

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

July 8, 2009

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

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

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township Manager  
Diane Ybarra – Recording Secretary

ARTICLE III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board members reviewed the minutes of the June 10, 2009 meeting. 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 June 2009. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Gary Dewey and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve and pay the bills as submitted. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE V. CORRESPONDENCE

Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer stated that two letters were received from George Smeenge. One letter addressed the Commission on Aging and the senior millage and the other letter addressed Township Ordinances relative to road safety and the “right of way.” Both letters are having been received into record and are available at the Township Office for review.

ARTICLE VI. REPORT OF OFFICERS

A. STATE REPRESENTATIVE GENETSKI – No report.

B. COUNTY COMMISSIONER BURNS

Terry Burns gave an update on the status of the jail. The millage request may come up in 2010 and if that does not get approved, a bond may be obtained. The health services facility is now paid for and is estimated that \$850,000 will be freed up in the budget. The capacity of the jail is 173 and is now housing 184 inmates. The County is required to release inmates early when capacity is exceeded. The current facility is in need of major repairs. Terry also spoke to the Senior Services Program stating that it is funded through the County but there is a state law that permits allowance for one tenth of one mil to support the senior benefits. The Commission on Aging will be researching that option for additional funding.

C. PLANNING COMMISSION – Ed Stielstra

Ed Stielstra reported that the Planning Commission met on July 1 and the following topics were discussed: approved the 64<sup>th</sup> Street Bakery Special Use Amendment; approved Cooklin Special Use Request; approved Daniels Special Use Request.

D. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – Bob Scanlan

Bob Scanlan reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals met on June 29 and the following topic was discussed: approved Molengraff Request for Variance.

E. PARKS COMMISSION – Chuck Strabbing

Chuck Strabbing reported that the Parks Commission met on June 17. There was some damage reported in the parks caused by the storms but repair work is underway. There are events planned with the Outdoor Discovery Center for July and August. The exact dates and details can be found on the Township website. The disc golf course is open and being used at Shore Acres Park. The next meeting is July 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

F. DEPUTY SHERIFF – No report.

G. FIRE CHIEF AND FIRE BOARD – Terry Hofmeyer

The response calls for the month of June as follows: 31 calls total, 23 calls from Laketown, consisting of 16 rescue and 7 fire, 3 calls from Fillmore, consisting of 3 rescue calls and 0 fire. There was 5 assists to other departments: 1 rescue assist to Holland, 2 fire assists to Holland, 1 fire assist to Hamilton and 1 fire assist to Park Township. Terry Hofmeyer stated that the 4<sup>th</sup> of July breakfast was attended by more than 1,200 people and a good time was had by all.

H. DDA – No report.

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

Herbert Klemm of 6502 Creekwood Drive stated that there was much debris created by the recent storms. He attempted to take his debris to Chef Container and was told there would be a charge. He later learned that there are two coupons available to be used for such a reason. For those residents living in the area with more woods and debris there is a need to dispose of more than two

truckloads. It should be handled by weight or another manner to allow for adequate disposal of waste when there are unusual circumstances. Do they handle it per ton or size of load? Mr. Klemm asked that it be addressed with Chef Container to negotiate more options for disposal. He also commented on the condition of the Township roads. He stated that he walks these roads frequently and sees many large cracks in the streets that perhaps could be filled and sealed at a lesser cost than repaving. Terry Hofmeyer stated that Al Meshkin will provide an update concerning Chef Container later in the agenda. In terms of the roads, the Township must work with the Allegan County Road Commission and he will address it with them.

## ARTICLE VIII. OLD BUSINESS

### A. LEAF COMPOSTING

Al Meshkin stated that he has been in conversation with Sean Steele of Chef Container concerning the leaf removal. A verbal agreement was made that ten additional bags of leaves can be left per week during the peak season by customers who are subscribing to the lawn waste service. The standard cost to drop leaf disposal at Chef is based on weight at a charge of \$22.00 per ton or a minimum charge of \$22.00 for loads of one ton or less. Sean Steele agreed to reduce the minimum charge to \$11.00 for one half ton or less for those Laketown residents who currently subscribe to any service from Chef. This applies to leaf waste only and not other debris. Terry Hofmeyer clarified that the brown bags are obtainable at most hardware stores. Terry also stated that the clean-up vouchers are two per year per resident with each voucher valid for one load. The person whose name the voucher is in must be present at time of disposal. Terry asked if this information could be communicated to residents. Al stated that this newsletter is already printed so it would be in the October newsletter. The current newsletter does address residential composting including information on resources from the State of Michigan. The Township office will also have all pertinent information available.

Steve Chapman of 6259 Oakhurst asked if you must cross the scales and pay per weight. Al Meshkin explained that you do have to go over the scale and it is based on weight. Each time you cross the scale there is a minimum charge of \$11.00 per half ton of leaves.

## ARTICLE IX. NEW BUSINESS

### A. INTRODUCTION OF NEW SAUGATUCK SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT

Terry Hofmeyer introduced Mr. Rolfe Timmerman as the new Superintendent of the Saugatuck School District. Mr. Timmerman stated that he is looking forward to working with the parents and students of Saugatuck and Douglas schools.

### B. 140<sup>TH</sup> STREET CULVERT REPLACEMENT

Al Meshkin explained that the current 30 inch metal culvert on 140<sup>th</sup> Street is washed out and needs to be replaced. He stated that it will be replaced with a 48 inch concrete culvert at the Township's expense of approximately \$15,000. This could be done in a timely manner once the bids are received and awarded.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Bob Scanlan and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve the expenditure of \$15,000 for the 140<sup>th</sup> Street Culvert replacement. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

### C. OTTOGAN INTERCOUNTY DRAIN PETITION

Al Meshkin reviewed in detail the complexity of the repairs necessary on the Ottogan Drain and the Ottogan Drain Maintenance Resolution 2009-10. The responsibility of the drain system involves multiple counties and townships. Both Ottawa and Allegan County Road Commissions have interest in the system. There is a dam within the structure at Teusink's Farm that is part of the system and was damaged during the June 19<sup>th</sup> storm. The repair is estimated at \$50,000 and the Intercounty Drain Board is asking that Laketown Township approve the replacement of this drain system including its share of the cost at approximately \$25,000. Park Township, Allegan County, Ottawa County and City of Holland will also share in the expense. There are two counties, two townships and the Intercounty Board involved. A combined permit is necessary from the State of Michigan to expedite the process. This would also include the repairs on 147<sup>th</sup> Street, 140<sup>th</sup> Street and 32<sup>nd</sup> Street. DEQ requirements must also be met for all repairs.

Wendy Van Huis asked if resolutions are necessary from all affected municipalities. Al Meshkin stated that resolutions are necessary from those municipalities responsible for 20% or more of the cost. Bob Scanlan asked if all municipalities are cooperating and Al responded that all interested parties are in full cooperation.

Randy Becksvoort of 3930 Beeline Road asked if the \$5,000 per mile allowance for drain repair is available for each of the years it wasn't used. Al Meshkin responded that it is not cumulative, only \$5,000 per year per mile of drain may be expended without additional approval.

Ed Steilstra asked if decreasing the size of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Street dam would improve the situation. Al said no, it would push the problem further down stream and not resolve the issues.

Terry Burns asked if Scott Corbin gave any indication about available State monies. Al said no, federal money may be available although the storm was not widespread enough so it is not likely.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Ed Stielstra and Bob Scanlan to approve the Ottogan Intercounty Drain Petition Resolution 2009-10. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

### D. FRIENDS OF THE FELT ESTATE APPOINTMENT

Terry Hofmeyer stated that due to the passing of Ann Scanlan, it is necessary to replace her seat on Friends of the Felt Estate Board. Terry would like to appoint Bob Scanlan to that seat.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Gary Dewey to approve the appointment of Bob Scanlan to the Friends of the Felt Estate Board. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

### ARTICLE X. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Herbert Klemm of 6502 Creekwood Drive asked if residents are allowed to burn yard waste if the weather is permitting. Al Meshkin responded that there is a permitting process through the Graafschap Fire Department and can be accomplished by contacting the Township Office. There is no charge for the permit.

Randy Becksvoort of 3930 Beeline Road asked if the County took over 140<sup>th</sup> Avenue after it was paved last year. Al Meshkin responded that the County did make 140<sup>th</sup> Avenue a county primary, but only from 60<sup>th</sup> Street to 64<sup>th</sup> Street. Randy also commented on how good the Township Hall

grounds looked after the clearing but questioned why some of the trees under the six inch height were left standing. Al stated that most were taken out but a few may have been overlooked, but the contractor did remove several oversize trees as requested. Randy asked if Al had received any feedback on the Internet service in the Township. He stated that he continues to have a difficult time with access. Al responded that the provider continues to address the issues but not all are resolved at this point. A new antenna was installed but the leaves on the trees are causing problems.

Keith Becksvoort of 4468 64<sup>th</sup> Street asked if the Township was ordered by the Drain Commission to install that dam that collapsed and now there was mention of removing it. Al responded that it was required to consider the removal, but it will not be removed.

#### ARTICLE XI. ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was made by Bob Scanlan and seconded by Gary Dewey to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 P.M. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**