

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Approved with corrections Minutes of the Regular Meeting
December 12th, 2017 8:00 pm

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Supervisor Weidmayer called the meeting to order at 7:59pm

Members present: Weidmayer, Bristle, Layher, Schaible, Huehl

3 were present in the audience.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Change to Agenda:

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

Approved with corrections the November 14, 2017 Township Board minutes. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Huehl supported by Schaible to: Approve November 14, 2017 Treasurers report.

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

Our current CD will come due 12/27/2017 for a total of \$26,194.43 with an interest rate of .25%. We can get 1.75% with a \$100,000.00 CD for 18mon.

Motion by Huehl supported by Weidmayer to authorize the treasurer to move \$74,000.00 from the general fund to increase the CD to over \$100,000.00. The CD will be with Old National Bank for 18 months at 1.75%.

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

6. Communications: Rudy received a thank you from the Manchester Area Senior Citizen Council. Supervisor received the MTA monthly magazine. MTA has a Board of Review training in Chelsea on Feb. 27th. DTE will have a hearing in Lansing on Dec. 20th at 9am. Doug Parr let Dale know that the building inspector for Western Washtenaw Construction Authority has stepped down and Jim Coval will be filling in until a new applicant is found. We are told that Jim can perform that job as well as continue as the township zoning administrator. The next meeting for WWCA will be Jan. 20th and Denny will attend on behalf of the township.

7. Public Comment: none

8. Reports:

Planning Commission report: Dan Schaible reported on behalf of Larry Lindemann that the meeting went well last week. They approved a land split for Huehls. The dates for their meetings in 2018 have been set for the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. The site plan for Mike Bossory was tabled waiting for more information. They had discussion on the temporary camping ordinance and sent it back to the planner for changes to be made. 5.201 Accessory Dwellings ordinance was looked at again and the Twp planner will draft the changes. Larry said he has received many calls regarding lawyers or growers asking if we allow medical marihuana facilities in the township. Matt Little reported on the township emergency committee. Jean Spencer asked about having volunteers at her feline rescue facility. This is not allowed with a home based business and a conditional use permit so the Twp planner will look into this. A full copy of the PC minutes is available through the clerk's office.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: Alvin went and looked at the berm on Tony Schaffler's property next to his neighbor Doc Wellman's property. The berm was created with dirt from his property but it is not sloped correctly following the townships ordinance so Alvin will send him a violation letter. He was told there was someone living in a trailer at 8730 Saline Water Works Rd but when he went there he was told this is not true.

Zoning Inspector: Jim submitted his report with 2 zonings issued. A lean-to/car port at 5046 Happy Hollow Rd. and a new house at 9602 Waters Rd. Nov. 27th he received a phone call of a new fence on Elmdale. He went and put a stop work order up because a zoning compliance form was not submitted with payment. Tony has an open building permit with WWCA but that has no effect on the fence and he needs to submit the correct paperwork and payment to continue to put up his fence.

Library- Jan Davis submitted a report that the library senior staff received a 2% pay raise and the director received a \$1/hour increase. November book sale could have been better.

Clerk report: I have contacted the county and I am working with them and Revize to get the old website shut down or put up a link to the new site. Clerk meeting is tomorrow at Scio Township hall.

9. Unfinished Business:

PDR Meeting – The supervisor and clerk attended a meeting held at Scio Twp. hall on Friday Nov. 17th. Representatives from Scio, Ann Arbor and Webster townships shared how they put a PDR millage on the ballot and passed it. A few topics discussed were interested/passionate residents forming a group, township-wide communication, ballot wording and renewals. Those townships have more residents, businesses and parcels than Freedom so they are able to generate more money in a millage.

Town hall phone system/Verizon- The clerk was approached by our government Verizon representative with a new and updated phone system. The new equipment would allow residents to call one number at the town hall and press a number and be forwarded to the board member they wish to speak with. Along with the updated equipment we are able to bundle phone and fax services and save the township money.

Motion by Bristle seconded by Layher to bundle the town hall, clerk and treasurer phone services for phone and fax lines to save cost and update phone equipment.

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

Manchester District Library Delegate- Freedom Township is looking for a second library delegate to represent the township at the library's monthly meeting, which is held on the last Monday of the month at 7pm. Supervisor will contact Susan Layher who may be interested.

10. New Business:

Appointments- Motion by Weidmayer seconded by Layher to appoint Larry Lindemann for a 3 yr. term for Planning Commission. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

Motion by Weidmayer seconded by Huehl to appoint Dan Schaible for a 1 year term to Planning Commission. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

2018 Meeting Dates- Motion by Huehl seconded by Layher to set the Freedom Township board meetings for the second Tuesday of the month at 8:00 p.m. at the Freedom Township hall. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

Poverty Guidelines-

Motion by Weidmayer seconded by Huehl to approve the 2018 Federal poverty guidelines.

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

Motion by Layher seconded by Weidmayer to have the Board of review follow the asset eligibility test as described in the Federal poverty guidelines.

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

Motion by Huehl seconded by Bristle to accept state guidelines for the hardship application and for it to be put on file with the township.

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

Property Transfer Affidavit Resolution- Motion by Weidmayer seconded by Huehl to waive the penalty for failure to file a Property Transfer Affidavit on a timely basis for property in Freedom Township.

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

Medical Marijuana- The Township has been receiving many calls from attorneys and people outside the township asking if we have an ordinance created allowing for medical marijuana facilities. The board is concerned that the added revenue from permits would not even come close to the cost needed to have police protection in the township. Motion by Layher seconded by Schaible to adopt the resolution to Opt Out and decline to authorize any type of medical marijuana facilities in Freedom Township.

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

Tom Piggott/Kuebler Pit- gravel pit extraction permit- Mr. Piggott has a ~~gravel pit extraction~~ conditional use permit that will need to be renewed reviewed and he is required, per township ordinance, to submit a annual extraction report to the Feb planning commission meeting. The township needs to review what we have on file for his existing permit.

11. Warrants: Motion by Huehl supported by Layher: To approve the online payments for the 941 tax withholding and warrants 3854-3879.

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

12. Public Comment: none

Adjourned at 10:35 pm

Valisa L. Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township