

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPROVED Minutes of the Regular Meeting
May 10, 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 8:00pm

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Change to Agenda: none

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

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

6. Communications: Supervisor Lindemann reported a greenhouse built on Saline Waterworks Rd was approved for wholesale and they are advertising it as retail. The township zoning inspector and planner sent the property owner a letter that they are in violation and will need to comply with the township's ordinances. Jim Harmon is retiring from the Wash. Co. Road Commission this June. DTE will have a public hearing in Lansing on May 12th. The PLPOA newsletter was received. They will be holding their sale at the town hall on May 21st from 9am-1pm. A 4-H club asked to clean up the flower beds around the town hall and Lindemann asked them to hold off since we are gathering quotes to update the landscaping at the town hall. The security cameras have been installed at the town hall.

7. Public Comment: Lon Nordeen thanked the board if they had anything to do with the road maintenance on Hieber Road. And thank you for opening up the town hall for DTE when there was a large power outage last month. Keep an eye out for House Bill changes to air bnb usage and graveling mining regulation at the local level.

8. Reports:

State Police/Washtenaw County Sheriff Report: April Report showed there were 30 calls with 4 traffic stops, 16 handled by the Mich. St. Police, 5 by Wash. Co., and 9 were administratively cleared.

Manchester Fire Department Report: There were 4 calls for the month of April.

Planning Commission report: The P.C. canceled their May meeting due to no business to cover. Matt Little did share that a land split application was received, and the property is in PA 116 so the board will have to vote to remove the property from that program. 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: No Report- Clerk shared that she and Austin Helber met to go over the second citation (for property cleanup) that will be hand delivered and mailed to the property owner and tenant at 11445 Waters Rd. and it will be filed with the court if the violation is not taken care of.

Zoning Inspector – Jim Coval submitted 4 new zoning issued for the month of April. A new address at 10766 Koebbe Rd, a four-season room and mud room at 8422 Webber Rd, a new deck and front porch at 5049 Fletcher Rd, and a new pole barn at 2404 S. Fletcher Rd.

Library- Alex McKay submitted a report on the May meeting. Visits to the library increased to 1,461 for the month of April. They will be hosting an event with a Michigan Owl on May 24th at 6:00pm. The lease with the Village of Manchester was approved.

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 next week and is coordinated by the county. Bristle will begin working on the summer newsletter. Clerk and Treasurer have an additional BS&A training date set for June. Wash. Co. will hold a clean up day in Saline on July 30th at the Saline High School (1300 Campus Pkwy., Saline).

9. Unfinished Business:

Draft WCRC Road 2nd Agreement – The second agreement for road maintenance was discussed.

Motion by Huehl supported by Layher to approve the Washtenaw County Road Commission’s second contract for three projects (Rentz, Steinbach and Waters Roads), application of gravel, drainage projects, tree cutting and to use the matching funds.

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

10. New Business:

Audio/Visual Equipment Quotes– Last month 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. Bristle will get a quote for portable equipment. Table till next meeting.

Assessing Contract- The assessing contract from The Wash. Co. Equalization office has not been received yet. Lindemann will follow up on it for the next meeting.

Town Hall Improvements- Lindemann has received one quote for landscaping around the town hall but is waiting on two more before discussion. Quotes still need to be gathered for power washing the outside of the town hall and painting or residing the building.

Western Washtenaw Construction Authority (WWCA) Pay Increase- The building official and administrative assistant (who would also like to update her title to office manager) are asking for a pay increase. They have not received a pay increase for several years and the workload has increased. Freedom Township as one of the municipalities that make up the construction authority can make a recommendation that our supervisor will take back to the board of the WWCA to vote on.

Motion by Bristle supported by Layher to recommend at least a 10% pay increase for WWCA Building Official and Administrative Assistant.

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

River Raisin Watershed Council Report (Rudy Layher)- Layher attended the spring meeting on April 26th. A bill was received for our 2022 membership dues.

Motion by Bristle supported by Layher to pay our 2022 membership dues for the River Raisin Watershed Council.

Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Schaible, Lindemann, Layher, 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 4988-5008.

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

12. Public Comment: add security cameras and recycling to the summer newsletter.

Adjourned at 10:03 pm

Valisa L. Bristle,
Clerk, Freedom Township