

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPROVED Minutes of the Regular Meeting
April 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 8:03pm

Members present: Lindemann, Bristle, Layher, Huehl, Schaible absent none 4 were present in the audience

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Change to Agenda: add assessing for the township to new business

4. Approval of Minutes: Moved by Huehl supported by Layher to: Approve the March 8, 2022, Township Board minutes with no corrections. Motion carried with all Ayes CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Schaible supported by Huehl to: Approve March 8, 2022, Treasurer's report. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Schaible, Layher, Lindemann, Bristle, Huehl Nay: none CARRIED

6. Communications: Supervisor Lindemann reported receiving an email from Robert and Jessica Falhgren thanking the township for working on getting the neighbor's property cleaned up. DTE is starting tree trimming north of Fletcher Rd. Consumers Energy will be holding a safety exercise at the Freedom Compressor station on September 28, 2022. The Township Insight had information on a new app showing pipelines location for first responders. MTA conference will be April 25-28. DTE will have a public hearing in Lansing on April 26th. The monthly MTA magazine was received. Lindemann has a call into the Washtenaw County Road Commission asking about the road condition of Hieber Road and plans for maintenance.

7. Public Comment: none

8. Reports:

State Police/Washtenaw County Sheriff Report: March Report showed there were 21 calls with 2 traffic stops, 1 citation, 9 handled by the Mich. St. Police, 3 by Wash. Co., and 9 were administratively cleared.

Manchester Fire Department Report: There were 5 calls for the month of February and 5 calls for March.

Planning Commission report: The P.C. met last Tuesday and Matt Little shared that the gravel tour (for planning commission and board members) will be Saturday, April 23rd starting at 9am. A land split for N. Reichwage was approved. There was a question regarding drain fields around the lake and Matt said the Wash. Co. Health Dept. needs to contact the township before approving anything. Discussion of lake aerators (bubblers) for anti-freeze purposes. The Township does not have jurisdiction over the lake, the State of Michigan does. The P.C. supports a healthy, safe lake. A full copy of the PC minutes is available from clerk or on twp. website.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: Clerk reported that herself, Austin Helber, and the township attorney held a meeting to discuss the next step with the cleanup of the property at 11445 Waters Rd. A second citation will be hand delivered and mailed to the property owner and tenant and it will be filed with the court.

Zoning Inspector – Jim Coval submitted 1 new zoning issued for the month of March. A new sign for American Aggregate gravel pit.

Library- Alex Mckay submitted a report on the April meeting.

Clerk report: Clerk Bristle reported that the township auditor Lally Group, has been contacted and the annual audit is scheduled for the week of June 20th. Voting equipment will need to be updated in May and is coordinated by the county. Bristle will begin working on the summer newsletter. New email addresses have been set up for the five board members, planning commission chair, zoning inspector, ordinance enforcement officer, town hall manager and the zoning board of approval chair. Once everyone gets their accounts up and running, we will share the email addresses with the public to begin using.

9. Unfinished Business:

Security Cameras Quotes– Discussion over the two quotes presented at last month’s meeting. P.A.L. Burglar Alarm- quote for security system is \$2,616. No additional lighting is needed. American Rescue Act dollars can be used for this project.

Moved by Layher supported by Lindemann to accept bid #828 from P.A.L. for 6 security cameras and system. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Layher, Bristle, Huehl, Lindemann, Schaible Nay: none CARRIED

Zoning Update for Commercial Solar Energy– The planning commission voted to take no action on allowing commercial solar energy within the township with the main reason being it does not go along with our master plan.

10. New Business:

Draft WCRC Road Agreement – The first agreement for dust control was discussed. Motion by Layher supported by Huehl to approve the Washtenaw County Road Commission contract for three brines for dust control.

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

The second agreement for road work was discussed. Denny will follow up with the Road Commission with questions and get a new agreement created.

Lawn Mowing Bids-Motion by Layher supported by Bristle to have ER Lawn Service mow the town hall lawn for 2022 for \$50.00 per mow and Fletcher Rd cemetery 6-8 times at \$65 per mow.

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

Motion by Lindemann supported by Bristle to have The Gilbert’s mow the Freedom Emanuel Evangelical Memorial Cemetery as needed at \$70 per mow and start before Memorial Day.

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

Audio/Visual Equipment Quotes– Bristle presented a quote from Integrated Smart Technologies for \$21,495.00 and a quote from National Communications Corp. for \$11,803.74. The quotes cover such things as a projector, screen, speakers, microphones and all the equipment needed to run the system. The board would like to see a quote for portable equipment. Bristle will have another quote for the next meeting.

Assessing Contract- There are three employees retiring from the Washtenaw County Equalization office this year. They contacted the township to make sure we wanted to continue our assessing through their office. After discussion the board is pleased with the assessing by the Equalization office and will have a contract for the next meeting for assessing for the year.

11. Warrants: Motion by Schaible supported by Layher: To approve the online payments for the 941-tax withholding and warrants 4967-4987.

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

12. Public Comment: The clock in memory of Dale Weidmayer’s 44 years of service to the township has been received and a plaque needs to be created before it will be put up. Layher would like to see the town hall floor professional cleaned and new blinds and outside new landscaping and power washing the building. It will be discussed at next month’s meeting.

Adjourned at 10:36 pm

Valisa L. Bristle,
Clerk, Freedom Township