

**Lake Township-Roscommon County  
Regular Board Meeting  
December 14, 2021 @ 7pm**

The Lake Township Board met on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 for a regular board meeting. Keith Stiles called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance of the United States of America was recited.

**Present:** Tony Farhat-Trustee, David Russo Jr.-Trustee, Keith Stiles-Supervisor, Pam Surprenant-Clerk and Harry Trier-Treasurer.

**Motion:** Trier to approve the December 14, 2021 agenda. **Second:** Stiles. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Motion:** Trier to approve the November 9, 2021 minutes with corrections, adding “there are” to Russo Jr. comment relating to court cases. **Second:** Russo Jr. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Motion:** Trier to approve the November 18, 2021 special meeting minutes. **Second:** Surprenant. **All in Favor. Russo Jr. abstain. Motion Carries.**

**Approval to Pay the Bills:** Surprenant provided the public with the credit card distribution report as well as a report of all payroll and accounts payable checks, including descriptions. **Motion:** Trier to approve the bills and payroll checks #44302 through #44342 and post audit of bills presented on EFT check register. **Second:** Russo Jr. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Budget Amendment: Motion:** Surprenant to approve budget amendment of \$4412.50 as presented to the board. **Second:** Trier. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Old Business:**

**Hall Leach Field:** Stiles stated he spoke with health department for recommendation on size of field and tank. Stiles continued spoke with contractor cost could be under 10K.

**Motion:** Stiles to go out for bids on a leach field. **Second:** Trier. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**New Business:**

**New Hall Presentation:** Pat Riss presented to the board and public the possible options for a new town hall. Board comments by Trier, Stiles and Russo Jr.

**Supervisor Correspondence:** Stiles stated received correspondence on bridge, email regarding referendum and folder received regarding OEO officer to be addressed next month.

**Financial Report:** Trier went over financial report and stated the clerk and treasurer balance. Trier stated new CD's will be on the December financial report. Trier stated he would be at the hall December 28, 2021 from 9-5 to collect taxes.

**Fire Chief's Report:** Fire Chief Wrzesinski provided a written report to the board. Wrzesinski stated Jeff Baker's probationary period is up and would like him removed from probationary status. **Motion:** Russo Jr. to remove Jeff Baker from probationary status. **Second:** Trier. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.** Wrzesinski stated need board approval to hire Joshua Keeler with 6-month probationary status. **Motion:** Trier to hire Joshua Keeler with 6-month probationary status. **Second:** Russo Jr. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.** Wrzesinski would like approval to order dress uniforms for the Fire Department up to 8k for 17 uniforms. **Motion:** Russo Jr. to purchase dress uniforms for the Fire Department up to 8k. **Second:** Stiles. **Roll Call Vote: Russo Jr.-Yes, Farhat-Yes, Surprenant-Yes, Trier-Yes, Stiles-Yes. All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Ordinance Enforcement Officer Report:** OEO department provided a written report to the board.

**Planning Commission Report:** Riss provided a written report to the board. Riss reported 48% of the surveys have been received.

**ZBA Report:** None.

**Assessor's Report:**

Houserman presented Resolution 19 to the board. **Motion:** Surprenant to approve Resolution 19 Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test. **Second:** Trier. **Roll Call Vote: Farhat-Yes, Russo Jr.-Yes, Trier-Yes, Surprenant-Yes, Stiles-Yes. All in Favor. Motion Carries.** Houserman presented Resolution 18 to the board. **Motion:** Trier to approve Resolution 18 Policy & Procedure for Real Property Exemptions. **Second:** Russo Jr. **Roll Call Vote: Surprenant-Yes, Trier-Yes, Farhat-Yes, Russo Jr.-Yes, Stiles-Yes. All in Favor. Motion Carries.** Houserman presented Resolution 17 to the board. **Motion:** Trier to approve Resolution 17 Waive Interest & Penalty Associated with failure to file Property Transfer. **Second:** Russo Jr. **Roll Call Vote: Trier-Yes, Farhat-Yes, Russo Jr.-Yes, Surprenant-Yes, Stiles-Yes. All in Favor. Motion Carries**

**Supervisor's Report:** None

**Muskegon River Bridge Update:** Surprenant stated the township did receive a grant from Roscommon County for the initial cost estimating phase, grant awarded is \$12,800.00. Rowe completed the structure study and the information was supplied to the board. Surprenant continued explaining that the township could apply for grant, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Grant, which is an 80/20 grant. Surprenant spoke of grant writer at \$110.00/hr. Surprenant and Russo Jr. feel the township would benefit from professional services. **Motion:** Surprenant to apply for the Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Grant for the Muskegon River Bridge Project, allowing funds from the Roscommon County Grant toward grant submission through Rowe. **Second:** Trier. **Roll Call Vote: Surprenant-Yes, Trier-Yes, Farhat-Yes, Russo Jr.-Yes, Stiles-Yes. All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Roscommon County ARPA Grant Signature:** To be signed and submitted to County. Clarification of Item 4 to be sent to the board.

**Special LUP Refund: Motion:** Trier to refund special LUP of \$30.00 to GLNR.  
**Second:** Surprenant. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Phillips Court Case:** Stiles stated attorney opinion was sent to the board. **Motion:** Stiles to accept our attorney's recommendation. **Second:** Trier. **Surprenant-Yes, Trier-Yes, Farhat-Yes, Russo Jr.-Yes, Stiles-Yes. All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Zoning Amendments:** Stiles presented the six-foot fence ordinance amendment. Stiles removed the *front yard* 3-foot fence from the amendment as presented previously. Stiles stated if a garage can be built to 20 feet of ROW than a fence should fall within that guideline as well. **Motion:** Stiles to move forward road side yard fence not exceed six-foot fence in height. (as presented to the board) **Second:** Russo Jr. Discussion. Farhat and Surprenant expressed concern over having an open court case that the board agreed to spend money on and move forward with; and now simultaneously working toward an ordinance amendment. Trier stated moving this to the planning commission to look at a change, for a public hearing, does not make the change right now. Russo Jr. stated this would not be a safety issue if a dwelling can go all the way there a six-foot fence should be able to go there. Russo Jr. stated this would be a way for it to go to the planning commission and have a public hearing to get public input. Discussion regarding court case being settled prior to amendment; this will be 2-3 months down the road. **Surprenant-No, Russo Jr.-Yes, Trier-Yes, Farhat-No, Stiles-Yes. All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Board Comment:** Surprenant stated Heather Emerick, LPN from Serenity Day Lodge stopped in and provides a service for adult day care allowing respite for care givers. Brochures available. Surprenant announced deputy clerk Tonya Clare will be phasing out and is looking for interested persons. Russo Jr. had moment of silence for Paul Tiepel Denton Township Fire Chief. Trier spoke of Dave Emmons passing, moment of silence for Dave Emmons. Stiles commented on respect of board members.

**Public Comment:** Comment regarding adopt a family in memory of Dave Emmons. Comment regarding ditch flooding yard.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Surprenant, Lake Township Clerk

*Approved with corrections at 1/11/22 Regular Board Meeting*