

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPROVED Minutes of the Regular Meeting
February 9, 2021 8:00 pm
Electronic Meeting via Zoom

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Supervisor Lindemann called the meeting to order at 8:08pm

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 Lindemann to: add salaries to new business.

Motion carried with all Ayes

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes: Moved by Schaible supported by Huehl to: Approve the January 12, 2021 Township Board minutes with no corrections.

Motion carried with all Ayes

CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Huehl supported by Bristle to: Approve January 12, 2021 Treasurers report.

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

Nay: none

CARRIED

6. Communications: Supervisor Lindemann shared he received an email from Chris Mikesell supporting the Capital Improvement Plan. The Zoning Board of Appeals approved a variance for Danielson last month. Board of Review members will need to take a mandatory training. They can come to the town hall on Feb. 26th if they don't have their own computer. Consumer Energy sent out a mailer on ways to communicate with their company.

7. Public Comment: none

8. Reports:

Planning Commission report: Matt Little reported that the planning commission met last Tuesday via zoom. Beth Heuser's land split was denied. She will be submitting an application for a variance. The P.C. started to work on the renewal extraction permit for Stoneco Burmeister Pit. They plan to start looking at a commercial solar energy ordinance at future meetings. They received an annual report from Stoneco and reviewed it. Matt will reach out to American Agg. for their report. 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 January with no calls or complaints. 9211 Pleasant Lake Road has another shipping container on the property. Austin will need to send a letter stating the containers need to be removed within 30 days or file a zoning compliance application for a pole barn with a completion date.

Zoning Inspector –Jim submitted his report for the month of January with one zoning issued. A new house and garage at 6380 S. Lima Center Rd.

Library- Susan Layher submitted a report from their Jan. 25th meeting. The library is still operating by curbside only. They are hoping with a decrease in Covid-19 cases they will be able to open up for in-person service by appointment soon. They are planning to paint the library which was last done 15 years ago.

Clerk report: Clerk reported she 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 Thursday, March 4th at 7:30pm via zoom. The Board of review will meet March 8th and 9th by appointment. A notice will be posted in the paper, website and at the town hall with more information. Work has begun on the 2021-2022 budgets. Next month there will be more information to share regarding broadband services in Washtenaw County and the state.

Budget Public Hearing- Motion by Bristle seconded by Huehl: To set the Budget Hearing for Tuesday March 9th at 7:30pm via zoom.

Motion carried by all Ayes:

Nay: none

CARRIED

9. Unfinished Business:

Electronic Files – Clerk has received one quote for a document management program but will gather a couple more for the next meeting. None of the surrounding townships use a program but the City of Ann Arbor and York Twp.

Capital Improvement Plan- More information needs to be gathered. Tabled till next month

Warning Sirens- Clerk has spoke with Dave Halteman, Wash. Co. Emergency Services Director, to figure out costs and placements for sirens. Matt Little shared a quote (from 2 years ago) from West Shores Services for \$36,250.00 for one siren. They recommended 14 sirens were needed to cover the entire township. The Clerk will reach out to them for a current quote and see if there is a discount for a certain number of sirens. Also the Clerk will look for federal or state grant dollars and the board will continue working with the county and local pipelines on safety issues/communication.

10. New Business:

Poverty Exemption Guidelines/Hardship Application Resolution- Moved by Huehl seconded by Layher to approve the 2021 Federal poverty guidelines in the determination of poverty exemptions.

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

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

Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Bristle, Lindemann, 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

Freedom Cemetery – Motion by Huehl seconded by Layher: To amend Ordinance 49 and change lot size to 4ft x 10ft.

Motion carried by all Ayes: Nay: none CARRIED

Motion by Huehl supported by Layher: To adopt resolution 2021-01 to set the transfer lot cost at \$25.00 per lot.

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

We will need to create a form to use for transfers. We can look and see if MTA has a template form to start with.

Salaries for 2021-2022- Motion by Lindemann supported by Huehl to increase Supervisor's salary by \$2,500, Clerk's salary by \$1,000, Treasurer's salary by \$500, Trustees pay by \$25/mtg., Deputies pay by \$20/mtg., Planning Commission Chair salary by \$500, Board of Appeals by \$15/mtg. and Planning Commission Board by \$15/mtg.

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

The following resolution was offered by Huehl, and seconded by Layher: resolution 2021-02 to establish township officer's salaries. Now therefore it be resolved that as of 4-1-2021 the salaries of the township board members are as follows: Supervisor \$20,500

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

The following resolution was offered by Huehl, and seconded by Layher: resolution 2021-03 to establish township officer's salaries. Now therefore it be resolved that as of 4-1-2021 the salaries of the township board members are as follows: Clerk \$20,500 +\$1,500/per election

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

The following resolution was offered by Huehl, and seconded by Bristle: resolution 2021-04 to establish township officer's salaries. Now therefore it be resolved that as of 4-1-2021 the salaries of the township board members are as follows: Treasurer \$20,500

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

The following resolution was offered by Bristle, and seconded by Layher: resolution 2021-05 to establish township officer's salaries. Now therefore it be resolved that as of 4-1-2021 the salaries of the township board members are as follows: Trustees \$225.00 per meeting.

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

11. Warrants: Motion by Huehl supported by Schaible: To approve the online payments for the 941 tax withholding and warrants 4593-4714.

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

12. Public Comment: MTA says no in-person meetings until Mar. 23rd. Treasurer will be at the town hall Friday, Feb. 12th and Tuesday, Feb. 16th to receive taxes.

Adjourned at 10:35 pm

Valisa L. Bristle,
Clerk, Freedom Township