

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

REGULAR MEETING  
May 9, 2018

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Hofmeyer, Ed Stielstra, Wendy Van Huis, Gary Dewey  
MEMBERS ABSENT: Linda Howell  
STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township Manager  
Diane Ybarra – Recording Secretary

ARTICLE II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Township Clerk Wendy Van Huis led the pledge of allegiance and offered prayer.

ARTICLE III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board members reviewed the minutes of the April 11, 2018 meeting. **A motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Van Huis to approve the minutes as submitted. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE IV. FINANCIAL REPORT / REVIEW & APPROVE THE BILLS

Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer reviewed the bills for the month of April 2018. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Stielstra and seconded by Van Huis to approve and pay the bills as submitted. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE V. CORRESPONDENCE RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS - none

ARTICLE VI. PRESENTATION BY JUDGE BAILLARGEON

Judge Baillargeon stated that he is in his third term as Chief Judge of Allegan County District Court. Baillargeon commended the Allegan County Clerks for their high rating among clerks in the State of Michigan. Baillargeon presented the annual court report which provides data on the number and types of misdemeanor and felony cases that come before the court on a daily basis. Baillargeon highlighted the work being done by the specialty courts, specifically the Drug Treatment, Sobriety, Mental Health Treatment and Veterans' Treatment Courts. The specialty courts have successfully provided alternative options to support violators with the tools to return to being contributing citizens in the community and reunification of families. Many of the graduates return as mentors for current participants. Hofmeyer thanked Baillargeon and said Allegan County is a leader in the specialty courts.

Michael Villar introduced himself as a candidate for Allegan County Prosecutor on the Republican side. Villar congratulated Judge Baillargeon on the success of the specialty courts adding that one of the graduates in the recent Veterans Treatment Court graduation was one of his former clients. Villar gave a brief overview of his background stating he is a graduate of Michigan Law School, has clerked in several courts and now has a private practice in Allegan. He is committed to transparency and open process in the prosecutor's office. Meshkin asked if after being on the defense side for so many years working against the prosecution, what you would do differently. Villar responded that he would work toward win win outcomes for both sides.

## ARTICLE VII. REPORT OF OFFICERS

### A. STATE REPRESENTATIVE – No report.

### B. COUNTY COMMISSIONER - KAPENGA

Kapenga recognized Baillargeon for his passion with the specialty courts and all the good work that he does. Kapenga reported that the senior millage will be on the August ballot. A successful emergency response drill was done at the Palisades Plant involving all stakeholders. Kapenga recognized Chief Doug Den Bleyker for the work he has done on the Burn Training School. On May 28 the Veteran Memorial will be rededicated at West Side Park. The commissioners continue to work on 10-year projections for the county budget. There have been unique discussions regarding tribal land located in the county that could be put in a trust. Overall the county is doing well.

### C. PLANNING COMMISSION – MESHKIN

Meshkin reported that the Planning Commission met on May 2, 2018 and the following items were discussed: Darby Planned Unit Development was tabled; Tucker Special Use Request was tabled; Den Hartigh Special Use for a home occupation was approved; Laarman Special Use Request was approved; Dame Special Use Request was approved.

### D. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – ED STIELSTRA

Stielstra reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals did not meet in April and will not meet in May. Stielstra noted that the absence of ZBA meetings is an indication that the township ordinances and the Planning Commission are working very well.

### E. PARKS COMMISSION – MICHELLE SALL

Sall reported that the Parks Commission met on April 18 and the following items were discussed: annual spring park evaluations were done and task list submitted; Laketown Beach parking lot updates and restriping; approved a proposal from resident Terry VandeBerg to dismantle the unusable red barn at Huyser Farm and remove all materials at no charge to the township; Huyser Farm clean-up day is planned for Saturday, May 19; Holland Christian Senior Serve Day will take place on Thursday, May 17 at Laketown Beach; the township is collaborating with the Village of Douglas and City of Douglas on the Blue Star Memorial Trail, a non-motorized linear park; approved a pilot of Pack it In and Pack it Out at Farview Park meaning visitors would take out all items they take into the park eliminating the need for trash receptacles; Sall recognized the ODC for the great work they sponsoring a two-day clean-up project at Shore Acres Park, partnering with Saugatuck Brewery and many volunteers; City of Holland invited Laketown to partner on renovation of Lakeview Park; the MSU Extension will present at the May 16 Parks meeting to discuss the research work being done at Huyser Farm.

### F. FIRE CHIEF AND FIRE BOARD – HOFMEYER

In the absence of Chief Den Bleyker, Hofmeyer reported the response calls for the month of April were as follows: 46 calls total, 36 calls from Laketown, consisting of 19 medical/rescue and 16 fire calls and 1 smoke and CO alarm install; 7 from Fillmore, consisting of 3 medical/rescue calls and 4 fire calls. There were 2 fire assists to Saugatuck and 1 medical/rescue assist to Holland.

ARTICLE VIII. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS ON OLD AND NEW BUSINESS AGENDA ITEMS – No comments.

ARTICLE IX. OLD BUSINESS – None

ARTICLE X. NEW BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC HEARING ON 142<sup>ND</sup> AVENUE STREETLIGHT S.A.D.

Supervisor Hofmeyer reviewed Resolution 2018-10.

Hofmeyer opened the public hearing. Hofmeyer reported the board discussed the township participating in the S.A.D. due to ownership of property on the south side of the dead end.

**A motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Van Huis to approve supporting the S.A.D. at 50%. Stielstra said we had discussed a somewhat lesser figure. Meshkin said it would be approximately \$1900.00. Stielstra said he would be more comfortable with \$1500.00. Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

Jennie Lewis of 6068 142<sup>nd</sup> Avenue said she sees a lot of activity at the end of the road with cars, trash and feels it is becoming a problem noting that she should not have to feel frightened in her neighborhood by people who do not belong there.

Connie Van Huis of 6109 142<sup>nd</sup> Avenue agrees with Lewis agrees that there is unwanted activity. Van Huis asked about the cost involved including if there would be maintenance costs after the light is installed. Meshkin said there is a contract with Consumers Power that would be approximately \$25 per parcel per year that would appear on the winter tax bill.

Terry Bouwman of 6079 142<sup>nd</sup> Avenue asked about signage to address the dumping that occurs. There is a lot of trash at the end of the drive and no one is cleaning it up and asked if there are fines that would apply to violators. Bouwman said there are cars parked at the end of the road and no one is in them, not sure what is going on there. He would also like to see Neighborhood Watch Signs installed.

Hofmeyer closed the public hearing.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Van Huis to approve Resolution 2018-10. Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED.** Van Huis appreciated that the request came from the residents. Dewey said a similar issue occurred on the Amway property and volunteers helped to clean up the area.

Resolution 2018-11 states the resolution has been adopted the previous resolution and a second public hearing will be held on June 13, 2018. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Stielstra to approve Resolution 2018-11. Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED.**

Meshkin said another notice for the June public hearing will be sent and will include the cost per parcel.

B. RESIGNATION FROM PLANNING COMMISSION

Hofmeyer reported receiving a letter of resignation from Bob Slikkers from the Planning Commission.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Van Huis to accept with great regret the resignation of Bob Slikkers from the Planning Commission. Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

C. APPOINTMENT TO PLANNING COMMISSION

Hofmeyer put the name of Dick Becker before the board for appointment to the Planning Commission.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Van Huis to approve the appointment of Dick Becker to the Planning Commission with great anticipation.**

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

ARTICLE XI. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Tony Brown of 5487 Dalton Ridge in Fennville introduced himself as a candidate for the District 1 County Commissioner seat in Allegan County. Brown is a 20-year law enforcement veteran and has experience in Indian affairs. He has lived in Allegan County for most of his life and wants to serve the community and he is looking for resident support.

Bill Gillmore of Sand Castle Drive, a member of the citizen group supporting fiber optics in the township reported that he has an FAQ document to share regarding the Comcast project to bring Internet to underserved residents in the township. Hofmeyer said he has an enormous amount of praise for him and the others on the team that worked very hard to resolve this critical need in the township and surrounding rural areas.

Dick Becker said he hopes the township has learned something from this fiber optic project that the private sector should be left to do their job and the township should not be involved in such business.

ARTICLE XII. ADJOURN

**A motion was made by Van Huis and seconded by Stielstra to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 P.M. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTON APPROVED**