

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DRAFT Minutes of the Regular Meeting
December 8, 2020 8:00 pm

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Supervisor Lindemann called the meeting to order at 8:01pm

Members present: Lindemann, Bristle, Layher, Huehl, Schaible absent: none 5 were present in the audience

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Change to Agenda: Moved by Bristle supported by Huehl to: add 2021 meeting dates and office 365 software to new business. Motion carried with all Ayes CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes: Moved by Schaible supported by Huehl to: Approve the November 10, 2020 Township Board minutes with corrections. Motion carried with all Ayes CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Huehl supported by Bristle to: Approve November 10, 2020 Treasurers report. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Layher, Bristle, Huehl, Lindemann, Schaible Nay: none CARRIED

6. Communications: Supervisor Lindemann shared a virtual meeting been held by the Wash. Co. Road Commission on Jan. 27th and Jan. 28th on road funding. He received a letter in the previous Supervisor's records regarding a designated assessor being named. He will contact the Wash. Co. Equalization office to make sure this is taken care of. New MTA monthly magazine was received today.

7. Public Comment: Rick Wilson asked when the planning commission would begin working on the draft alternate energy (solar energy) ordinance. P.C. chair will contact the township planner and see where we are at on this. Lon Nordeen hopes we make progress on the safety issues plus report on progress with high speed internet.

8. Reports:

Planning Commission report: Matt Little reported that the planning commission met last Tuesday via zoom. They welcomed Mike Bossory as the new p.c. member. They approved a boundary adjustment for Peter DeLoof. Stoneco's Conditional Use Permit was approved with conditions. They set their 2021 meeting schedule for the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. A full copy of the PC minutes is available from clerk or on twp. website.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: Austin Helber submitted his report for the month of November. A letter was sent last month to 9211 Pleasant Lake Rd for issues with storage on the property (storage containers are illegal). The property owner called the clerk saying he plans to build a pole barn and thought he was allowed temporary storage while the barn is constructed. This is correct but the property owner has not submitted a zoning compliance for the pole barn yet. If he does not submit the zoning compliance by the deadline a citation will be given with orders to remove the storage container.

Zoning Inspector- no report

Library- Susan Layher submitted a report from their Nov. 26th meeting. The library is still operating by curbside only. Elissa Weidmayer is the new library delegate along with Susan Layher.

Clerk report: Clerk will be submitting invoices related to the November election to the state for reimbursement. The state will be conducting a risk limiting audit, in January, of the November election. Clerk is still working with the township auditor to prepare the F-65 report and prepare for the annual township audit. There will be a December Board of Review (held virtually due to Covid). The Zoning Board of Appeals has a public hearing to set and they are looking at dates in January due to Covid.

9. Unfinished Business:

Safety Committee wrap-up- Matt Little, safety committee chair, presented the board with a finalized copy of the continuity and emergency preparedness plan and it will be sent to Dave Halteman, the director of Wash. Co Emergency services, after approval. The Board will review the final plan and vote at next month's meeting.

Warning Siren- When looking at warning sirens we need to be mindful to use township funds for services that will benefit the township as a whole, not just parts of it. The Supervisor shared that he would like to see a capital improvement fund set up to help budget for such projects as safety/ warning sirens, fire/police protection or road culverts as examples.

10. New Business:

Town Hall Keys- A list needs to be made of who within the township has keys to the town hall and collect costs for new locks on the exterior doors of the hall. Supervisor will collect the costs associated and have for next meeting.

Appointments- Motion by Lindemann seconded by Bristle to appoint Mike Bossory for a 3 yr. term, Dan Schaible for a 1 yr. term and Carol Huehl to a 1 yr. term (recording secretary) to the planning commission.

Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

Motion by Layher supported by Schaible to appoint Jeff Weidmayer, Scott Diuble, Frank Lobbestael, the chair of planning commission and twp. supervisor to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3 yr. term and Scott Guenther as alternate.

Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

Motion by Schaible seconded by Layher to appoint Gerald Huehl, Charlie Hieber and Dave Mieras to Board of Review for 2 yr. terms and Dale Ganzhorn as alternate.

Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

Motion by Layher seconded by Bristle to appoint Susan Layher and Elissa Weidmayer as Manchester District Library Delegates from Freedom Township.

Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

There is an article in the latest MTA magazine about a required BOR member training. The clerk will look into this for the next meeting.

Electronic Files – Clerk will look into different document management options (companies/systems/costs).

SB 431- The following resolution was offered by Bristle, and supported by Huehl to adopt resolution 2020-06 now therefore be it resolved that Freedom Township Board of Trustees oppose the proposed legislation to preempt local control over sand and gravel operations found in Senate Bill 431.

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

2021 Meeting Dates- Motion by Lindemann seconded by Bristle to set the Freedom Twp. 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

Microsoft 360 Software – The new recording secretary does not have this program on her computer and needs it for the position. The Board will look into the cost of an individual computer or if there is a group option.

11. Warrants: Motion by Huehl supported by Schaible: To approve the online payments for the 941 tax withholding and warrants 4652-4578.

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

12. Public Comment: Lon Nordeen asked what is our level of new tax benefits from the pipelines and consumer energy which could support these proposed capital improvement expenses. Treasurer will gather information for our next meeting.

Adjourned at 9:46 pm

Valisa L. Bristle,
Clerk, Freedom Township