

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

April 9, 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

Clerk Wendy Van Huis opened the meeting with prayer and Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer led the pledge of allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Hofmeyer, Wendy Van Huis, Bob Scanlan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gary Dewey, Ed Stielstra

STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township Manager
Diane Ybarra - Recording Secretary
Bob Curnick – Township Deputy
Cal Haverdink – Fire Chief

ARTICLE III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board members reviewed the minutes of the March 12 and 26, 2008 meetings. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Bob Scanlan 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 March 2008. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Bob Scanlan and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to approve and pay the bills as submitted. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE V. CORRESPONDENCE

Township resident Jean Hulst submitted a letter of objection in regards to the Retail Alcohol Sales Prohibition Repeal Ordinance. The letter was noted and accepted into the record.

ARTICLE VI. REPORT OF OFFICERS

A. PLANNING COMMISSION – Al Meshkin

Al Meshkin reported that the Planning Commission in conjunction with the Downtown Development Authority met on March 31, 2008 at which time they discussed the Blue Star Sub Area Master Plan and made many adjustments to the plan. The two groups will continue to move forward on this effort.

B. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – No report.

C. COUNTY COMMISSIONER – Terry Burns

Terry Burns reported on the timeline for the new Allegan County Jail initiatives. Terry provided a document of the timeline including the history dating back to 2001 up to current activities. Additional information on funding and bid estimates will be available within the next 2-4 weeks. Terry also discussed renovations of the Allegan County Court Building. Terry expressed the importance of gaining the support of the Laketown Township residents for the new jail initiatives.

D. DEPUTY SHERIFF – Deputy Bob Curnick

Deputy Curnick reported that last month we got through the snow and its issues. The roads are completely clear which brings the kids out on their bicycles so he advises drivers to be aware and use extreme caution.

E. FIRE CHIEF AND FIRE BOARD – Chief Cal Haverdink

Chief Haverdink reported on the response calls for the month of March as follows: 23 calls total, 18 calls from Laketown, consisting of 16 rescue and 2 fire, 4 calls from Fillmore, consisting of 3 rescue calls and 1 fire. Both departments also assisted in 1 fire call to the Saugatuck Fire Department at the downtown Douglas fire.

F. PARKS COMMISSION – Chuck Strabbing

Chuck Strabbing reported that there will be a joint event with the Outdoor Discovery Center on April 18th at Farview Park to view salamanders, frogs and such species. There will be another joint event on May 17th at Sanctuary Woods to view various bird species. Chuck reported that there are up to three seats that will be open on the Parks Commission and he invites interested residents to submit their name for the August election.

G. BUILDING AUTHORITY – No report.

H. DDA – Al Meshkin

Al Meshkin reported that the DDA met on March 31 in a combined meeting with the Planning Commission as noted above.

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

Todd Van Huis of 4475 66th Street stated that he received a letter from Allegan County stating that he would be assigned a new address of Old Interurban Drive and he and other neighbors do not see the need to change their addresses from the current 66th Street. He noted that there have been 3-4 emergencies over the years that have not posed difficulty in the emergency responders to find their location. He asks if there is any way to revoke this change, he would appreciate it. Terry responded that it would be discussed at the next workshop meeting as others have expressed concern.

ARTICLE VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. RETAIL ALCOHOL SALES PROHIBITION REPEAL ORDINANCE

Terry explained that if the repeal is approved tonight it would be put on the August ballot for voter approval. Terry reported that this topic has been in discussion for approximately two months to allow for resident feedback and he has received very little feedback.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Bob Scanlan to approve the Retail Alcohol Sales Prohibition Repeal Ordinance No. 149. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. FIRE, ROAD, BICYCLE PATH AND DRAIN RENEWAL RESOLUTION

Terry Hofmeyer reviewed the topic and Al Meshkin stated that the resolution provides approximately \$600,000 per year in funding. If the resolution is approved it would be the August 5th ballot for voter approval.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Bob Scanlan to approve the Fire, Road, Bicycle Path and Drain Renewal Resolution. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

B. HERRICK DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT

Terry Hofmeyer announced that Gary Dewey expressed interest in serving as the Laketown Township representative to the Herrick District Library Board.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Bob Scanlan and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to approve Gary Dewey to the Herrick District Library Board Appointment. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE X. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS - None

Spencer Moore introduced himself and advised that he is running for the 88th District State House of Representatives. He shared that he is a former business person and feels that he has the people's best interest at heart understanding the severe economic challenges currently facing the State of Michigan. He believes that the bipartisan issues must be resolved as part of the hard work to resolve the issues facing the state. He is currently the Leighton Township Supervisor and feels that he is qualified for this position. He stated that if elected he would work very hard for the residents of Michigan. Leighton Township is in the northeast corner of Allegan County.

Chuck Strabbing noted that the Township parks are open to visitors from outside of Laketown Township and he advised that the new brochure is available at the Township Hall.

ARTICLE XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Bob Scanlan and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to adjourn at 7:27 P.M. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED