

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

May 12, 2021

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Township Supervisor Linda Howell called the regular monthly Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the township hall. Zoom option available for the public. All present board members and staff in-person at township hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Delaney, Gary Dewey, Linda Howell, Jim Johnson, Michelle Sall

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – township manager
Jim Hayden – public information officer

ARTICLE II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The board members reviewed the minutes of the April 14, 2021, meeting. **A motion was made by Delaney seconded by Sall, to approve the minutes as submitted. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE**

ARTICLE III. FINANCIAL REPORT/REVIEW & APPROVE BILLS

The board reviewed the bills from April. **A motion was made by Dewey, seconded by Johnson, to approve the April bills as submitted. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE**

ARTICLE IV. REPORT OF OFFICERS

- a. County Commissioner Kapenga: Talked about Covid state of emergency, rescue funds related to broadband and water issues, state approval for pretrial services and assessments, bids for courthouse roof repairs, plans for Gun Lake.
- b. Planning commission: Johnson reviewed planning commission action from May.
- c. Zoning board of appeals: None
- d. Parks commission: Meshkin reviewed parks commission action from April.
- e. Graafschap Fire Department: Chief Doug Den Bleyker reviewed April fire/rescue calls with 58 total calls, Fillmore – 1 fire call, 12 medical/rescue calls, Laketown – 5 fire calls, 31 medical/rescue calls, Assists – 7 fire calls (2 Hamilton, 2 Holland, 3 Saugatuck), 2 medical/rescue (1 Hamilton, 1 Holland); noted a busy spring for grass fires, no pancake breakfast planned.

ARTICLE V. CITIZEN COMMENTS ON OLD AND NEW BUSINESS AGENDA ITEMS -- None

ARTICLE VI. OLD BUSINESS -- None

ARTICLE VII. NEW BUSINESS

A: HERRICK LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT

A motion was made by Sall, seconded by Johnson, to appoint Dewey to a 2-year term on the Herrick Library Board. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

B: BANKING RESOLUTIONS

The township board discussed the proposal to change banking services from TCF Bank to West Michigan Community Bank for reasons including better customer service, lower fees and continued courier service. **A motion was made by Dewey, seconded by Delaney, to move banking services including checking accounts and line of credit to West Michigan Community Bank as presented and authorize the township manager to sign the necessary documentation. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE.**

C: MEADOW LANE OUT-LOT REQUEST

The township board discussed the proposal from Mike and Amy Pikaart, 4359 Meadow Lane, proposed in a Feb. 23, 2021, letter to purchase township-owned Outlot A Little Acres Sec. 14 T4N R16W, as discussed by the planning commission on May 5, 2021. Delaney said the lot is small and the Pikaarts plan to invest lots of money in maintenance so the township ought to sell the land to them. **A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Dewey, to instruct Meshkin to work with the township attorney to draft a licensing agreement to come back to the board for action. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION APPROVED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE. YES – Dewey, Howell, Johnson, Sall; NO – Delaney.**

D: COUNTY ORV ORDINANCE

The township board discussed the Allegan County proposed Off-Road Vehicle Ordinance. Howell was concerned about damage to township parks and that enforcement will be difficult and penalties for violations are not strong enough to deter violators. Sall was concerned the safety of horseback riders. Johnson said many township residents have ORVs, though increased traffic could result from the county ordinance. **A motion was made by Dewey, seconded by Delaney, to instruct Meshkin to contact Allegan County officials recommending an opt-out clause for Laketown Township as presented and ask Allegan County officials to increase penalties for violators. Howell called for a vote on the motion. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE.**

ARTICLE VIII. CITIZENS COMMENTS -- None

ARTICLE IX ADJOURN

Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.