

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
APPROVED Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
March 14, 2023, 8:00 pm  
In Person at the Freedom Township Hall

**BUDGET HEARING**

Supervisor Lindemann called the public hearing to order at 7:35pm

Members present: Lindemann, Bristle, Layher, Huehl, Schaible absent: none 5 was present in the audience.

Supervisor Lindemann asked Clerk Bristle to present the proposed 2023-2024 budget.

Adjourned at 8:00 pm

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Supervisor Lindemann called the meeting to order at 8:09pm

Members present: Lindemann, Bristle, Layher, Huehl, Schaible absent none 7 were 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 February 14, 2023, Township Board minutes with no corrections. Motion carried with all Ayes **CARRIED**

**5. Treasurer's Report:** Moved by Bristle supported by Lindemann to: Approve February 14, 2023, Treasurer's report. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Schaible, Lindemann, Huehl, Layher, Bristle Nay: none **CARRIED**  
Treasurer Layher reported that he and the clerk had reviewed the general fund from 2016-current to make sure the treasurer's report was accurate.

**6. Communications:** Supervisor Lindemann reported he received from Washtenaw County Road Commission, the proposed 2023 projects for Freedom Township totaling \$379,480.00. This will be on the April agenda for discussion. An email from Debbie Dingall's office shared a town hall meeting will be held on Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-6:60pm in Chelsea. A letter was received from the Manchester Area Seniors with a thank you for the \$500 donation.

**7. Public Comment:** offered at 8:35pm with three comments. One asking about the rumor that the property owner of the pond on the corner of Pleasant Lake and Schneider Road wants to drain it. Lindemann shared that the property owner said the pond has doubled in size and is flooding his hay field. Another resident asked about a rumor that the trailer park owner gave the renters one year to vacate. Huehl shared that he knows someone who lives in the trailer park and that is not true. And she asked if the township has created an events ordinance yet. Jared Mauch, with Washtenaw Fiber Properties, shared that he is running fiber down Lima Center Road to Pleasant Lake Road and around Pleasant Lake. If you are interested in connecting internet service with him, he can be contacted at 734-757-3554. Public comment closed at 8:54pm.

**8. Reports:**

**State Police/Washtenaw County Sheriff Report:** February Wash. Co. Sheriff Report had 23 calls with 3 traffic stops, 1 citation, 9 handled by the Mich. St. Police, 3 by Wash. Co., and 11 were administratively cleared.

**Manchester Fire Department Report:** No report for January or February.

**Planning Commission report:** Matt Little reported the P.C. held their meeting last Tuesday. There was a question on land preservation, and Little directed the resident to contact the township board with it. The gravel pits tour has been set for April 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am starting at the Levy/American Aggregate pit. P.C. approved Consumer Energy's preliminary site plan application for the city gate building. They also approved Chris Oesterling's (New Leaf Natives Nursery) conditional use application with conditions. Also approved was the Horning land split and Consumer Energy parcel combination application. They adopted the updated by-laws. Review will continue of the lake district article 3 and Zoning Ordinance 43-B. The Barn Sanctuary submitted a preliminary site plan application. A full copy of the PC minutes is available from clerk or on twp. Website.

**Ordinance Enforcement Officer-** Austin Helber submitted a report that 6251 Lima Center Road had removed 5 abandoned vehicles. He will follow up that the property is cleaned up and in compliance now. He will also follow up on the letters sent to property owners who need to remove storage containers from their property. The Township attorney will be sending a letter to Else heller (property owner) and Chris Brooks (tenant) for final notice to clean up the property at 11445 Waters Road.

**Zoning Inspector** – Jim Coval submitted there were no new zonings for the month of February.

**Library-** no report.

**Clerk report-** There will be a special election on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, for the Saline School District. Clerk is working to finish up the 2021-2022 audit.

**9. Unfinished Business:**

**Cost to add additional township email addresses** – Motion by Bristle seconded by Layher: To approve the quote to add township email addresses for all the planning commission members and purchase Microsoft 365 for the township up to 5 users.

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

**Name Plates** – Clerk shared a quote for name plates from Staples for \$18.76/each or Amazon has (12) 2x8 name plates holders for \$24 that just need the printed paper inserted.

Motion by Lindemann supported by Bristle: To purchase the 12 name plates from Amazon.

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

**10. New Business:**

**2022-2023 Budget**-The following resolution 23-05 was offered by Bristle and seconded by Huehl.

Be it further resolved that the total revenues and un-appropriated fund be amended for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. The following funds increased to Computer Services \$17,950, Road Commission Contract to \$104,200, Clerk Mileage \$425, Board of Review \$1,500, Treasurer Mileage \$1,550, Election Wages \$6,750, Election Supplies \$2,550, Worker's Comp Insurance \$1,300, Other General Govt/Conf. \$2,550, Mowing/Snow Plowing \$4,150, Phone \$3,200, and Drain Fees \$6,550 for a total increase of \$76,365.

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

**2023-2024 Budgets**- The following resolution was offered by Bristle and supported by Huehl: To adopt resolution 23-06 now therefore be it resolved the Freedom Township Board of Trustees adopts the 2023-2024 Public Improvement Fund budget by cost center.

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

The following resolution was offered by Bristle and supported by Huehl: to adopt resolution 23-07 now therefore be it resolved the Freedom Township Board of Trustees adopts the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget by cost center.

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

The following resolution was offered by Bristle and supported by Lindemann: To adopt resolution 23-08 now therefore be it resolved the Freedom Township Board of Trustees adopts the 2023-2024 Road Millage budget by cost center.

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

The following resolution was offered by Huehl and seconded by Bristle: to adopt resolution 23-09 to establish township officer's salaries. Now therefore it be resolved that as of 4-1-2023 the salaries of the township board members are as follows: Supervisor \$23,000.

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

**Audio/Visual Equipment Quotes**– Bristle presented quotes from Integrated Smart Technologies for \$21,495, National Communications Corp. for \$11,803.74 and Telsystems for \$17,721.83. 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 the difference in cost and technology between a projector and a television system. Bristle will bring the updated quote to the next meeting.

**Lawn Mowing Bids**-Motion by Lindemann supported by Layher: To have ER Lawn Service mow the town hall lawn for 2023 for \$53.00 per mow and Fletcher Rd cemetery 6-8 times at \$68 per mow.

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

**11. Warrants:** Motion by Huehl supported by Lindemann: To approve the online payments for the 941-tax withholding and warrants 5208-5224 and journal entries.

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

**12. Public Comment:** offered at 10:48pm with two comments.

Adjourned at 10:33 pm

Valisa L. Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township