

**PROPOSED MINUTES
LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
4338 BEELINE ROAD
ALLEGAN COUNTY
HOLLAND, MI 49423
SPECIAL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, May 17, 2017**

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER: Terry Hofmeyer called the meeting to order
5:00p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Hofmeyer, Linda Howell, Ed Stielstra, Gary Dewey, Wendy Van Huis
MEMBERS ABSENT: None
STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin
OTHERS PRESENT: None

ARTICLE II. – Renewal of Uniform Video Service Franchise Agreement with Charter Communications. A motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Van Huis to approve the Renewal of the Franchise Agreement with Charter Communications. Discussion followed. **Unanimous Decision – Motion carried.**

ARTICLE III. – Discussion on Broadband Internet

The Board discussed citizens concerns that have been brought before the Board. Supervisor Hofmeyer gave opening remarks acknowledging and reviewing the lack of financing, and desire to not affect people already being served. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that there are no further expenditures, as we wait to receive word from the state regarding SAD legislation. Linda Howell stated she is still looking for grants. She challenged the audience to contact State Representatives regarding SAD legislation. **No formal action was taken. Supervisor Hofmeyer will prepare an official recommendation for action at the next Board meeting schedule for June 14.**

ARTICLE IV – CITIZEN’S COMMENTS

Dick Becker, 2382 Valley said he fully concurs with what we are saying. Cut off any expenditure. He also has met with Mary Whiteford. He feels it is important for the Board to get educated.

Tom Hoekman, 4174 62nd Street, asked if there was any idea to the cost of a SAD. Response: *Cost unknown.*

Ruth James. 6221 144th Avenue said she appreciates the willingness to talk to State Representatives, and is in agreement that we need cable in the township.

Tom Shuff, 4706 Forest Ridge Drive, said he believes we are all trying to get it right; however a SAD is not a panacea. He will also talk to Representative Mary Whiteford. He appreciates what we are doing; however, there will be many question if we get an assessment through.

Jim Delaney, 6298 144th Ave., wondered in whose court the ball is regarding continuing conversations with Charter. Supervisor Hofmeyer responded discussions are ongoing; another meeting to be scheduled for end of May or first of June.

Mitra Delaney, 6298 144th questioned whether expenditures are frozen. Supervisor Hofmeyer reiterated that hard expenditures are frozen. Mrs. Delaney questioned why we schedule last minute special meetings. Van Huis referred to remarks made during the Charter Franchise discussion, restating that the deadline to approve the Charter Franchise fell before the next Regular meeting, and was not received in time to review prior to the May Regular Board meeting, thus a special meeting was needed in order to approve within the mandated timeline.

Mrs. Delaney also asked what is wrong with working with Charter and Comcast to get more antennas. Supervisor Hofmeyer responded that antennas have a limited distance and would require 20 some antennas. This can be discussed more in the future. Gary Dewey expressed his opposition to too many antennas

ARTICLE IV. – ADJOURNMENT – A motion was made by Howell, and Seconded by Stielstra to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m. Motion Carried.

Wendy Van Huis, Clerk