

LELAND TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

Monday, February 12, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.

Leland Township Library, Munnecke Room
203 E. Cedar Street, Leland, MI 49654

MINUTES

PRESENT: Supervisor Susan Och, Treasurer Shirley Garthe, Trustee Clint Mitchell, Trustee Mariann Kirch.

Quorum Present

ABSENT: Clerk Lisa Brookfield

GUESTS: 14

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Och called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Mitchell moved to approve the agenda as presented; supported by Ms. Garthe. Motion carried.

DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: None

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 8, 2024 (Regular Meeting)

January 23, 2024, Special Meeting

January 19, 2024, Budget Workshop

February 5, 2024, Budget Workshop

Event: Fishtown 5K, July 20,2024

Mr. Mitchell noted that events should be approved separately and not on a consent agenda.

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, supported by Ms. Garthe. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Atkinson – He cited a correction in his public comment in last month’s minutes. The Fire Department in Lake Leelanau has a 35 mph and other streets in Lake Leelanau should have a 25 mph as they are in Leland.

Steve Mikowski – The Road Commission changed the stop sign on Gertrude. The street is a dead end and has a 25 mph sign. Because he is on the corner, he gets all the noise of the snowmobiles.

Mr. Mikowski presented his request to hold a referendum vote on the Leland Township Zoning Ordinance 96-1. This is the 329th month this request has been made. He also asked the Board to correct a longstanding error denying a 17 ½ inch side yard setback variance for a deck. This request has been made since 1983 at Planning and Township meetings.

The Sewer Commission is required to have 5 members with one Board representative. Several meetings have not had a quorum of three members. Major decisions are being made. He feels the public is not being made aware of the many changes.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS – Reports are online and on file at the Leland Township Office.

Fire & Rescue, Chief Dan Besson - (on an active fire) Report was submitted.

There were 2 fires in Leland Township last month. The public is urged to have working smoke alarms.

Planning/Zoning, Tim Cypher

The meeting was canceled in February. No report.

Harbor, Jeremy Anderson

The icing equipment has been running only two weeks so far. They are ready for the budget meeting.

Sewer, Steve Patmore

There will be a budget meeting this week.

Flows were normal. The lagoon level is good. He sent a chart about capacity to the Board. Steve Patmore reported that there is plenty of capacity for the future. It was a slow month for call outs. A few alarms needed resetting. The generators were tested today and they are good.

Parks & Rec

Leslie Machlin reported that they will replace the flagpole and take care of water safety issues at Nedow's in this budget year.

County Commission, Kama Ross

The Administrator/Financial Manager, Deb Allen has resigned. They need to fill this position and the position of a Human Resources Director. A senior planner was offered the position of Planner Director. The Board of Commissioners are currently in litigation with Bata. Several employees went through Governor's Training. The Leadership team will get training also. The County will be looking at solar grants for panels for the Government Center. There has been a transition of management on the Leland Dam. The County has been working with Solid Waste Management. Ms. Ross reviewed the dates for various collections. The dates will also be on the website.

Assessor – no report

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Garthe reported on income and expenses for the last month. There is a little over \$40,000 in the sewer fund. It was a partial sewer billing.

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented; supported by Ms. Kirch. Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

A written report was submitted to the Board prior to the meeting. It is on file at the Leland Township Office.

Ms. Och found that the reworking of the sidewalk was a possibility for the TAP Grant, but it would not be competitive according to their criteria. Ms. Och received the road grading report and it will be on the Township website. To bring all our roads up to ~~par~~ a good rating, it would cost over 5 million. The Grand Traverse Band did not fund the engineering for the seawall with the 2% grant. Two requests came in for street closings but they were too late to put on this agenda. The requests will be gone over with the Fire Chief.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Sidewalk Protests

Letters have gone out and residents are getting estimates of what their share will be for the sidewalk repair. The Siddall parcel and the front of Manitou Marine would like an explanation. Ms. Och spoke of the history of the sidewalk project and that the sidewalk is an extension of the cross walk. The TAP grant may be appropriate for this. Phase 2 of the sidewalk repair is 3 projects. Mr. Mitchell suggested that this be discussed in the budget meetings. Other plans that could be done now were discussed which would be less expensive. The M204 project will be tabled for more research. The Grand Avenue project will wait until budgeting before putting it out to bid.

2. July 3, 2024 Fireworks – Leland Chamber of Commerce, Mark Morton

Last year there were problems with the fireworks vendor. However, Mark Morton wanted to talk to the Board first about street closings for the Wine Fest. The Wine Fest can no longer be held at the Harbor. The Chamber needs to know if the Wine Fest can be held and a location. He asked if there was a possibility for a special meeting. The Board offered time after budget meetings on Thursday. The Art Building cannot be used for the Wine Fest. The Chamber will need to talk to the residents of the streets they want to close.

The Chamber is getting a proposal from another vendor for the fireworks.

3. Request to use Bartholomew Park, July 21, 2024

Logan and Ashley Suttman have made this request.

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to approve the Friends of Lake Leelanau’s request to use Bartholomew Park on July 21, 2024; supported by Ms. Kirch.

DISCUSSION

There was discussion about the number of people.

Motion carried.

4. Approval of Community Survey for Community Recreation Plan update

Leslie Machlin provided a packet for Board members. She reviewed the survey methodology and content, and the planning process. The goal is to get over 200 responses. Mr. Mitchell asked if there was a way to review responses by location. **ACTION:** Mr. Mitchell moved to approve the Parks and Rec community survey; supported by Ms. Garthe. Motion carried.

5. Approval of timeline for Community Recreation Plan update

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to approve the timeline updated of the community recreation plan update; supported by Ms. Garthe. Motion carried.

6. Resolution R-24-05 Supervisor Salary \$33,075.

The annual meeting of electors is March 30, 2024. Salary resolutions have to be approved by the Board prior to the Annual Meeting. The salaries were determined by the 5% inflation factor. The Clerk's increase is a little more because of the added work load as a result of the new early voting laws.

ACTION: Ms. Garthe moved to approve Resolution R-24-05, as of April 1, 2024, the Supervisor's salary will be submitted at \$33,075, supported by Mr. Mitchell.

VOICE ROLL CALL: (not necessarily called in this order)

Supervisor Susan Och:	Yes
Clerk Lisa Brookfield:	absent
Treasurer Shirley Garthe:	Yes
Trustee Clint Mitchell:	Yes
Trustee Mariann Kirch:	Yes

Motion carried. 5 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent

7. Resolution R-24-06 Clerk Salary \$50,250.

ACTION: Ms. Garthe moved to approve Resolution R-24-06, as of April 1, 2024, the Clerk's salary will be submitted at \$50,250; supported by Ms. Garthe.

VOICE ROLL CALL: (not necessarily called in this order)

Supervisor Susan Och:	Yes
Clerk Lisa Brookfield:	absent
Treasurer Shirley Garthe:	Yes
Trustee Clint Mitchell:	Yes
Trustee Mariann Kirch:	Yes

Motion carried. 5 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent

8. Resolution R-24-07 Treasurer salary \$44,100.

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to approve Resolution R-24-07, as of April 1, 2024, the Treasurer's salary will be submitted at \$44,100, supported by Ms. Kirch.

VOICE ROLL CALL: (not necessarily called in this order)

Supervisor Susan Och:	Yes
Clerk Lisa Brookfield:	absent
Treasurer Shirley Garthe:	Yes

Trustee Clint Mitchell: Yes
Trustee Mariann Kirch: Yes Motion carried. -5 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent

9. Resolution R-24-07 Trustee Salary \$7,560

ACTION: Ms. Garthe moved to approve Resolution R-24-08, as of April 1, 2024, the Trustee's salary will be submitted at \$7,560; supported by Mr. Mitchell.

VOICE ROLL CALL: (not necessarily called in this order)

Supervisor Susan Och: Yes
Clerk Lisa Brookfield: absent
Treasurer Shirley Garthe: Yes
Trustee Clint Mitchell: Yes
Trustee Mariann Kirch: Yes Motion carried. -5 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent

10. Resolution R-24-10 Leland Township Poverty Exemption

In 2025, all townships in Leelanau County will undergo AMAR to look at our assessing. The Supervisor and the Board of Review will follow stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying a Poverty Exemption.

ACTION: Ms. Garthe moved to approve Resolution R-24-10, Leland Township Poverty Exemption; supported by Mr. Mitchell.

VOICE ROLL CALL: (not necessarily called in this order)

Supervisor Susan Och: Yes
Clerk Lisa Brookfield: absent
Treasurer Shirley Garthe: Yes
Trustee Clint Mitchell: Yes
Trustee Mariann Kirch: Yes Motion carried. -5 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent

11. Designate board member to finalize Coyle construction easement

There will be a draft to look at on Friday. Brad Wierda is looking at it now. Ms. Och explained the history of the negotiations with the Coyles and the attorneys.

ACTION: Ms. Kirch moved to designate board member, Clint Mitchell, to finalize construction easements with the Coyles and the attorneys; supported by Mr. Mitchell. Motion carried.

12. Appoint Justin Acker to Parks & Rec, term ending June, 2027

The application was distributed to Board members. Ms. Kirch asked for clarification of a sentence in the application.

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to appoint Justin Acker to the Parks & Rec Committee; supported by Ms. Kirch. Motion carried.

There are openings on the Sewer Commission.

OTHER/OLD BUSINESS - None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS

The bills and accounts lists were distributed to Board members. There was nothing unusual for the month.

ACTION: Ms. Garthe moved for payment of bills from January 9, 2024 to February 12, 2024; supported by Mr. Mitchell.1 Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter from Grand Traverse Band stating they could not fund the 2% grant request.
- Ms. Garthe reported that someone came to the office to discuss the Harbor bathrooms and the reported needed repairs.

BOARD COMMENT

- Ms. Kirch gave everyone a report of the quotes she was asked to get.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Mikowski – He was concerned that other bids were not sought for the sewer operations. He stated that the County wasted a half million dollars to get rid of a Commissioner. They tried to do a good thing in a bad way. They need to insert joy and human people into the process. The survey was attacking others.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m.; supported by Ms. Garthe. Motion carried.

The next meeting is March 11, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Kacin, Recording Secretary

Date Approved: _____

Susan Och, Leland Township Supervisor

Lisa Brookfield, Township Clerk