

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Draft Minutes of the Regular Meeting
June 14th, 2016 8:00 pm

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Supervisor Weidmayer called the meeting to order at 7:58 pm
Members present: Weidmayer, Bristle, Layher, Huehl, Schaible

2. Pledge of Allegiance. Moment of silence

3. Change to Agenda:

4. Approval of Minutes: Moved by Huehl supported by Layher to:

Approve the May 10, 2016 Township Board minutes.

Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Schaible supported by Huehl to: Approve May 10, 2016 Treasurers report.

Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Weidmayer, Layher, Huehl, Bristle, Schaible

Nay: none CARRIED

6. Communications: May Sheriff report had 21 calls- 7 were handled by the state, Washtenaw Co. responded to 7 and 7 were cleared. Michigan Twp Focus magazine was received. A letter from Habitat for Humanity shared houses being built in Ypsilanti. Supervisor and township planner meet with Paul Parkinson regarding his intent of building where the pleasant lake inn burnt down. Rudy suggested the board consider withholding a building permit until Paul Parkinson settles up his unpaid back taxes or we take him to small claim court. Supervisor will talk with township attorney about our options. A letter was sent to Tony Griffin and the Supervisor has spoke with him several times about getting a building permit. Ron Nitchie has been trying to help this situation and feels it is a neighbor dispute between Tony Griffin and Dennis Herrst and feels the township is stepping in where they shouldn't and wasting township funds. He would like to see this get resolved before more funds are spent or the problem escalates.

7. Public Comment: Beth Heuser said there is now an RV trailer instead of tents on June Fowler property and asked if there is an ordinance to cover this issue. The brine and scraping done on Hieber Rd today is very nice. The property next to Pat Redding needed to be mowed and Supervisor Weidmayer looked into it and shortly later it was mowed. The township did not do it. Treasurer Layher will get an address for the house across the road from him that needs to be mowed and a letter regarding the township weed ordinance will be sent.

8. Reports:

Planning Commission report: Resolution to reduce the monitoring of the Barrett Pit was passed. They can haul out from the stock piles but once they start mining a monthly report is needed instead of a quarterly one. The variance for Roses was granted and the planning commission needs to rescind their land division and boundary adjustment. Two motions passed to have 4ft be the maximum height of fences with 50% see thru in areas B & C (area along the house). Planning Commission would like to see language that would allow privacy screens around patios/hot tubs. The planner was asked to review all the places in the township zoning ordinances that refer to privacy fences. And also looking at the percentage of lake bottom. The meeting on July 5th will be moved to June 28th and the August 2nd meeting will be moved to August 4th. June 28th Consumers Energy will have a fire gate test. Carol Westfall feels that the fence amendment should go forward without adding the privacy screen and the planner dragging out the process and adding more fees. A full copy of the PC minutes is available through the clerk's office.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: No report

Zoning Inspector: Three new zonings. A swimming pool at 8971 Textile Rd. A pole barn at 2655 Lima Center Rd and new address at 11893 Bethel Church Rd. The fence at 9755 Ellsworth Rd. was changed on May 23rd but it still is not in compliance and the attorney has been contacted and sent a letter to the Streeters.

Library- Janet Davis sent in a report that the meeting was held on May 23rd and they went over past and current activities, director's evaluation, budget overview and officers were elected.

Clerk report: 7 more letters from Pleasant Lake residents were received in favor of limiting fences in the lake district to 4ft. and 50% see thru. The State primary election will be held on August 2nd. The last day to register to vote is

Monday July 4th. Clerk meeting will be June 22nd at Ann Arbor Twp. Clerk has sent in a written request to the MDA for a copy of the report for a complaint for Nicole Streeter with no report yet.

9. Unfinished Business:

Fence Ordinance Amendment- The Planning Commission has not made a recommendation to the board for approval yet on the fence amendment in the lake district. After all of the written communication and hearing from pleasant lake residents Clerk feels confident moving forward with the 4ft fence height maximum and 50% see thru of lake front homes in the lake district and holding off on privacy screens till a later date when more research can be done.

Green Infrastructure Huron River Watershed- Motion by Huehl supported by Bristle to have Green Infrastructure intern start moving forward on some recommendations to the master plan and zoning ordinances at no cost to the township.

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

PDR- Motion by Layher supported by Huehl to continue to research Purchase Development Right (PDR) programs and have the Supervisor form a committee by the end of the year to research this.

Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

10. New Business:

Fire Contract-Ron Mann and Mike Riesterer were present with a new 3 year contract for Fire Rescue Protection with the Manchester Fire Department. When a person calls 911 it goes to the Sheriff's office and fire or EMS calls are transferred to HVA and they dispatch the Manchester Fire department if key words are used and requiring a first responder in that situation. The Manchester Fire Department is utilizing grants and other resources to keep their training and equipment the best it can be.

Motion by Huehl supported by Bristle to sign the 3 year contract and continue to use Manchester Fire Department as our fire protection providers and first responders.

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

Bemis Road Bridge- Supervisor meet with Bridgewater Supervisor, Evan Pratt the Water Resource Commissioner and the Washtenaw County Road Commission to split the cost of the repairs needed for the Bemis Rd bridge. The Road Commission will cover 1/3, the Water Resource Commission will cover 1/3 and the remaining 1/3 will be split 50/50 between Bridgewater and Freedom Township. The maximum cost to Freedom Township will be \$50,000 and the township will have a chance to withdraw from this agreement when we hear a more accurate cost of the project. There will be no special assessments regarding this.

Motion by Schaible supported by Layher to adopt the resolution concerning the work needed to clean out, relocate, widen, deepen, straighten, tile, extend or relocate along a highway as needed for the J.J. Knapp Drain.

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

Historic District- Motion by Weidmayer supported by Huehl to adopt a resolution to authorize Washtenaw County through the Washtenaw County Historic District Commission to conduct a historic district study of the Adler-Kramer-Kuebler Farm property (9505 Bethel Church Rd) in Freedom Township for possible local historic district designation.

Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

Town Hall Improvements- New carpet has been installed in the office.

Motion by Huehl supported by Layher to have sidewalk out front be replaced for no more than \$3750.00.

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

Motion by Huehl supported by Layher to have Chuck Benedict paint the kitchen, office and bathrooms for \$1150.00.

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

11. Warrants: Motion by Weidmayer supported by Huehl: To approve the online payments for the 941 tax withholding and warrants 3433-3456.

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

12. Public Comment: Lon Nordeen asked for a breakdown of the planner fees.

Adjourned at 11:04 pm

Valisa Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township