

LELAND TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

Monday, March 13, 2023 – 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.

ABSENT: Clerk Lisa Brookfield

GUESTS: 16

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Och called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

ACTION: Ms. Garthe moved to approve the agenda as presented; supported by Mr. Mitchell. Motion carried. (4,0)

DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Mitchell suggested a change to the February 13, 2023 minutes so it was separated from the consent agenda for approval. The last sentence of page 4 was deleted.

February 13, 2023 (Regular meeting): Mr. Mitchell moved to approve the minutes of February 13, 2023 as presented and corrected; supported by Ms. Garthe. Motion carried. (4,0)

CONSENT AGENDA

February 8, 2023 (Budget workshop)

February 15, 2023 (Budget workshop)

February 16, 2023 (Budget workshop)

February 28, 2023 (Budget workshop)

ACTION: Ms. Garthe moved to approve the minutes of the Consent Agenda; supported by Mr. Mitchell. Motion carried. (4,0)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Doug Van Dyke – He is a long-time visitor and now a resident. He is involved with the Lake Leelanau Lake Association. He extended his appreciation of the work of the Township Board and the Planning Commission. He wanted to introduce himself and offer his help.

Wendy Kozelco – She expressed her opposition to using Grove Park to build Township offices. She wants the Township to retain the open space. Grove Park is not a building setting. She cited other reasons why Grove Park is a poor choice for Township offices. She also mentioned that she put in a bid for the cleaning of the bathrooms, although it was submitted late. She hoped her bid was considered.

Steve Mikowski – He believes there is a stricter order of the “conflict of interest” rules. He urged the Board to see if it is still in effect. Mr. Mikowski presented his request to hold a referendum vote on the Leland Township Zoning Ordinance 96-1. This is his 318th request

since 1983. He also asked the Zoning Board of Appeals to correct a longstanding error denying a 17 ½ inch side yard setback variance.

Allison Patterson – She introduced herself as working at the Township office as the deputy clerk.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

(Reports are online and on file at the Township Office)

Fire & Rescue, Chief Dan Besson

The Department did lock down drills at the school. Sasha Moore passed the written test for her paramedic's license. Chief Besson reviewed highlights of department calls for the month. There are 8 full time fire fighters currently. Nine are needed. The Leland department responded to a call for help for a large fire of a wood products plant in Menominee. The department was commended for their aid by a letter.

Planning/Zoning, Tim Cypher

The Planning Commission met on March 1, 2023. They discussed the RFD for a planner. One person responded to the ad for an interview. They discussed the residential character amendment. The visual aids for the presentation needed some amending. They plan to have a meeting about this in May. Six chapters of the master plan are finished. Nothing new has been decided by the state about short term rentals.

The Zoning Administration held assessment reviews in February. The former Samaritan Closet is being renovated to be a take-out deli. A site plan review was done at the Riverside. They want to make a covered porch over an existing patio.

Mr. Cypher reviewed his annual report as he will not be at the Annual meeting. Requests for land use permits were down from last year. There were 102 construction inspections. Income figures are in the report.

Ms. Och asked about the trailer that is parked on Duck Lake Road. The owner has been notified by Mr. Cypher. Ms. Kirch asked about the character clause not being applicable to commercial properties. Mr. Cypher reported that the process has been very complicated and for now they have focused on residential property. However, there is interest in including commercial property. They hope to have a public meeting in May.

Harbor, Jeremy Anderson

There is federal funding for dredging but right now the funds are only available for a study. The government study would be for breakwater maintenance to decrease the need for dredging. 2000 cubic yards of sand needs to be moved. The earliest the government could help out would be in late fall. They are planning to dredge the Harbor in the spring of 2024. This year the Harbor will dredge starting April 14. Next week they will be contacting residents for

permission to put the spoils on their lakefront property. They will be doing breakwater maintenance as well. They have enough personnel for the summer.

Sewer, Steve Patmore

Last month was slow. There were fewer call outs. They are working on an issues list. Mr. Patmore is updating the capital improvement plan for 10 years out. More will be shared about that at the Annual meeting.

Parks & Rec

Various available grants were discussed at the last meeting. They are making an application to the Par Plan grant for cabinets to store the life rings on Lake Michigan. They will also be applying for the Sparks Grant for renovating Hancock Field. Karen Kirt is working with Sandy Thomas putting together a DNR grant. The Rec Passport Grant is being sought for Suelzer Park. Ms. Kirt reviewed what is specifically needed at Suelzer Park. In this grant, the Township would be responsible for 25% of the amount. Mr. Mitchell expressed concern about overdeveloping Suelzer Park. He would like to see more parking rather than a pavilion which would block the view of the lake from the road. Mr. Ashley also commented that a pavilion would create a noise nuisance. A workshop meeting will be set to receive feedback from the public. The applications need to be brought to the Township Board for approval. Tim Zywicki has been helpful in getting costs for particular needs for baseball at Hancock.

Our maintenance man, Ken Hagstrom, has sustained an injury to his shoulder and will be unable to work for several weeks.

The next Parks & Rec meeting is April 12, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at the Munnecke Room.

County Commission, Kama Ross

The County Commission is discussing about having a juvenile detention center in Leelanau County. Ms. Ross is in support of the family court moving forward with this project. The Commission is also working on issues in the draining district. The Commission is receiving Tribal grants. They will be discussing goal setting at the March meeting. Three new members have been added to the Dam Authority. Miles Kimberly Park is going through renovation. The Solid Waste Council is exploring recycling of food and yard waste. Ms. Ross responded to a question from Ms. Kirch about the percent of residential payment would be required for the Schomberg Road project.

Assessor

Appeals for the new tax assessments have been heard. There will be one more day, tomorrow, and then they will complete the tax rolls.

Facilities Committee

Keith Ashley – At the last meeting, the Board reviewed a proposal of the Ratliff house for Township offices. The owners would rent out the upstairs, and the Township would lease the downstairs. Discussion is continuing on the Houdek property. Another property that was under consideration was withdrawn. Recently, another property offer came up, which will be investigated. The Grove Park feasibility study was given to Board. Its cost was \$5,500 which was already budgeted. This amount will be available in April. Their proposal would fit into any of the alternatives that have been looked at. They won't be putting any more ads in the paper because the last ad brought zero interest.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Garthe reported on income and expenses for the last month. She has been very busy taking in taxes.

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented; supported by Ms. Kirch. Motion carried. (4,0)

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The Board has wrapped up the budgeting. This is the second year without an extra voted millage. Sidewalk projects were worked on and the Board has heard a lot about needed road repair. Dredging of the Harbor is underway. The Harbor has agreed to pay the Clerk and the Treasurer directly for their administration services. Last month, Charlie Hall complained about the foot traffic on his property with the dredging. The Township will be paying for the Schomberg Road damage. The Board will be meeting with Robyn Schmidt about the pre-application of the seawall. Mr. Mitchell asked about who is responsible for fixing the roads. Historically, this had been worked out with the Road Commission.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Agreement for Marine, Fire, and Emergency Services with Glen Lake Fire Department – Chief Besson
This agreement will be in place for 2023-2025. The Township has a boat but it is not suitable for Lake Michigan. We have contracted with Glen Arbor for use of their boat in Lake Michigan emergencies. Chief Besson explained this agreement.
ACTION: Ms. Garthe moved to approve the agreement for marine, fire, and emergency services on Lake Michigan with Glen Arbor Fire Department; supported by Mr. Mitchell. Motion carried. (4,0)
2. Approval of 2023 Employment Contract and job description for Chief Daniel Besson
Ms. Och and Chief Besson went over some changes to his job description. Ms. Och described the changes. The attorney has gone over it as well.

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to approve the 2023 employment contract and job description for Chief Daniel Besson; supported Ms. Garthe. Motion carried. (4,0)

3. Direction to Facilities Committee on lease option – Keith Ashley

Keith Ashley has provided a document outlining the pros and cons of a lease arrangement on the Radcliff property. Mr. Mitchell thought we would exhaust all possibilities to own before considering a leasing option. Mr. Ashley reiterated that their objective as a committee was to find as many options as possible. Ms. Kirch noted that there would be HOA fees with leased property. The consensus of the Board was that they are not interested now but if they are not able to find land to own, they may consider it in the future.

4. Resolution 23-9: No parking east side of S. Lake Leelanau Drive

This was recommended by the Planning Commission.

ACTION: Ms. Garthe moved to approve Resolution 23-9 to request the Road Commission to make the east side of S. Lake Leelanau Drive a no parking area; 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. 4 in favor, 0 opposed

5. Resolution 23-10: No parking on Lake Street from observation deck to corner of River Street.

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to approve Resolution 23-10 to request the Road Commission to make a no parking area on Lake Street from the observation deck to the corner of River Street; 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. 4 in favor, 0 opposed

6. Resolution 23-11: Approval of Par Plan Grant for funding of life ring cabinets.

The cabinets would cost \$2,262.00.

ACTION: Ms. Garthe moved to support the Par Plan grant application for funding to purchase cabinets to house life rings on Lake Michigan; 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. 4 in favor, 0 opposed

7. Award bid for cleaning the public restrooms – Mariann Kirch

Four bids were received. Three additional bids came in after the due date. Spiffy Sams was the preferred bid. If the Township wanted to entertain the late bids, it would have to be decided in April.

ACTION: Ms. Kirch moved to accept the bid from Spiffy Sams for the cleaning of the public restrooms; supported by Mr. Mitchell. Motion carried. (4,0)

8. Tracy Scott V Leland Township; motion to decline to object to Ms. Scott’s requested release from the court.

This issue is about a driveway between the cemetery on Cherry Street and property resided by Tracy Scott. The driveway has not been memorialized. Ms. Nesbitt, the resident owner, wants it to be her driveway. The cemetery has been using the driveway. The Road Commission might be fighting it because it is a platted street. Mr. Mitchell expressed that if the Township approves this, we would, in essence, be choosing a side. This is something that we may not want to get involved in. This item was null for a lack of a motion.

9. Fishtown Preservation Society annual request to hold 5K race on Saturday, July 15th, 9:00 a.m.

This race will begin and end in Fishtown.

ACTION: Ms. Garthe moved to approve the annual request from Fishtown Preservation Society to hold a 5K race on Saturday, July 15, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.; supported by Mr. Mitchell. Motion carried (4,0)

OTHER/OLD BUSINESS – None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS

Ms. Brookfield was absent. 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 February 13, 2023 to March 13, 2023; supported by Mr. Mitchell. Motion carried. (4,0)

CORRESPONDENCE

- Ms. Och read a letter from the Menominee County Administrator expressing appreciation of the 80 agencies that aided in a wood products industrial fire.
- Betsy Coffia, the new State representative, sent a letter of appreciation of the good work of Leland Township.
- Mike Hartigan sent a letter about the deteriorating roads.

- Joel Peterson sent a letter about the Township providing sidewalks on property he purchased on the corner of William and Main in Leland.

BOARD COMMENT

- Ms. Kirch will meet with the Chamber board to discuss sharing expenses of the cleaning of the bathrooms.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Wendy Kozelco – She submitted a bid for the cleaning of the bathrooms that was considerably below the chosen bid, but her bid was submitted after the due date. She described her credentials. She was upset that late bids were not considered.

Steve Mikowski – It is his belief that historically in unincorporated villages, the responsibility of the roads goes to the County. He also stated that it is not specified that the County should define goals. Goals are discretionary. Historically, every Township Supervisor was a member of the County Commission.

Susan Och – Brenden Mullane of the Road Commission will be at the Township meeting next month.

Chief Dan Besson – He thanked the Township for their support.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.; supported by Ms. Garthe. Motion carried. (4,0)

The next meeting is April 10, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Kacin, Recording Secretary

Date Approved: _____

Susan Och, Leland Township Supervisor

Lisa Brookfield, Township Clerk