

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPROVED Minutes of the Regular Meeting
January 12, 2021 8:00 pm
Electronic Meeting via Zoom

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Supervisor Lindemann called the meeting to order at 8:00pm

Members present: Lindemann, Bristle, Layher, Huehl, Schaible absent: none 8 were present in the audience

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Change to Agenda: Moved by Schaible supported by Huehl to: add Board of Review member MTA training and Microsoft Office 365 software to new business. Motion carried with all Ayes CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes: Moved by Huehl supported by Layher to: Approve the December 8, 2020 Township Board minutes with corrections. Motion carried with all Ayes CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Schaible supported by Huehl to: Approve December 8, 2020 Treasurers report. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Layher, Bristle, Huehl, Lindemann, Schaible Nay: none CARRIED

6. Communications: Supervisor Lindemann shared he received changes for the poverty exemption and the board will need to take action on them next month. The Wash. Co. Water Resource Dept. is holding a virtual meet and greet on Jan. 21st at 1 or 7 pm. Registration is required for this event. New MTA monthly magazine was received today. He attended the WWCA meeting last Saturday. They had an audit this past year and it went very well. 38 permits were issued for Freedom Township. Tony Griffith's building permit has expired. Doug Parr is working on his certification for soil erosion.

7. Public Comment: Beth Heuser said 152 residents, who are close to Consumer Energy plant, would like to see sirens in the township and would like to see safety issues important to the board and moving forward. Lon Nordeen asked when the treasurer would share tax benefits from the pipelines and consumers to support the capital improvement program. That will be discussed during old business.

8. Reports:

Planning Commission report: Matt Little reported that the planning commission met last Tuesday via zoom. . Beth Heuser's land split was discussed and postponed for further information. Elections were as followed- Matt Little chair, Mike Bossory vice-chair, Susan Ochs will be secretary and Carol Huehl will remain the recording secretary for one year. Regarding the Stoneco (Burmeister Pit) Conditional Use Permit (that was passed at last month's meeting) a letter was received from Austin Fischer (on behalf of Stoneco) with some revisions. Stoneco can apply to amend the conditional use permit if they wish. The Planning Commission could also ask for an amendment after mutual agreement of all parties. 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 December. He spoke with Jim Coval and the property owner of 9211 Pleasant Lake Road has been in communication with Jim regarding a zoning compliance for putting up a pole barn on his property. Rudy asked about a second shipping container on Saline Waterworks Road. Valisa will pass this information onto Austin.

Zoning Inspector- Jim submitted his report for November with 1 zoning at 11939 Elmdale Dr for a garage addition. And his report for December had 2 zonings. One for a new address at 2700 S. Lima Center Rd and a pole barn at 11893 Bethel Church rd. Larry asked about an email he received on Aug. 20th ,from Rural Reach, and if they submitted a zoning compliance application? An application and fee have not been received.

Library- Susan Layher submitted a report from their Dec. 28th meeting. The library is still operating by curbside only. They have received a donation of 10 ukuleles at the library and you can check one out with lessons.

Clerk report: Clerk reported the state will be conducting a risk limiting audit, this week, for the November election. Clerk is still working with the township auditor to prepare the F-65 report and prepare for the annual township audit. The Zoning Board of Appeals has a public hearing set for Tuesday, January 19th at 7:30pm via zoom.

9. Unfinished Business:

Town Hall Keys- Motion by Huehl seconded by Layher to upgrade the town hall exterior locks and have 10 keys made with cost not to exceed \$300.

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

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.

Motion by Bristle supported by Layher to accept the continuity and emergency preparedness plan and put it on file at the township and with the county emergency services department. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

Warning Sirens- 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. Dave Halteman, Wash. Co. Emergency Services Director would be happy to help the township figure out costs and placements for sirens. The Clerk will follow up with him and Matt Little also has some quotes for sirens and will make sure they are current and share with the board. The Supervisor shared that projects for the capital improvement fund could be worked on by the planning commission. Dan Schaible, who is the appoint board member on the p.c., said the p.c. already have a lot in front of them with the gravel pits and zoning ordinances at this time. The Supervisor will gather the information needed to start a capital improvement fund.

10. New Business:

Electronic Files – Clerk has received one quote for a document management program but will gather a couple more for the next meeting.

Board of Review Member Training - Motion by Bristle supported by Layher: To sign the Board of Review members up at the basic group rate of \$90/group for the required MTA online training.

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

Microsoft 360 Software – The new recording secretary does not have this program on her computer and needs it for the position. Motion by Lindemann seconded by Bristle to approve the planning commission's recording secretary to get Microsoft office 365 for one year at \$70.

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

11. Warrants: Motion by Huehl supported by Schaible: To approve the online payments for the 941 tax withholding and warrants 4579-4592.

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

12. Public Comment: Clerk has printed W-2s and they will be out in the mail this week.

Adjourned at 10:08 pm

Valisa L. Bristle,
Clerk, Freedom Township