

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

REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 9, 2009
HELD AT THE FELT MANSION

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

Bob Scanlan opened the meeting with prayer and led the pledge of allegiance.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gary Dewey

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 November 11, 2009 meetings. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Bob Scanlan and seconded by Wendy Van Huis 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 November 2009. **A motion was made by Ed Stielstra and seconded by Bob Scanlon to approve and pay the bills as submitted.**

Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED

ARTICLE V. CORRESPONDENCE - None

ARTICLE VI. REPORT OF OFFICERS

A. ALLEGAN COUNTY DISTRICT JUDGE BAILLARGEON

Judge Baillargeon stated that he is very honored to serve as the Allegan County District Judge. There are many exciting programs going on in the County such as court in the classroom. Judge Skocelas has been instrumental in developing a supervised program for those dealing with mental health issues and substance abuse. He also presented the Township Board with a commemorative mug from the Allegan County Sheriff Department to celebrate their 175th Anniversary. Bob Scanlan commented on the commemorative rifle that is being raffled as a fundraiser. The gun details the history of Allegan County.

B. COUNTY COMMISSIONER BURNS – Terry Burns

Commissioner Burns reported that the former Haworth Seating Plant will be purchased for the new Allegan County Jail site. The infrastructure is already present which would be a major cost savings for the project. The location is good and it is a total of 22 acres of property. The disadvantage is that there would be three different locations for the County offices. He stated that he has been working with the Mental Health Court to be licensed to handle the substance abuse clients. This would also provide additional funding for the program. The diversion program has been very successful with a recidivism rate of zero. The County Commissioners will be working on the new budget this week.

Ed Stielstra asked how cohesive the County Board is on the jail site decision. Terry Burns responded that the vote was 10 to 1.

C. PLANNING COMMISSION – Ed Stielstra

Ed Stielstra reported that the Planning Commission met on December 2 and the following topics were discussed: the Zoning Ordinance proposal; approved the Nienhuis Special Use Request to construct an accessory building.

D. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – Bob Scanlan

Bob Scanlan reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals did not meet in November.

E. PARKS COMMISSION – Chuck Strabbing

Chuck Strabbing reported that the Parks Commission met on November 18. Terry Hofmeyer thanked Chuck Strabbing for the beautiful job of decorating the mansion. Chuck stated that the Commission is working on the ice rink at the mansion. They are also working on partnership events with the Outdoor Discovery Center.

F. DEPUTY SHERIFF – No report.

G. FIRE CHIEF AND FIRE BOARD – No report.

The response calls for the month of November as follows: 16 calls total, 12 calls from Laketown, consisting of 9 rescue and 3 fire, 2 calls from Fillmore, consisting of 1 rescue calls and 1 fire.

H. DDA – No report.

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

Paul Elzinga of 19 E. 14th Street in Holland stated that he has been working on the Muzzy Development Project and also with the water project at Castle Park. He is interested in Item A under the new business on the agenda concerning the Castle Park water connection to the Holland

water source.

ARTICLE VIII. OLD BUSINESS – None

ARTICLE IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. FIRST AMENDMENT TO RESTATED WATER AGREEMENT

Terry Hofmeyer explained the First Amendment to the Restated Water Agreement. Castle Park would like to abandon their antiquated water systems and connect to the municipal water resources and be able to use the water for their tennis courts. He explained that the amendment would be to remove from the contract the requirement of maintaining Ordinance No. 120, the water conservation ordinance.

A motion was made by Bob Scanlan and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve the First Amendment to Restated Water Agreement.

Al Meshkin stated that the issue in the contract is that the township is required to enforce the odd/even watering ordinance. The amendment would allow the township to repeal the ordinance to allow for daily watering. In the case of a water emergency in which the Holland Board of Public Works would call for a reduction in use, the Township would have to abide by that.

Paul Elzinga stated that the Board of Public works would like to discuss the amendment that Al Meshkin wrote. This should be done as soon as possible. Castle Park needs to award the contract to make modifications to their water system. There must be cost savings reductions established before moving forward as the bids came in much higher than had been anticipated. Mr. Elzinga has asked to expedite a meeting between the Township and the Holland Board of Public Works.

Terry Hofmeyer responded that this amendment is the first step in moving forward with this process. Apparently, the clay tennis courts must be watered on a daily basis and the Association feels strongly about being able to maintain the courts as part of the amenities to its residents.

Ed Stielstra asked if additional meetings would be necessary if the Board approves this amendment tonight. The meeting being proposed between Holland Board of Public Works and the Township would be to review the terminology before moving forward with final approval.

Paul Elzinga stated that he would like to move forward with this step so he can provide a response to the contract bids and report to the Castle Park Association progress to move forward.

Wendy Van Huis asked if this would restrict the amount of water the Township would be able to use from the Holland municipal system.

Terry Hofmeyer confirmed that it would not reduce the water capacity. It would remain at 1.8 mgd.

**Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion.
UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

B. OUTDOOR WOOD FIRED BOILER ORDINANCE

Terry Hofmeyer explained the Outdoor Wood Fired Boiler Ordinance No. 159. The Ordinance provides requirements and restrictions upon the construction and operation of outdoor wood fired boiler units in the Township. Al Meshkin stated it would limit use to R-1 Rural Estate Zoning and

AG Agricultural Zoning Districts and prohibit use in subdivisions. The ordinance would not apply to units legally installed in the Township as of the effective date of this newly adopted ordinance. The ordinance also addresses setback, chimney height and fuel.

A motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Bob Scanlan to approve the Outdoor Wood Fired Boiler Ordinance No. 159.

Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED

C. BOND RESOLUTION

Al Meshkin explained the Bond Resolution is part of the stimulus monies available. The funds would be used for the shared path development and also to pay for the repairs from the summer's storm damage. The resolution authorizes the Township Manager to approve the low bid.

A motion was made by Wendy Van Huis and seconded by Ed Stielstra to approve the Bond Resolution.

Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED

ARTICLE X. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Keith Becksvoort of 4468 64th Street asked where South Hill is. Al Meshkin explained that it is the south portion of Castle Park. He asked if we are now being allowed more water from Holland Board of Public Works. Why can't Castle Park use the water system they have now? Al Meshkin stated that our water capacity was increased from 1.2 mgd to 1.8 mgd with the new 2008 water contract. Castle Park feels it is cost prohibitive to adapt the existing system for watering the courts. Paul Elzinga responded that the system is over 100 years old and there is a lot of iron in the water. The reservoir is obsolete at this point. Keith asked if Castle Park was connected last summer. Al Meshkin stated that the lines have been run but the connections have not been made. The assessments have been issued and paid by the residents. Keith also stated that on the whole he has his opinions and stated that the Board does a fairly good job. Wendy Van Huis stated that Keith does ask good questions.

A motion was made by Bob Scanlan and seconded by Wendy Van Huis to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 P.M. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED