

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPROVED WITH CORRECTION Minutes of the Regular Meeting
February 11, 2020 8:00 pm

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

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

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

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

3. Change to Agenda: none

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

Approve the January 14, 2020 Township Board minutes.

Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Schaible supported by Bristle to: Approve January 14, 2020 Treasurers report.

Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Schaible, Layher, Bristle

Nay: none

CARRIED

6. Communications: none

7. Public Comment: Shannon Beeman shared that on March 5, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners will be holding a public hearing regarding the possibility of adding two new members to the Washtenaw County Road Commission. If you have thoughts on the additional appointments and are unable to attend she is eager to share these with the rest of the board. Additionally, the Washtenaw County Broadband Taskforce has released a survey to gather data on access to the internet. A paper survey has been mailed to residents in areas where service is poor or does not exist. Beth Heuser stressed the need for 3 brines on the dirt roads in Freedom Township.

8. Reports:

Planning Commission report: Larry Lindemann reported that there was a public hearing before their regular meeting to approve zoning amendments for short-term rentals to align with ordinance 50. StoneCo-Burmeister pit submitted their extraction renewal permit application and there are questions that need to be answered before it can be approved. Boundary adjustment for Steve Carson was approved. Boundary adjustment for Michael Kowalski was approved. The zoning ordinance amendment was approved to send it to the board for adoption. The Levy pit has had some trees cleared with possible mining to begin in Sept. 2020. The gravel pit tour will be Apr. 25th at 8:30am to begin at the Burmeister pit. A conditional use permit application for StoneCo was received today. Larry and Matt Little will be attending a pipeline safety meeting in Ann Arbor at the end of the month. A woman at the meeting asked about the pleasant lake school and its current zoning with interest in purchasing it. A full copy of the PC minutes is available from clerk.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: Austin Helber reported sending out 1 letter with a citation this month to the Fowler's for the port-a-john on their property that needs to be removed. The township received a letter from June Fowler asking to keep the port-a-john on the property while work is done to level the property. The board felt it would be appropriate to enforce the removal of the port-a-john and that it may be replaced on the property once proper permits have been obtained or when a timeline of the project is given if permits are not needed.

Zoning Inspector- Jim Coval reported for the month of January he had 1 zoning, a new address at 11059 Hieber Rd. An inspection of the new barn at 7855 Ernst Rd revealed that it is not being constructed as stated in the zoning compliance application. Since it is not in compliance with the township the board asked Jim to speak with Doug Parr at WWCA and have a stop work order issued.

Library- Jan Davis submitted a report.

Clerk report: Absentee ballots have been received for the presidential primary election which will be Mar. 10th and will be sent out this week. Preparations for the annual audit of the township records has begun and the clerk contacted a CPA firm to prepare the standard bookkeeping needed to be completed before the annual audit. Consumers Energy Freedom Plant has offered to clean up the flowerbeds around the town hall and plant new flowers. The township is interested in this project.

9. Unfinished Business:

Short-Term Rentals Ordinance Application- Motion by Schaible supported by Layher: To approve the presented application for a short-term transient rental facility license and set the application fee for \$500 and the escrow deposit amount at \$1,000.

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

Poverty Guidelines/Hardship Application-

Moved by Bristle seconded by Schaible to approve the 2020 poverty guidelines.

Motion carried by all Ayes. Nay: none CARRIED

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

Motion carried by all Ayes. 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

Salaries for 2020-2021- Motion by Layher supported by Schaible to increase Supervisor's salary by \$500, Clerk's salary will stay the same and add \$1,500 per election conducted, Treasurer's salary by \$500, Trustees pay by \$25/mtg, Deputies pay by \$2/hr, Planning Commission Chair salary by \$200, Zoning Inspector's salary by \$300 and Ordinance Enforcement Officer's salary by \$1,100.

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

The following resolutions were offered by Bristle, and seconded by Layher: resolutions to establish township officer's salaries. Now therefore it be resolved that as of 4-1-2020 the salaries of the township board members are as follows: Supervisor \$18,000, Treasurer \$20,000, Clerk \$19,500 +\$1,500/per election, and Trustees \$200.00 per meeting.

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

10. New Business:

Zoning Ordinance Amendment 43-F- Motion by Bristle supported by Layher: To adopt the Zoning Ordinance Amendment 43-F, to update the zoning ordinance with allowable land use provisions that apply to short-term transient rentals in the Township; revising the Lake (LK) District purpose statement consistent with the more limited residential character as established on the Official Zoning Map; deleting LK District requirements for maximum front yard setback and reduced transition buffer; removing certain non-residential land uses from the list of allowable land uses in the Manufactured Housing Park (R-6) and LK zoning districts; deleting bed and breakfast inns from the list of allowable uses in the R-6 District and revising the LK District to allow the use subject to conditional use permit approval; deleting public transportation facilities from the list of allowable land uses; deleting the LK District reference from the use standards for workshops or studios; revising portable structure standards; requiring county Treasurer certification of no delinquent taxes with any acreage parcel division application; and inserting provisions and definitions for small cell and micro wireless communication facilities consistent with recent state law changes.

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

Budget Public Hearing- Motion by Bristle seconded by Layher: To set the Budget Hearing for ~~Tuesday~~ Wednesday March 11th at 7:30pm. Motion carried by all Ayes: Nay: none CARRIED

Road Millage- The current road millage for the township expired on Dec. 31, 2019 and the board will need to decide if a renewal is necessary and when to put the road millage on the ballot. The purpose for a road millage is for the township to have more control of the funds and directing its usage for the roads within "OUR" township.

11. Warrants: Motion by Schaible supported by Layher: To approve the online payments for the 941 tax withholding and warrants 4424-4440.

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

12. Public Comment:

Adjourned at 9:48 pm

Valisa L. Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township