

**Lake Township-Roscommon County  
Regular Board Meeting  
November 9, 2021 @ 7pm**

The Lake Township Board met on Tuesday, November 9, 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:** David Russo Jr.-Trustee, Keith Stiles-Supervisor, Pam Surprenant-Clerk and Harry Trier-Treasurer. **Absent:** Tony Farhat-Trustee.

**Motion:** Stiles to approve the November 9, 2021 agenda adding zoning amendments at the end of the agenda. **Second:** Trier. Discussion. **All in Favor:** 3 Yay, 1 Nay - Surprenant. **Motion Carries.**

**Motion:** Trier to approve the October 12, 2021 minutes with amended corrections, D. Randall should read Diane Randall, in public comment remove sentence starting "it upsets" and sentence "to sit", and placing quotes around sentence starting "If that is". **Second:** Stiles. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Motion:** Trier to approve the October 18, 2021 special meeting minutes. **Second:** Stiles. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Motion:** Stiles to approve the October 28, 2021 special meeting minutes. **Second:** Russo Jr. Discussion. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Motion:** Trier to approve the November 3, 2021 special meeting minutes with amended corrections, Stiles queried looking at this do you have a ball park figure, not holding you to it? Amanda thought perhaps approximately 500K+. **Second:** Surprenant. **All in Favor. 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 #44262 through #44301 and post audit of bills presented on EFT check register. Discussion on Fahey bill relating to short term rentals, marihuana, and planning commission. **Second:** Russo Jr. Discussion. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Budget Amendment: Motion:** Surprenant to approve budget amendment of \$1,830.00 relating to Marihuana legal fees. **Second:** Trier. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Old Business: None**

**New Business:**

**Auditor Report:** Stiles introduced Corinna Hervey from H & S Companies to go over the 2021 audit report. Corinna went over the Lake Township audit report. Corinna stated the township received an unmodified unqualified opinion which in the audit world is like an A+. Corinna stated the next audit will be in 2023. Corinna thanked everyone for their work during the audit.

**Supervisor Correspondence:** Stiles stated received correspondence on fences, both for and against, about equal and received calls relating to trash.

**Financial Report:** Trier went over financial report and stated the clerk and treasurer balance. Trier spoke of CD's and interest breakdown. Trier spoke of creating two new CD's with Horizon Bank. Trier to split \$469,460.81 between two CD's, proposing one at 6 months and one at 12 months. Russo Jr. suggested both to be 12-month CD's. Surprenant stated no preference on term of CD, but would like to go over what the auditor talked about today before you make your move.

**Fire Chief's Report:** Fire Chief Wrzesinski provided a written report to the board. Wrzesinski notified the board the community is dumping yard waste and other items along the edge of the Fire Department parking lot. Wrzesinski asked for an email blast or place on website the Fire Department is not a place for dumping, common courtesy from township is needed. Additionally, the Fire Department will be posting signs.

**Ordinance Enforcement Officer Report:** No report this month. Rose stated only a couple blight issues.

**Planning Commission Report:** Riss provided a written report to the board. Riss reported 233 surveys have been received.

**ZBA Report:** Hull stated Rose is doing a good job.

**Assessor's Report:** None.

**Supervisor's Report:** None

**New Hall Report:** Surprenant stated the report will be presented December 14, 2021. Surprenant spoke of a grant opportunity that allows funding for rural areas relating to new township halls, fire trucks, fire departments and equipment.

**Muskegon River Bridge Update:** Surprenant stated the board met on the west side of the bridge on November 3rd with Rowe Engineering. Surprenant continued the township did receive a grant from Roscommon County for the initial cost estimating phase, grant awarded is \$12,800.00.

**Dangerous Building: Motion:** Stiles to add 11269 Aqua Rd to the Dangerous Building List. **Second:** Russo Jr. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.** Trier queried board on building having same address and legal description as previous demo and why no board members responded to his email. Rose explained the building was not visualized until the previous demo was completed.

**Hall Leach Field:** Stiles explained there is a leach field problem at the hall and the tank was pumped out. There was a lot of water at the top of the tank and it appears the water is not draining properly to the leach field. Trier feels the leach field may be between 12-15k. Surprenant stated would like the board to look at a broader picture, new hall presentation in December, grant opportunity for new hall and repairs to township halls, rather than use tax payer money if we could go out for a grant for the repair, might be something we want to consider. Discussion regarding pumping vs immediate repair vs

time to talk about it. Discussion regarding cost of repair, and three bids required per policy, and tree removal.

**Zoning Amendments:** Russo Jr. questioned if Surprenant had the information. Surprenant stated I do not. Surprenant stated it is standard practice that the rest of us preface the board with information when we have an agenda topic so we all have time to review it. In my case today that did not happen. I don't understand, you had a whole month to get the information in; why did it have to come in the day of the meeting? I don't feel I can put the thought into this topic that it deserves. Russo Jr. stated he drew up R1 fencing front yard to the lake and six-foot privacy fences to the road side. Russo Jr. stated in talking with the attorney in order to send this to the planning commission it should have a text version for them. Stiles asked Russo Jr. to read the information. (Document Russo Jr. read attached) Discussion on 20 foot set back from road right of way. **Motion:** Surprenant motion to table until next month as not prepared for a vote. No second motion falls to the floor. **Motion:** Russo Jr. to send this initiation of zoning amendments to the planning commission as written. **Second:** Stiles. Discussion regarding view on 3-foot fence. Trier questioning is this a recommendation, allowing them to research it or is the planning commission being forced to change this. Russo Jr. stated this is the initiation of a zoning amendment to go to a public hearing, and get the say from the community, the planning commission will still give the recommendation on the change and send it back to the board, if the planning commission does not recommend the change, it will come back to us. Stiles stated the public hearing is held, the planning commission makes a recommendation, then it goes over to the County and it comes back to the board for final vote, not the planning commission. Trier would like to see the planning commission research this and see what the people want. **All in Favor:** 2 Yays, 2 Nays (Surprenant/Trier) **Motion Fails.** **Motion:** Stiles motion to table until next month. **Second:** Russo Jr. **All in Favor:** 3 Yays, 1 Nay (Surprenant) **Motion Carries.**

**Board Comment:** Trier stated there is no cohesiveness amongst the board and this starts at the top. Stiles stated all independent thinkers, don't want a bobble head board. Stiles continued I would like to announce my appointment of deputy supervisor Kristie Russo. Russo Jr. commented on attorney bills and *there are* court cases *that* are a waste of money.

**Public Comment:** Comment against fence. Additional comment against fence. Comment regarding recent public hearings and no comments were made for or against fences. Comment regarding respect among people working in township. Comment regarding drainage issue. Comment regarding drainage issue in relationship to a new township hall. Comment regarding regarding one court case. Comment regarding alleged corruptions in the township; relating to code violations and those in charge do not adhere to the same ordinances. Comment regarding straw to prevent freeze adjacent to the septic tank. Comment for fences. Comment regarding drain field.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:35 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Surprenant, Lake Township Clerk

*Approved with corrections on December 14, 2021*

