

**LAKE TOWNSHIP
ROSCOMMON COUNTY
ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 27, 2021**

The Lake Township Board met, along with residents and non residents (1) on Saturday, March 27, 2021 for the annual meeting. The meeting took place at the Lake Township Fire Station, with 20 persons attending. Keith Stiles called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. The Pledge of Allegiance of the United States of America was recited.

Motion: Harry T. to approve the March 27, 2021 agenda. **Second:** George M. **All in Favor.** Pam S. read the minutes from March 14, 2020 annual meeting. **Motion:** Tonya R. to approve the 2020 Annual Board Meeting minutes. **Second:** Sheila S. **All in Favor.** Stiles queried if there were any non residents present; and reminded those present they must be a resident to vote at the annual meeting.

Supervisor Report - Stiles reported the budget for FY21-22 took a little up tick approximately 10K. Stiles stated concern over the attorney fees the township is spending. The township budgeted 20K for upcoming fiscal year. Stiles feels the attorney costs will go down once short term rentals is behind us. Stiles expressed concern over the length of the meetings and will work on shortening those up. Stiles continued with having four months in he does not see a happy township. Stiles believes there is tension due to short term rentals, marihuana facility and tension due to township ordinances. The happiness and contentment of the township, I feel we can improve on as a board.

Salary Resolutions - Stiles stated main purpose of annual meeting is to approve our raises. Stiles continued, many other townships do not have annual meetings and typically receive a 3-4% increase in wages. No board members asked for a raise. People voted to have a annual meeting, I think the annual meeting is a good thing. At this point I will turn the meeting over to you the electors, be respectful when someone is talking.

Public Comment -

Resident Tonya R. inquired what is the township doing to attract more business to the area. Stiles stated working toward marihuana ordinance that will add a new store front. Stiles continued eliminating site plan fee to may help promote new business, and something we are working on is the planning commission department, land use department, and zba department, looking at procedures trying to make it easier for businesses and residents. Stiles stated would like to bring all this back to center line. Harry T. brought up the Coyle's building, stating possibly could purchase for around 100K, and at one time the township looked into for a new hall location. Mike S. spoke of tax discount or abatement to bring new business into the community, suggesting township would come out ahead over the long term. Tony F. stated other communities do it all the time, and he has mentioned this in the past.

Resident John H. talked of difficulties with site plan for his store. Felt the township is difficult to work with. Also, mentioned township (2 members, K.Stiles & K.Rose) were willing to meet with him to work through situation and feels things are moving in a

positive direction. However, this has been going on for 9 months. It seems I can not even beautify my property. We are working things out, Kevin is now helping me work through some things, but why did it have to be so difficult. Community should work together, so many people here work against each other.

Resident Sheila S. talked about short term rentals and safety issues. Tonya R. and Mike enjoy having short term rental next to their home. Tonya R. stated home was vacant and in dis repair for many years prior to being bought. Harry T. spoke of short term rental control, and having no problems with short term rental near by.

Resident John H. spoke of shed issue on W. Shore Dr. adding the home owner has FOIA information from RCRC and a resident that is "working" for the township was identified as reporting the shed to the RCRC. Stiles stated; work in ethical manner to keep the trust of the community; the board is working for them not against them.

Resident Mike S. suggested researching surrounding communities and compare site plan costs/process.

Resident would like stop sign placed at corner of Bradford and E. Houghton Lake Drive. Many times campers leaving the campground miss the turn and end up on the dead end street trying to turn their "rig" around. Farhat stated this would be a county issue.

Resident Pam S. I would like to jump back to agenda item about salaries and provide some information regarding the salary of the Supervisor and Treasurer. The Supervisor in 2003 made \$17,160 annually and in 2021 makes \$20,100 annually. Over 17 years that is an increase of \$172.94 a year. The Treasurer in 2003 made \$16,120 and in 2021 makes \$20,100. Over 17 years that is an increase of \$234.12 a year. In comparison Markey Township Supervisor makes \$22,285 and Treasurer makes \$28,114. Bringing this information forward to see if someone would motion to bring the Supervisor and Treasurer salary to \$22,100 to be in line with the Clerk's annual wages. **Motion:** Tonya R. to increase the supervisor and treasurer salaries to \$22,100. **Second:** Mike S. Discussion regarding Trustee wages. Harry T. appreciate consideration but in my case don't feel it is a necessary. I will be here for three more years. **8 in favor, 0 against (by raise of hands) Motion Carries.** Discussion regarding Trustee wages comparison Markey \$4,962 annually and Roscommon \$5,023 annually. Stiles stated current wage for Trustees is \$4,327 annually. **Motion:** Mike S. to increase the Trustee's wage's an additional \$750.00 annually. **Second:** Tonya R. Discussion Harry T. I question the two Trustee positions; not begrudging David R., he is new on the job, stated Farhat takes on more responsibilities, he does over and above Trustee duties and perhaps wages should not be the same, I don't know the answer to that. Farhat indicated people need to understand what he does is not a statutory duty of the Trustee and in the future the township may have to outsource some of these things I am doing. Additionally, I have not asked for additional pay, this is something I wanted to give back to the community. Discussion of residents to add pay to Trustee Farhat for non statutory duties. Resident questioned if funds were available for pay increases. Stiles responded yes we do.

10 in favor, 0 against (by raise of hands) Motion Carries.

Pam S. stated at the annual meeting what can be discussed as far as the residents being involved would be the salaries we do resolutions on that would be Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and Trustee 1 and Trustee 2. If you want to go further with this the proper place would be in the board meeting, I totally agree he should get paid for what he is doing. Additional comments from resident regarding the board coming up with a wage for these services; if you are doing jobs that you would normally have to hire out the board needs to come up with some kind of hourly wage for those services. Stiles commented the Deputy Clerk receives \$12.00 hour and is well worth more than \$12.00 hour. Resident commented, the township whether or not people want the money and turn in a bill should at least keep track of what it would cost them because at some point in time you may get people in these positions where you would have to spend money to complete these jobs. Harry T. stated there are many jobs that we just do because they need to be done.

Home owner (non resident) commented on being appalled that no short term rentals are allowed.

Resident commented short term rentals should take into considerations, size of lot, parking, roads and consumers energy. The power grid lacks on W. Shore Drive.

Harry T. thanked township for showing up and salary increase.

Meeting adjourned 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Surprenant, Lake Township Clerk
www.lake-township.com
Subject to Correction and Approval

DRAFT