

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPROVED WITH CORRECTIONS Minutes of the Regular Meeting
February 12th, 2019 8:00 pm

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Clerk Bristle called the meeting to order at 8:00pm

Members present: Bristle, Layher, Schaible, Huehl absent: Weidmayer 6 were present in the audience.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Selecting Moderator to run meeting: Moved by Bristle supported by Schaible to have Huehl moderate the meeting. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

3. Change to Agenda: none

4. Approval of Minutes: Moved by Layher supported by Schaible to: Approve the January 8, 2019 Township Board minutes. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Bristle supported by Schaible to: Approve January 8, 2019 Treasurers report. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Huehl, Bristle, Layher, Schaible Nay: none CARRIED

6. Communications: MTA magazine was received. The Dec. Sheriff report had 14 calls- 4 state police handled, 2 by the sheriff's office and 8 were cleared.

7. Public Comment: Gregory Dill, Washtenaw County Administrator, wanted to introduce himself and express the counties efforts to be good governmental partners. He shared information on a talk regarding establishing broadband in rural areas and will continue to share information as it becomes available.

8. Reports:

Planning Commission report: At the meeting last Thursday Dennis Herrst addressed the p.c. regarding his interest in the old pleasant lake school building and running his construction business out of it. The way the current zoning ordinance is written a construction business cannot operate out of a commercial zoned property (it needs to be zoned industrial). The p.c. will review the ordinance and see if it makes sense to amend the zoning ordinance instead of rezoning the property. The storage building owned by Jim Clark, needs a site plan application for Aquaponics raising fish and vegetables all year round indoors and other information such as other buildings, roadside stand and parking. The gravel pits gave their reports- American Aggregate is under the consent judgment and StoneCo reported on the Burmeister pit. The gravel pit tour has been set for April 13th at 8:30am starting at the StoneCo-Burmeister pit. A full copy of the PC minutes is available from clerk.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: Alvin phoned in his report for the month of January. He received one call and sent out letters to Mr. Milkey and Meyers regarding their trucks.

Zoning Inspector- Jim reported that there was 1 zoning issued for the month of January – a new address at 5091 Esch Rd. His yearly report for 2018 had 33 total zonings issued- 8 pole barns, 2 garages, 4 new houses, 3 for consumers energy, 1 sign, 6 remodels, 1 pool, 5 solar arrays and 3 new addresses.

Library- Jan Davis submitted a report stating that the 2018 audit for the library began on Feb. 7th. Kathy Diamond is a very active director and the library has noticed an increase in the various activities offered. Susan Layher also submitted a report adding the board approved a use agreement form for those who wish to use the library after the regular hours.

Clerk report: Working on the 2019-2020 budget

WWCA report: Denny attended the last meeting and reported that they reviewed the audit and authorized new computer equipment. The department is doing well financially.

9. Unfinished Business:

Town Hall Bathrooms- No updates to report at this time.

10. New Business:

Poverty Guidelines/Hardship Application-

Motion by Bristle seconded by Layher: To approve Freedom Townships' poverty exemption guidelines and put the application on file with the township.

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

Motion by Bristle seconded by Schaible: To approve the 2019 poverty guidelines.

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

Motion by Bristle seconded by Layher: To adopt the policy for inspection of assessing records.

Motion carried by all Ayes: Nay: none CARRIED

Motion by Bristle seconded by Layher: To approve the real property exemption form and guidelines and put it on file with the township.

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

Budget Public Hearing- Motion by Huehl seconded by Bristle: To set the Budget Hearing for Tuesday March 12th at 7:30pm. Motion carried by all Ayes: Nay: none CARRIED

TR Transport- Denny spoke with Troy Busha and he said that he has moved his business to the Finkbeiner pit in Saline.

Motion by Huehl seconded by Layher: To increase the audit line item in the 2018-2019 budget to \$11,000.00

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

11. Warrants: Motion by Schaible supported by Layher: To approve the online payments for the 941 tax withholding and warrants 4156-4175.

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

12. Public Comment: John Push shared a noise complaint and a public safety concern. He had pictures of bullet holes in his house from his neighbor. He stated that he has heard his neighbor shooting repeatedly over 100 days from April-Sept. He has called the Washtenaw County Sheriff's office and the board also encouraged him to call the Michigan State Police regarding the safety side of the shootings. Regarding the noise complaint he was advised to contact Alvin Ernst, Ordinance Enforcement officer, so that he can investigate and start documenting the complaint.

Dan Schaible suggested we might want to start looking at the township's garage that the neighbor rents, specifically the roof. And that we need to discuss Esch rd. with the Washtenaw County Road Commission at our yearly meeting with them. The road does not have enough road frontage for a private road. road right of way width for a public road.

Adjourned at 9:36 pm

Valisa L. Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township