

LELAND TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
Monday, September 11, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.
Leland Township Library, Munnecke Room
203 E. Cedar Street, Leland, MI 49654

MINUTES

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

GUESTS: 18

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Och called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Amendment to agenda: Chief Besson is on a medical call. Agenda #1 will be discussed last if Chief Besson is able to attend the meeting later.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Mitchell moved to approve the agenda as presented and amended; supported by Ms. Garthe. Motion carried. (5,0)

DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to approve the minutes of August 14, 2023; supported by Ms. Brookfield. Motion carried. (5,0)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan Lisuk - He is president Leelanau Community Cultural Center. The property, which is owned by the Township Board, is zoned as medium density. He is requesting that the property would be kept for cultural purposes. He would like the property of the Old Art Building, the Library, and the Historical Museum to be an overlay district for cultural purposes in the Master Plan. Each parcel would need to have a separate application done for the Zoning Commission. He would like this to be put on the October agenda.

Mark Morton – He wanted to advise the Board that the Library has no objection to this overlay district. He will not be able to attend the meeting next month.

Chuck Schroer – He also is in support of the overlay district. He has some ideas for the Historical Museum. He stated that the Museum has a great relationship with the Old Art Building and the Library.

Steve Mikowski - Mr. Mikowski presented his request to hold a referendum vote on the Leland Township Zoning Ordinance 96-1. This is the 324th 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. This request has been made since 1983 at Planning and Township meetings.

Tony Borden – He stated that a letter came to the Supervisor concerning the harassment of Mariann Kirch. This should be addressed in the meeting tonight and reported to the Township attorney.

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

Fire & Rescue, Chief Dan Besson

Chief Besson was on a medical call. Ms. Och brought attention to his report which is online. She cited the training that was done this last month.

Chief Besson arrived at 7:23 p.m. He briefly reviewed some of his report. He noted that a vacant full-time position was filled. New tires were purchased for Engine #511 and #512. The Chandler Street fire hydrant is flowing again. His request will remain the last action item as amended in the agenda.

Planning/Zoning, Tim Cypher

Mr. Mitchell reported. There will be a public hearing at the Leland Public School PAC on October 4, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss M22 and Williams Street.

Harbor, Jeremy Anderson

Ms. Brookfield reported. Budget and expenses were discussed at the last meeting. Sales have been very strong for the year. The next meeting is October 13, 2023. Ms. Kirch spoke of concerns about the maintenance of bathrooms. Ms. Kirch will make of list of needed maintenance and the costs. Who is responsible for what maintenance needs to be decided.

Sewer, Steve Patmore

Flows are normal for this time of year. The lagoon is at about 3 foot of freeboard. They are spending time studying drain beds. 7 of 9 drain beds drain in about 10 minutes. Drain bed #8 took 45 minutes to drain. With some cleaning, the time to drain came down to about 20 minutes. They will continue to work on it for more improvement. They will be able to do some jetting when they get the right hoses. The sludge pump in the plant was repaired. Mr. Patmore is still investigating other alternatives to deal with the hydrogen sulfide odor. In the meantime, the calcium nitrate is working. There was a quarterly inspection of the wells. The wells are better but not yet ideal.

Parks & Rec

Ms. Och reported. A lifeguard was hired and has worked a few shifts. He is interested in recruiting young people to get lifeguard training. There will be a Parks and Rec meeting on October 17, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Munnecke Room. It will be a public meeting for public input on the 2025-29 Recreation Plan.

County Commission, Kama Ross

The County budget meeting was today. She encouraged the public to attend budget meetings. The recent 7 inches of rain was hard on the people on the south end of Lake Leelanau. The Commission is looking to improve their response to such incidents. There is a Dam Authority

meeting coming up. High speed internet is making progress in the County. It is expected to be finished in the spring.

Assessor

It was noted that because of increased property values, there was an \$18,000 increase in the general fund.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Garthe reported on income and expenses for the last month. There was a question and discussion about the Fire facilities construction fund. This will be checked into,

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented; supported by Ms. Brookfield. 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's report included road condition ratings in Leland Township. There was discussion about the costs of road improvement at the different ratings. Work continues on the seawall project. There will be a workshop on the USDA funding.

ACTION ITEMS

- ~~1. Approval of Harassment, Discrimination, Retaliation and other misconduct Prevention Training for all fire department employees – Chief Dan Besson~~

Item was moved to the end of the Action Items agenda.

2. Road Repair request(s) to LCRC – Clint Mitchell

Ms. Och was involved in a previous PASER rating of Leland Township roads. The Leelanau County Road Commission (LCRC) recently did a PASER rating of the roads that used a regression rating. There were some differences between the two ratings. Ideally, roads should be repaired when they are at a 6, because the cost goes up significantly after a 6 rating. There is no cost to the Township if the LCRC can do a chip sealing. The cost for more severe repairs is split between the Township and the LCRC. This may be the last year that the LCRC will match the cost. The LCRC may only cover 40% in the future. The LCRC is encouraging SAD districts for road repairs. Going forward they expect to do the rating every 2 years. The homeowners association on Oxford Drive is working on a SAD. Ms. Och suggested an engineering study be done on Golfview for the water drainage problem. There is not enough information about that at this time. Mr. Mitchell is recommending submitting to the LCRC a rebuild of Oxford Drive and 2 chip seal repairs.

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to submit to the LCRC for 2024 a reconstruction of Oxford Drive, chip sealing for Popp Road from M204 to Lake Leelanau, and chip sealing for

Alpers Road from North Lake Leelanau Drive to Eagle Highway; supported by Ms. Kirch. Motion carried. (5,0)

There was continued discussion about the LCRC goals for improvement and what affects the deterioration of the roads.

3. Approval of L-4029 2023 Tax Rate Request

Ms. Och explained the details of this tax rate request.

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to approve L-4029 2023 Tax Rate Request; supported by Ms. Garthe. Motion carried. (5,0)

4. Appoint Tim Zywicki to Parks and Recreation Board, term ending July, 2025

Tim Zywickii was helpful in writing the Sparks grant. His residency was explained. He is a land owner in Leland Township.

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to appoint Tim Zywicki to the Parks and Recreation Board, term ending July, 2025; supported by Ms. Brookfield. Motion carried.

Ms. Och reported that the Parks and Rec Board still needs one more member.

5. Approval of Harassment, Discrimination, Retaliation and other misconduct Prevention Training for all fire department employees – Chief Dan Besson

Chief Besson described the content of this training. The intent is to build a team culture and inclusive leadership. This training would be for all Fire Department employees and any of the Township staff that are interested. Others could be invited as well. It will be the week of December 4 and scheduled in the late afternoon. The presentation is 2 ½ - 3 hours long. He is requesting the Township's support.

ACTION: Mr. Mitchell moved to approve the Harassment, Discrimination, Retaliation and other misconduct Prevention Training for all fire department employees for 2023, supported by Ms. Garthe. Motion carried. (5,0)

OTHER/OLD BUSINESS

- New members are needed for the Sewer Commission.
- Two new members will be needed on the Planning Commission starting January 1, 2024. An ad could be put in the paper.
- Ms. Kirch gave her Trustee report. She asked Board members to read her email about the sign logo and respond back to her. She would like a workshop for it or have it put on next month's agenda. She reported that the public bathrooms at the Harbor need work on the cement floors. She is suggesting an epoxy sealer. She has an estimate for work to be done in the off season. The bathrooms also need to be painted. There was a letter sent to Ms. Och about comments made by Ms. Och and Kathy Dawkins at the last Board meeting citing a lack of control of the meeting.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS

The bills and accounts lists were distributed to Board members. There was nothing unusual for the month. It was business as usual of regular bills and payroll. Ms. Brookfield provide a list of checks issued from all funds.

ACTION: Ms. Brookfield moved for payment of bills from August 15, 2023 to September 11, 2023; supported by Ms. Garthe. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- A letter of appreciation for work done on the grant.
- Correspondence citing frustration of the progress of the Sunset Shores project. It was decided that a workshop would be scheduled to discuss this.
- Gary Coyle is asking for the road ends to be mowed. The LCRC has not done the mowing recently because of the milkweed.
- Correspondence concerning the culvert situation and road striping in Lake Leelanau. An estimate from Elmer’s for this work will be coming this week.

BOARD COMMENT

Susan Och – The deputy clerk has resigned. The Township is required to have a deputy clerk. The Clerk is advertising the vacancy.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Maude Babington – She asked for information on the road repairs that are needed. She was given a copy of Ms. Och’s report.

Bruce Dunn – He is working with Brendan Mullane about North Lake Street. He thanked the Board for the new signage.

Rich Rossman - He thanked the Board for their support in the reconstruction of Oxford Drive.

Steve Milowski – He asked about the acquisition of a third ambulance and the number of REU’s that will be used for the new building in Leland. He commented about the outcry of disapproval of the character of the new building in Leland and the lack of outcry for the new building that went up in Lake Leelanau.

Keith Ashley – He encouraged people to attend Planning Commission meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Ms. Kirch moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.; supported by Mr. Mitchell. Motion carried. (5,0)

The next meeting is October 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Munnecke Room.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Kacin, Recording Secretary

Date Approved: _____

Susan Och, Leland Township Supervisor

Lisa Brookfield, Township Cler