

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

May 14, 2008

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer called the regular monthly Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

ARTICLE II. INVOCATION & PLEDGE

Gary Dewey opened the meeting with prayer and Ed Stielstra led the pledge of allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Hofmeyer, Wendy Van Huis, Gary Dewey,
Ed Stielstra, Bob Scanlan

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township Manager
Charlene Fields - Recording Secretary
Cal Haverdink – Fire Chief

ARTICLE III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board members reviewed the minutes of the April 9, 2008 meeting. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Ed Stielstra and seconded by Gary Dewey to approve the minutes as submitted. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE IV. TREASURERS REPORT/REVIEW & APPROVE THE BILLS

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

ARTICLE V. CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

ARTICLE VI. REPORT OF OFFICERS

A. PLANNING COMMISSION

Ed Stielstra stated the Planning Commission met on May 7, 2008 with the following actions taken: recommended review of the Blue Star Sub Area Master Plan to the Township Board, requested the Township Attorney prepare a report and resolution for review of the Westshore Recycling P.U.D. Amendment.

B. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Bob Scanlan reported the Zoning Board of Appeals met on April 28, 2008 with the following actions taken: approved the Myaard variance request contingent upon combining two parcels, approved the McAuliffe variance request.

C. COUNTY COMMISSIONER – Terry

Terry Burns reported the Commissioners will be seeking the assistance of a jail planner for the proposed project. Terry mentioned while the County is fiscally healthy, the increase in Medicaid participants and payment method from the State have created some strain to the General Fund. The new addition to the medical facility was recently dedicated. This addition was made possible in part by a considerable donation from Perrigo. Improvements to the Probate Court should be completed by the end of summer. The Sheriff's department recently received mobile computer terminals for all road patrols. Terry also expressed the need for good representation in Lansing.

D. DEPUTY SHERIFF – No Report

E. FIRE CHIEF AND FIRE BOARD – Chief Cal Haverdink

Chief Haverdink reported on the response calls for the month of April as follows: 24 calls total, 14 calls from Laketown, consisting of 11 rescue and 3 fire, 6 calls from Fillmore, consisting of 2 rescue and 4 fire. Both departments also assisted in 2 fire calls to Hamilton and 1 fire and 1 rescue to the City of Holland. Cal also noted the Annual Awards Banquet would be held on June 2nd at 6:00 p.m. Anyone interested should contact the township office.

F. PARKS COMMISSION – Chuck Strabbing

Chuck reported the next regular scheduled Parks Commission meeting will be held May 21st at the Huyser Farm. The Commission will be reviewing upcoming projects scheduled for the farm. Chuck also noted the Commission will be holding some volunteer workdays on Monday evenings, the next one being held on May 19th at Wolters' Woods. Projects will include trail clearing, brush clean-up and maintenance. The new park brochure, which includes maps to all parks, is available at the township office.

G. BUILDING AUTHORITY – No Report

H. DDA – Al Meshkin

Al Meshkin reported that the DDA met on April 23, 2008 and approved drafting a "Request for Proposal" to seek a planning consultant. This firm would assist in the downtown development plan and the tax increment financing plan.

ARTICLE VII. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS ON OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Keith Becksvoort of 4468 64th asked if a Treasurer's report was available. Treasurer Dewey stated the township is in good financial condition and compared the township's millage rate with neighboring districts.

Ms Shelly Edgerton introduced herself as a candidate for the House of Representatives 88th District. Ms. Edgerton discussed her experience locally as Supervisor of Gun Plain Township at the State level as attorney with the Michigan Senate. Ms. Edgerton also stated she would like to focus on requiring legislators to contribute to their individual healthcare costs.

Mr. Todd Boorsma introduced himself as a candidate for the House of Representatives 88th District. Mr. Boorsma discussed his experience as a businessman, his family values and church involvement.

Mr. Boorsma stated he has experience with political lobbying and sees a need to be able to work cooperatively with all parties. Mr. Boorsma noted he is running to make a difference in Lansing, represent the people of his community and address the needs of small businesses in Michigan.

ARTICLE VIII. OLD BUSINESS - NONE

ARTICLE IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. FIRST RESTATED BURNING ORDINANCE

Fire Chief Cal Haverdink stated the existing ordinance was outdated and in need of revision. The revised ordinance would prohibit open burning within certain areas of the township, require burn permits and regulate certain acts and practices related to burning. Cal noted the greatest change would be in the area west of 66th Street along the lakeshore. Campfires in this area would need to be in a controlled area and require a burn permit. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Bob Scanlan to approve the First Restated Burning Ordinance No. 150, draft date of May 7, 2008. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

B. RESTATED AND RETAIL WATER AGREEMENTS WITH CITY OF HOLLAND

Supervisor Hofmeyer reviewed the Retail Water Agreement stating the agreement between Laketown Township and City of Holland would outline the terms of operation and maintenance, water rates, reporting, insurance, liability, management and installation.

Supervisor Hofmeyer reviewed the Restated Water Agreement stating the agreement between Laketown Township and City of Holland would outline the revocation of previous agreements, terms of agreement, ownership, maintenance and repair, usage, trunk mains, quality, charges and terms of any future water plant.

Supervisor Hofmeyer offered his thanks to Mayor Al McGeehan and Holland City Council for their show of cooperation between two communities.

Al Meshkin offered his thanks to Loren Howard and John VanUfflen of the Holland Board of Public Works for their work in reaching this agreement.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Bob Scanlan and seconded by Wendy VanHuis to approve the Restated and Retail Water Agreements with City of Holland, Draft date of May 14, 2008.**

C. SHORE ACRES LEASE WITH STATE OF MICHIGAN

Supervisor Hofmeyer reviewed the lease agreement between Laketown Township and The State of Michigan-Department of Natural Resources. The lease agreement will allow Laketown Township to operate, renovate and maintain the premises, which includes the historic carriage house, barn, small outbuildings and grounds.

Al Meshkin stated the lease is a 5-year agreement that would allow for volunteer efforts to start renovations with the hope of obtaining full ownership in the future and incorporating as the original estate.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded Bob Scanlan by to approve the Shore Acres Lease with State of Michigan.**

D. BLUE STAR SUB AREA MASTER PLAN

Al Meshkin stated the Planning Commission has recommended an update to the Master Plan to address future growth and development on the Blue Star Highway. The Commission requests

review by the Township Board and approval to distribute draft proposal to neighboring communities for comment. A public hearing would follow.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Gary Dewey to approve the distribution of the Blue Star Sub Area Master Plan.**

ARTICLE X. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Chuck Strabbing of 6328 144th Avenue expressed appreciation for the timely manner in which the board meetings are conducted and suggested a three minute limit per person for public comments.

George Smeenge of 3977 Beeline Road reported the Commission on Aging has a new brochure available, a new Director should be on board by the end of the month and participation is increasing.

Cal De Maagd of 3719 64th Street noted he is in favor of a three minute time limit for candidates. Mr. De Maagd also asked how the State uses the accessory buildings at Shore Acres..

Al Meshkin advised the State currently uses the steel pole building attached to the carriage for equipment storage and noted the lease agreement would allow for continued use.

Gary Dewey expressed the need for good representation in Lansing and encouraged all residents to review the qualification, experience, and proposals of each candidate.

ARTICLE XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to adjourn at 7:50 P.M. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED