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

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call**
Supervisor Weidmayer called the meeting to order at 8:00pm
Members present: Weidmayer, Bristle, Layher, Huehl, Schaible 9 were present in the audience.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**.

3. Change to Agenda: Motion by Layher supported by Huehl to add Bethel Church Rd, Bemis Rd, and Fire Withholding Program to new business. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes: Moved by Huehl supported by Layher to:
Approve the August 8, 2017 Township Board minutes. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

5. **Treasurer's Report:** Moved by Bristle supported by Schaible to: Approve August 8, 2017 Treasurers report.
Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Weidmayer, Huehl, Bristle, Schaible, Layher Nay: none CARRIED

6. Communications: MTA magazine was received. A letter from Beth Heuser opposing a public boat launch on Pleasant Lake was received. There will be a PDR (Purchase Development Rights) informational meeting for the public on September 21st at 7:30pm at the town hall. County Clean-up Day will be in Saline on September 30th, 2017 from 9-2pm. The address is 1234 Tefft Court, Saline 48176. No Sheriff's report but there was a break-in on Weber Rd.

7. Public Comment: Beth Heuser noticed that a gravel train on Steinbach Rd seemed extra long. She noticed that the light in the town hall parking light does not always work, the back door in the kitchen does not have a tight seal and the back light is burnt out. The twp. board will look into these issues. Gerald Sisco shared that Dexter Twp has an amendment to their ordinance to allow accessory dwellings and asked the planning commission to consider it.

8. Reports:
Planning Commission report: Larry reported on the public hearing held for amendments to the ordinance regarding travel trailers within the township. Topics discussed were such as seasonal dates (camping dates), tents, trailers being used as storage, time frame of usage just to name a few. Planning commission will continue to work on that ordinance amendment and focus on the 10 biggest issues raised. Happy Heart Feline Rescue will have a public hearing for their conditional use permit on Oct. 3rd at 7:30pm. They are reviewing the accessory dwelling/living space ordinance. A full copy of the PC minutes is available through the clerk's office.
Ordinance Enforcement Officer: Alvin received one call last Fri. for loud noise (gun fire and music) on Waters Rd.
Zoning Inspector: Jim reported 4 new zonings for the month of August. A new house at 5151 Esch Rd, a pole barn and deck at 13180 Waters Rd, a pole barn at 8971 Textile Rd and a temporary office trailer (Consumers) at 12201 Pleasant Lake Rd.
Library- none
Clerk report: Testing of the new voting equipment has been completed and it will be picked up this week. Training for it will be at the end of the month. There is a clerk meeting on the 27th at Dexter Twp. hall. The clerk will meet with Decker Insurance to review the township's insurance policy. There is an MTA training on Oct. 18th in Chelsea if anyone from the board is interested in attending. Website bills for WWCA and PLPOA are figured for documents transferred to the new website but the board needs to decide how much to charge them to keep their information on the website moving forward. It will be on next month's agenda. There will be an election on Nov. 7th.

9. Unfinished Business:
Pleasant Lake Inn/Paul Parkinson- Paul Parkinson has started to clean up his property but it is not completed yet. The township is asking him to fill in the hole where the building stood before it burnt down but the county will not allow that if he wishes to put a new drain field there in the future. The township board will have the township attorney send him a second letter requesting complete clean-up of the property.

Motion by Layher and supported by Huehl to send a second letter to Paul Parkinson regarding the cleaning up of his property on Pleasant Lake.
Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Huehl, Bristle, Weidmayer, Layher, Schaible Nay: none CARRIED

10. New Business:
Monica Day- Monica is from the Water Resources and Ag Production department part of the MSU Extension Office. She spoke at the water quality forum held at the town hall last December. She asked what people thought of the presentation that day and what things we are interested in moving forward. Discussion on Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) programs, which the township has a committee for and will be holding a public meeting in a couple of weeks on. Discussion on MAEAP program and certification requirements for it and best management practices. Better education for field crop management, natural resources and water quality will benefit all.

PA 116 -Motion by Weidmayer supported by Schaible to approve Gary Bross' application to put property in the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program PA 116. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

Kuebler-Adler Historic Farm- The board needs more information if the township has any responsibilities regarding this historic property moving forward.

Bethel Church Rd- There was a meeting between the township supervisor, road commission and Ben (the property owner) regarding the part of Bethel Church Rd that was flooded when the property owner busted a field tile. Discussion will continue to get this repaired so there are no issues going forward.

Bemis Rd- Bids came in and the final billing has the project at roughly $78,000 for both the Bemis Rd Bridge and the culvert on Saline Waterworks Rd. The supervisor will confirm line items on the invoice and it will be on next month's agenda.

Mi Fire Withholding Program- A house fire on Waters Rd for Mr. and Mrs. Bryant generated a fire withholding check for $12,262.00. The check is to be put into an escrow account and held while they clean up the site and rebuild. When they meet township requirements they will receive that money back. They have a couple of unpaid fire runs from Freedom Township; if they are left unpaid then we will pull that money out of the check.
Motion by Weidmayer supported by Schaible to move the $12,262.00 into the township escrow account. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Weidmayer, Schaible, Bristle, Huehl, Layher Nay: none CARRIED

11. **Warrants:** Motion by Schaible supported by Huehl: To approve the online payments for the 941 tax withholding and warrants 3773-3797.
Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Bristle, Schaible, Weidmayer, Huehl, Layher Nay: none CARRIED

12. Public Comment:

Adjourned at 11:00 pm
Valisa L. Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township