

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPROVED Minutes of the Regular Meeting
February 8, 2022, 8:00 pm
In Person at the Freedom Township Hall

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 2 was present in the audience

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Change to Agenda: none

4. Approval of Minutes: Moved by Huehl supported by Schaible to: Approve the January 11, 2022, Township Board minutes with corrections. Motion carried with all Ayes CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Bristle supported by Huehl to: Approve January 11, 2022, Treasurer's report. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Schaible, Lindemann, Bristle, Layher, Huehl Nay: none CARRIED

6. Communications: Supervisor Lindemann reported receiving communications from the U.S. Census Bureau to complete a boundary survey, but it does not apply to Freedom Township. A notice from the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Department shared parcels within the township that have filled out PDR applications. There was information shared from the Wash. Co. taskforce on climate control that can be found on their website. DTE will hold a public hearing in Lansing on Feb. 18th. The supervisor meeting was held on Jan. 27th at Scio Twp. and the Road Commission was present as the guest speaker. At this time, other townships within Washtenaw County have not decided on plans or projects for their ARPA funds yet.

7. Public Comment: none

8. Reports:

State Police/Washtenaw County Sheriff Report: January Report showed there were 21 calls with 7 handled by the Mich. St. Police, 4 by Wash. Co., 1 animal complaint and 9 were administratively cleared.

Manchester Fire Department Report: There were 2 calls for the month of January.

Planning Commission report: The P.C. met last Tuesday and Lindemann shared that the boundary adjustment for Eric Coval was approved with conditions of further information needed on the survey. The gravel pit annual reports were shared. The gravel pits tour has been set for April 23rd at 9:00am starting at the Levy/American Aggregate pit. The letter from Jessica Roberts was reviewed. At this time, there are no budgetary line items to cover some of the policing concerns within the township she has. A full copy of the PC minutes is available from clerk or on twp. website.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: no report for February.

Zoning Inspector – Jim Coval reported 1 new zoning issued for the month of January. A new house and pole barn at 2700 S. Fletcher Road.

Library- Alex McKay reported on the Feb. meeting. Checkouts at the library are down 30% since the pandemic. The library has a new movie rental program called Kanopy that allows card holders to rent 8 movies per month. NY Times online subscriptions are new to the library. Audit report revealed no issues.

Clerk report: Clerk and Treasurer are working with BS&A on the new software programs for payroll, accounts payable and general ledger for the township. Confirmed with Modern Waste that Plastics #1 and 2 are accepted in the recycle bins and they prefer the recyclables to be loose instead of in garbage bags. Letter from Karen Flahie was received asking the board to consider using ARPA funds to purchase audio/video equipment for the town hall to be used during meetings. The board felt this was a good idea and Bristle will bring some quotes to next month's meeting. Chris Mikesell reached out about helping with another township newsletter. The board would like to see a summer newsletter created. Lon Nordeen sent an email with suggestions for the board to consider. People want action on high-speed internet, safety, local government responsiveness when they have an issue and education to the community on the fire department cost issue. Two companies that have been awarded

contracts with the county to build out high speed internet within Freedom Township have made contact with the clerk and will continue to provide information as updates become available.

Township Emails– Motion by Bristle supported by Layher to work with I.T. Right to get official emails set up for the township board members and officials.

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

9. Unfinished Business:

Cost recovery Ordinance– A draft copy of the cost recovery ordinance was presented, the board would like to see it reviewed by the township attorney before being voted on.

10. New Business:

2022 Robotics Teams of Manchester 5K and 10K Runs- Motion by Huehl supported by Schaible: To give permission to the Robotic Teams of Manchester to move forward with their planning of a 5K and 10K run from Manchester and into parts of Freedom Township so long as no cost or liability is associated with Freedom Township. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

Budget Public Hearing- Motion by Lindemann seconded by Layher: To set the Budget Hearing for Tuesday, March 8th at 7:30pm. Motion carried by all Ayes: Nay: none CARRIED

11. Warrants: Motion by Schaible supported by Layher: To approve the online payments for the 941-tax withholding and warrants 4929-4948. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Huehl, Bristle, Lindemann, Layher, Schaible Nay: none CARRIED

12. Public Comment: Layher shared that he has the clock in memory of Dale Weidmayer here this evening. Huehl shared that John Englebert’s property that was considered for a possible slaughterhouse has been sold for another purpose.

Adjourned at 9:49 pm

Valisa L. Bristle,
Clerk, Freedom Township