

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Draft Minutes of the Regular Meeting
January 13th, 2015 8:00 pm

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Supervisor Weidmayer called the meeting to order at 8:02 pm
Members present: Weidmayer, Bristle, Layher, Schaible, Huehl

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Change to Agenda: Motion by Schaible supported by Bristle to add Legislative Update to new business
Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes: Moved by Huehl supported by Schaible to:
Approve the December 9, 2014 Township Board minutes. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

4. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Bristle supported by Schaible to: Approve December 9, 2014 Treasurers report.
Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Huehl, Layher, Schaible, Bristle, Weidmayer Nay: none CARRIED

5. Communications: SWWCOG meeting will be 2nd Wednesday in February and Rudy will attend. Township will set up a meeting with the Washtenaw County Road Commission for either March 5th or 12th at 1:00 pm. Permit meeting in Manchester 3rd Tuesday at 7:30 last month had a positive financial position. Wolverine Pipeline sent a flier and contact info to the township. Sheriff report for November had 34 calls with 14 handled by the State police, 8 by the sheriff's office and 12 calls were cleared. There is a broadband meeting January 23rd at 1:00 am at the Sharon Township town hall. The name of the project Broadband Now has been changed to Pure Broadband. The Zoning Board of Appeals met on January 6th for an organizational meeting. Scott Diuble is the chairman, Jeff Weidmayer is Vice chairman and Frank Lobbestael is secretary. There was a meeting on January 8th to review the application from the Clarks on a land division and it was approved. Felicia Kuebler called asking about the C&T gravel pit. At this time the bank has completed the restoration project. Supervisor asked the board to consider town hall improvement projects for 2015 such as a historical display inside, new windows or an additional chair rack for the new chairs. Board will discuss further next month.

6. Public Comment: Lew Kidder asked to speak to the board on behalf of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners Roads Funding Subcommittee. Their goal is to bring all primary roads in the county up to date within 10 years. Primary roads are a county wide issue not just individual townships. Lew asked the board to answer 3 questions- priority for scheduling work on roads, upgrade any primary roads and any special circumstances. The clerk will compile information and forward to Lew by February 15th. Larry Lindemann asked that the county review the townships masterplan. Beth Heuser asked to put out the sign in front of the town hall for the PLPOA Valentine's Day sale. Beth also asked the actions taken towards ET Rover pipeline. The board passed a resolution opposing the ET Rover pipeline and the Clerk submitted it to FERC.

7. Reports:

Planning Commission report: At the meeting last week they tabled a land division for Rose due to structure setbacks, they are working with the township planner. They started to review the masterplan and are looking closely at the roads. They had election of officers and Larry Lindemann will be chair, Matt Little is vice chair and Carol Huehl is secretary. StoneCo has purchased all the Barrett Pits in the state of Michigan and the Barrett Paving pit #9 in Freedom Township is closed until further notice. Barrett's current bond is set to expire Jan 31 2014 so Larry is working to get a new bond in place. A full copy of the PC minutes is available through the clerk's office.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: Alvin reported a noise complaint on Waters Rd seems to be resolved. Several calls were received asking about ordinances. Troy Busha needs to submit a special use permit.

Zoning Officer: Jim reported a new zoning for a pole barn at 14351 Waters Road. Also received calls regarding a new fence on Hieber road so he will check it out in accordance with the ordinance. Dale shared a call from Sherton Auction Services who will hold an online auction for Owen Lowell's property. Larry and Jim want to make sure the property owners contact the township and county on how many splits are possible.

Library- Sarah Heuser is the new representative and will report at the February meeting.

Clerk report: Clerk submitted resolution opposing ET Rover Pipeline to FERC. There will be a statewide election on May 5th. Shared that there have been several home break-ins in Sylvan Township, suspects are a man and woman early 40s in a blue car, reminding residents to keep a look out and call police with any information. And there have been many people in the Chelsea area who have had their credit card or debit cards information stolen so people need to review their transactions.

9. Unfinished Business:

Road Millage- Motion by Schaible and supported by Huehl to adopt resolution to place renewal proposition for road millage on the May 5th, 2015 ballot.

Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Bristle, Weidmayer, Layher, Schaible, Huehl Nay: none CARRIED

10. New Business:

Legislative Update- Rudy shared a new law giving low income or non-profit organizations a tax exemption on their property taxes. The township was contacted by Community Link Property claiming they are a non-profit and should be exempt from property taxes. Rudy is working with the county on this situation.

2015-2016 Salaries- The following resolution was offered by Schaible, and supported by Layher to increase the supervisor, clerk and treasurers salary by \$500, planning commission chair by \$300, planning commission secretary by \$200/yr, zoning officer by \$650/yr and board of review by \$5/hour.

Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Layher, Huehl, Schaible Weidmayer, Bristle Nay: none CARRIED

The following resolution was offered by Schaible and supported by Layher to establish township officer's salaries.

Now therefore it be resolved that as of 4-1-15 the salaries of the township board members are as follows:

Supervisor \$16,500, Treasurer \$17,000, Clerk \$17,000.

Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Layher, Huehl, Schaible, Weidmayer, Bristle Nay: none CARRIED

11. Warrants: Motion by Huehl supported by Layher: To approve the online payments for the 941 tax withholding and warrants 3057-3073.

Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Weidmayer, Schaible, Huehl, Bristle, Layher Nay: none CARRIED

12. Public Comment:

Adjourned at 10:58 pm

Valisa Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township