running for a seat must file

appropriate paperwork in the Township Office by May 15th. The County Commission and State Representative seats are also on this ballot. Bob Schaafenaar asked what the voter turnout is for this type of election. Al responded that usually there is a 75% turnout rate in Laketown Township. The next newsletter will be out by the end of July with a sample ballot for review.

ARTICLE IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PLANNING CONSULTANT

Al Meshkin stated it is time to begin sending out RFP's to contract a planning consultant. Al would like to create an RFP to send to several consultants and plan a night for brief presentations.

Bob Schaafenaar asked what the cost of this might be. Al responded that it would be approximately \$5,000-\$10,000. Al noted that it is important to interview the consultants to make the best selection. He recommends sending the proposal to LSL Planning, Nederveld and Holland Engineering. Marcia Perry asked how many firms are available to review. Al responded that there are many to consider. Marcia expressed concern over selecting a firm that is most progressive. Bob Schaafenaar asked about Dick Darby's developer and if that be an option. Dick mentioned that the developer he is using might be more costly. It will be important to remain consistent with the Saugatuck/Douglas style businesses. He also noted that many of the developers today are in support of LEED efforts. Bob Schaafenaar asked if the group should decide tonight on how many consultants should be interviewed. The process would occur over the next two months. Al suggested that an ad be run in the Michigan Township News that would include the RFP. Dick Darby stated that in this economy, there would be a lot of interest. Marcia Perry asked if there is a national periodical that could be used. Al Dogger supported Al Meshkin's suggestion. Bob Schaafenaar also supported the ad option. Al Meshkin also suggested doing it via email as another option to expand further. Bob Schaafenaar asked who would comb the responses and Al stated that he would be able to do that. Al will work on the RFP and email a draft to the DDA members. He also asked that the members provide suggestions of potential consultants to target and send their email addresses to him. Al reaffirmed that there is \$10,000 in the budget for this expense. The Blue Star Master Plan will be forwarded to the Township Board for review in May. The focus of the RFP will be on the physical aspect of things and the TIF plan.

ARTICLE V. CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

ARTICLE VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM. The next meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 28, 2008.