

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
APPROVED with corrections Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
April 9th, 2019 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      absent: none    38 were present in the audience.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance.**

**3. Change to Agenda:** Move Consumers Energy Presentation up

Consumers Energy Presentation- Representatives from Consumers Energy spoke about ways to communicate and ask questions to them, safety procedures, updates at the Freedom Compressor Station and noise/lights concerns. Stephanie Blatt shared a form that will be on the township website [www.freedomtownshipmi.org](http://www.freedomtownshipmi.org) that residents can use to submit questions. It will be emailed to the clerk and she will forward it to the correct representative and post the answer on the website. We are trying to use the website as one central location to find information. Simon spoke about the compressor station and that it is a gas transmission pipeline. Kay Lancour spoke on different safety issues, such as the use of nixle for safety alerts. You can sign up to receive alerts from the nixle emailed or texted to your cell phone that will alert you of any safety issues in your area such as severe weather, accidents, road closures or evacuations. If you hear a loud noise and are concerned with something at the Freedom Compressor Station or with one of the pipelines they are asking us to call 911 and ask for a Fire Response. The Manchester Fire Department is trained to respond to different scenarios regarding the pipelines.

Scott, a representative from Panhandle pipeline, shared that they will have a controlled gas release once a week from now through May. The first one will be Monday April 15<sup>th</sup> between 11:00 am- 1:00pm and last about 10 min.

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

Approve the March 12, 2019 Township Board minutes.

Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

**5. Treasurer's Report:** Moved by Bristle supported by Huehl to: Approve March 12, 2019 Treasurers report.

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

**6. Communications:** Booklet from the Road Commission on a 4 year plan/report was received. The township Board will be meeting tomorrow at 1:00pm at the town hall with the Washtenaw Road Commission. There will be a public hearing tomorrow night at ~~6:00pm~~ 7:00pm for the Special Assessment weed Control Management project for Pleasant Lake.

**7. Public Comment:** Questions about the Nixle alerts and how to sign up. Concerns from residents were lifted regarding the increase levels of noise coming from the compressor station. Consumers Energy is collecting data (ex: times, locations, environmental factors) and it seems to be coming from plant 1, closest to the road. They will be working on ways to minimize the noise during construction and hope to have all the noise issues resolved once the construction is completed. Issues with Panhadle's lights, on the south side facing east towards the lake, were addressed by Scott who will look into that light and see if it can be turned down. There is temporary parking at Consumers on the west side that will be restored once the construction is done.

**8. Reports:**

Planning Commission report: Larry reported that the planning commission held a public hearing, last week before their regular meeting. The P.C. moved to recommend an amendment to the zoning ordinance. It will be discussed at the May Township Board meeting. A clean copy of the updates to ordinance 32 was received and the P.C. will review it at their next meeting. A boundary adjustment for Dennis Herrst was approved. The gravel pit tour will be April 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am starting at the StoneCo-Burmeister pit. A full copy of the PC minutes is available from clerk.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: Alvin spoke with Supervisor Weidmayer and will be resigning as Ordinance Enforcement officer. He will submit a letter with his resignation.

Zoning Inspector- Jim reported 1 zoning for solar arrays at 7880 Ernst Road. He received multiple calls regarding solar farms.

Library- Annual Meeting will be April 20<sup>th</sup>. Susan Layher submitted a report for Feb and Mar.

Clerk report: At the quarterly Clerk's meeting we were told that there will be election training to understand the new voter registration changes and no reason absentee ballot requests. The county is planning on an election in August. Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners held a work session meeting in Sylvan Township regarding broadband in the county. Further discussions will be planned regarding this topic.

**9. Unfinished Business:**

Cemetery- Motion by Huehl supported by Layher: To continue communication with the Freedom Emanuel Evangelical Memorial Cemetery Association and have the township attorney review the agreement to take possession of their cemetery.

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

Manchester Area Senior Citizens Council- Motion by Weidmayer supported by Bristle to give \$500 to Manchester Area Senior Citizens Council, Inc. per service agreement.

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

Lawn Mowing Bids- Motion by Layher supported by Bristle to have ER Lawn Service mow the town hall lawn for 2019 for \$45.00 per mow and Fletcher rd cemetery 6 times at \$65 per mow.

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

**10. New Business:**

Road Commission Annual Meeting- The meeting will be tomorrow April 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm at the Town Hall.

Roof on the Township's Garage- Motion by Huehl supported by Schaible: To accept the bid from Jim Coval Construction for a new steel roof on the township's garage.

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

**11. Warrants:** Motion by Huehl supported by Layher: To approve the online payments for the 941 tax withholding and warrants 4200-4218.

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

**12. Public Comment:**

Adjourned at 10:11 pm

Valisa L. Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township