

**KEELER TOWNSHIP  
VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
64151 TERRITORIAL RD. W.  
HARTFORD, MI 49057**

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13,  
2023**

The Keeler Township Special Township Meeting called to order by Supervisor, Don Blackmond at 7:01 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Roll call of members present: Supervisor Don Blackmond, Treasurer Sharon Clupper, Trustee Matthew Sexton, Clerk Angie Sexton, and Trustee Jerry Morin. Five members were present constituting a quorum.

Approve agenda: Agenda presented with the addition of a presentation of an offer from former township clerk, Carl Davis. Motion by Blackmond to approve the motion as amended, seconded by Morin to approve the agenda as amended. Motion Passed.

Approve Minutes from September 5, 2023, Regular Meeting. Morin moved to approve the regular meeting minutes for September 2, 2023, as presented. M. Sexton seconded the motion, and all were in favor and the motion carried.

Supervisor Blackmond opened for Public Comments at 7:04 p.m. No comments heard, and the floor closed at 7:05 p.m.

Early Voting Approval: A resolution to share the costs to participate in county-wide nine days of early voting that will be in place for every statewide and federal election beginning in 2024. Blackmond read the resolution. Supervisor Blackmond moved to accept Resolution No. 9-13-2023-1, RE: Participation in County-Wide Early Voting. Trustee Sexton seconded and a roll call taken of Jerry Morin-support, Matthew Sexton- support, Sharon Clupper- support, Angie Sexton- support, and Don Blackmond- support.

Carl Davis- Spoke to the board about the current Clerk, Angie Sexton not being able to be certified to run the election. The state requires an Election Inspector to be certified every two years in person class. The classes are only held on even years. Carl offered to run the election because there will not be a class held prior to November 7, 2023. Carl Davis offered to be the Chairperson of the election for a pay rate of \$15 an hour. The board wanted to speak to counsel prior to agreeing to anything.

Special Assessment change for Keeler Lake Special Assessment Weed District 80-12-140-014-10: 80-12-140-014-10 is assessed at \$453.03, and is a lake front parcel, since 2005. The owner of parcel 80-12-140-014-00 bought parcel 80-12-140-014-10 and now they are under the same

ownership. 80-12-140-014-10 should be assessed as lake front vacant (KLW-3) \$226.51. Jerry Morin motioned to change 80-12-140-014-10 currently assessed at \$453.03 to be assessed as lake front vacant (KLW-3) at a rate of \$226.51. Matthew Sexton seconded the motion and a roll call of Jerry Morin-support, Matthew Sexton- support, Sharon Clupper- support, Don Blackmond- support, and Angie Sexton- support. The motion carried.

Resolution to Abandon 10' of Lake Court: The case has been settled but requires a Resolution formally abandoning 10' to effectuate the settlement. 10' of Lake Ct. will be relinquished and the remainder of the property will remain a lake access road. Supervisor Blackmond read Resolution 9-13-2023-2 As to Lake Court. Matt Sexton motioned to adopt the Lake Court resolution as presented. Jerry Morin seconded, and a roll call taken of Clupper- support, A. Sexton- support, Morin- support, Blackmond- support, M. Sexton- support. The motion carried.

Correspondence: Sharon Clupper spoke about a delinquent notice that she, Bill Kay's, and Assessor Anne Richmond received from Van Buren County on a delinquent amount of \$101.19. The amount is for a disabled Veteran that sought an exemption on his property tax. Matthew Sexton motioned to pay the delinquent account in the amount of \$101.19 for the delinquent Veteran Fund. Jerry Morin seconded, and a roll call taken of Don Blackmond- support, Sharon Clupper- support, Angie Sexton- support, Matthew Sexton- support and Jerry Morin- support. Motion carried. Matt Sexton motioned to pay the \$101.19 for the delinquent Veteran out of the General Fund, Miscellaneous Account. Don Blackmond seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. Jerry Morin updated the board on the non-working speed limit sign. It is now working. There was a wire that had been crimped. Bills and claims came in under correspondence. Matt Sexton motioned to pay the bills and claims as presented. Jerry Morin seconded, and a roll call taken of Morin- support, Blackmond- support, Clupper- support, M. Sexton- support, A. Sexton. The motion carried.

The floor opened for public comment at 8:04 p.m. William Clupper and Carl Davis spoke. The floor closed at 8:05 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Jerry Morin and seconded by Sharon Clupper. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Submitted by,

Angie Sexton, Keeler Township Clerk  
September 25, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 9-13-2023-1**  
**RE: PARTICIPATION IN COUNTY-WIDE EARLY VOTING**

**Keeler Township, Van Buren County, Michigan**

WHEREAS, the Township Board of the Township of Keeler, Van Buren County, Michigan, after due and legal notice, has held a Special Meeting to discuss participation in proposed County-wide early voting, sharing the cost for the same, and compliance with new voting requirements.

AND WHEREAS, new State laws require nine (9) days of early voting prior to election dates;

AND WHEREAS, the new State laws place the planning, procedural, and financial burdens of early voting on Townships, including Keeler Township;

AND WHEREAS, County Clerk Suzie Rohm has presented a plan for County-wide early voting to satisfy the new State law; said plan including a centralized location for voting and cost-sharing by participating municipalities;

AND WHEREAS, the Township Board has duly considered its legal responsibilities for providing early voting in light of the proposed County-wide early voting proposal, and determined said proposal to be just, reasonable, efficient, and cost-effective.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

- Keeler Township will participate in the County-wide early voting process.
- Keeler Township will pay its share of the cost of the County-wide early voting process.
- The Keeler Township Clerk is authorized to cooperate and participate as is necessary to accomplish the terms of the Resolution.

All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution and the same are hereby rescinded.

Upon roll call vote on the adoption of said Resolution, the following voted yes or no.

YEAS:

Members:

Blackmond, A. Sexton, Clupper, Morin, and M. Sexton  
NAYS: None  
Abstain: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angie Sexton, Clerk  
Keeler Township

STATE OF MICHIGAN        )  
  ) SS  
COUNTY OF VAN BUREN    )

I, Angie Sexton, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Township of Keeler (the "Township") do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Board at a Special Board meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> Day of September 2023, the original of which is on file in my office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angie Sexton, Clerk  
Keeler Township

**KEELER TOWNSHIP VAN BUREN COUNTY**

**SPECIAL MEETING BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**SEPTEMBER 13, 2023**

**RESOLUTION 9-13-2023-2 AS TO LAKE COURT**

WHEREAS, there is pending litigation in the 36<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court of Van Buren County brought by Bradley Richards and Lynnell Kiely (now Richards) against Keeler Township and other Defendants being Case Nos. 2019-068892-CZ and 2021-070761-CZ to amend the Plat of Woodlawn Park Addition to Sister Lakes, a subdivision within the Township, in particular to narrow the width of Lake Court, a public street, by approximately ten (10) feet; and

WHEREAS, Lake Court ends at the shore of Crooked Lake; and,

WHEREAS, the amendment to the plat is being sought to accommodate an encroachment on Lake Court right of way which has occurred over the years by adjacent landowners; and

WHEREAS, Van Buren County Circuit Court Judge David DiStefano will enter an order permitting the replatting of the Woodlawn Park Addition subdivision as depicted in Exhibit A attached to this Resolution, subject to the approval of this Board of Trustees;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Keeler Township, Van Buren County hereby approves the proposed amendment to the Plat of Woodlawn Park Addition to Sister Lake to vacate and abandon any claim of Keeler Township to the South ten (10) feet of Lake Court (measured perpendicular to the North Line of Lot 13, Block 1 of Woodlawn Park Addition to Sister Lakes), as set forth in the attached DRAFT drawing (Exhibit A), and correspondingly approves increasing the size of the adjoining Lot 13, Block 1 of said plat;

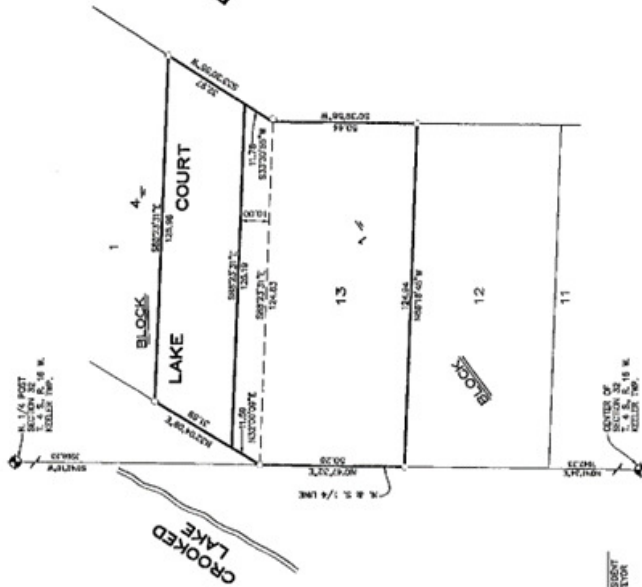
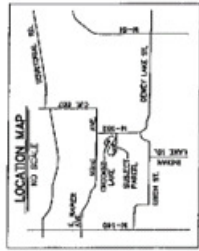
IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the action taken by this Board is not intended to alter or affect the private property rights created by the Plat of Woodlawn Park Addition to Sister Lakes.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that any other encroachments on Lake Court will be resolved pursuant to statute.

ON MOTION of Trustee Matthew Sexton and seconded by Trustee Jerry Morin  
the above resolution is presented for adoption by this Board.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	YEA	NAY
Sharon Clupper	<u>  X  </u>	_____
Angie Sexton	<u>  X  </u>	_____
Jerry Morin	<u>  X  </u>	_____
Don Blackmond	<u>  X  </u>	_____
Matthew Sexton	<u>  X  </u>	_____

**AMENDED PLAT OF  
LOT 13 AND THE VACATED PART OF LAKE COURT  
WOODLAWN PARK ADDITION TO SISTER LAKES  
IN THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 32,  
TOWN 4 SOUTH, RANGE 18 WEST,  
KEELER TOWNSHIP, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN**



**DRAFT**



**RECORDING CERTIFICATE**  
STATE OF MICHIGAN  
VAN BUREN COUNTY  
THIS PLAT WAS RECEIVED FOR RECORD ON THE \_\_\_\_\_ DAY  
OF \_\_\_\_\_ 2022 AT \_\_\_\_\_ AND RECORDED IN LIBRARY  
OF PLATS ON PAGE \_\_\_\_\_

**FILE NUMBER**  
REGISTERED BY

- LEGEND**
- 1) ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN FEET.
  - 2) ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN FEET.
  - 3) ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN FEET.
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  - 7) ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN FEET.
  - 8) ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN FEET.
  - 9) ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN FEET.
  - 10) ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN FEET.

**EDWARD C. MARSE - PRESIDENT**  
REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR  
MICHIGAN SURVEYING, INC.  
214 S. W. 11th St.  
SOUTH JAVEN, MICHIGAN 49086

