

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DRAFT Minutes of the Regular Meeting
April 11, 2023, 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 17 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 March 14, 2023, Township Board minutes with no corrections. Motion carried with all Ayes **CARRIED**

5. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Huehl supported by Bristle to: Approve March 14, 2023, Treasurer's report. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Schaible, Huehl, Bristle, Lindemann, Layher Nay: none **CARRIED**

6. Communications: Supervisor Lindemann reported receiving the monthly MTA magazine and the PLPOA spring newsletter.

7. Public Comment: offered at 8:06pm with four comments. One resident shared that over the weekend there was a massive firework display and gun fire/target shooting around Hieber and Lima Center Road. A resident asked how many road grades the township receives? Supervisor Lindemann answered that the township contracts for the Washtenaw County Road Commission to apply brine on the gravel roads three times a year and they typically grade the roads beforehand. The Manchester yard has five trucks and 300 miles to cover in our area. We ask them to address the roads in Freedom Township as soon as possible but we do not control their schedule. Another comment was on an event permit and one on the budget. Public comment closed at 8:26pm.

8. Reports:

State Police/Washtenaw County Sheriff Report: March Wash. Co. Sheriff Report had 31 calls with 4 traffic stops, 5 citations, 11 handled by the Mich. St. Police, 5 by Wash. Co., and 12 were administratively cleared and 3 animal complaints.

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

Planning Commission report: Matt Little was sick, so Supervisor Lindemann reported the P.C. held their meeting last Tuesday. P.C. reviewed Consumer Energy's final site plan application and has issues with the lighting. That will need to be changed before approval is given. The Barn Sanctuary gave a presentation of their operation. StoneCo gravel pit would like to amend their conditional use permit and mine an additional 40 acres to the West around Bethel Church and Schneider Road. A tentative public hearing is scheduled for June 6th at 7:30pm. Review will continue of the lake district article 3 and Zoning Ordinance 43-B. A full copy of the PC minutes is available from the clerk or on twp. Website.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer- Austin Helber submitted a report with second notice of violation letters being sent to three property owners who need to remove storage containers from their property. The Township attorney mailed a letter to Else heller (property owner) and Chris Brooks (tenant) for final notice to clean up the property at 11445 Waters Road. A letter was received from the property owner that she is having difficulty getting the tenant to respond and comply. The supervisor and clerk will continue communication with the township attorney and property owner to get this situation resolved.

Zoning Inspector – Jim Coval reported there were no new zonings for the month of March.

Library- no report.

Clerk report- There will be a special election on May 2nd, for the Saline School District. The clerk contacted Manchester Twp. asking for the second billing for 2022 for Manchester Fire Department services provided and they will be working on it.

9. Unfinished Business:

Audio/Visual Equipment Quotes– Bristle presented a possible option from Telesystems for a television screen on a cart instead of a projector. The board would like to see the official quote with cost and research purchasing a screen and building a cabinet to store it in. Tabled till next month for more information.

10. New Business:

Manchester Community Resource Center (CRC) –The Executive Director, Carol Wotring and the Board of Directors President Dave Tamagne, presented on what services the Manchester CRC offer. While being a food pantry is a large part of the organization, they provide other services such as financial counseling, tax services and resume assistance. From 2020-current 144 visits to the CRC office have been from residents from Freedom Township. They are working to expand services and are looking to host a “Pop-up” food pantry and would like to use the Freedom Township parking lot on Thursday May 18. Additional information can be found on their website at <http://manchestercrc.org>

AED for the Town Hall -Lindemann shared a quote for an AED unit that the Manchester Fire Department recommended. Costs for the equipment are as follows- AED 360P model \$1485.00, wall mounted cabinet \$190.00, and a 5-year service plan for wireless testing \$1399.00 for a total of \$3,074.00. Bristle brought up the idea of including a wall mounted first aid kit. Bristle will contact the town hall insurance representative regarding liability and bring that information to the next meeting.

Burn Ordinance-Currently Freedom Township does not have an open burning ordinance and it was recommended by the Manchester Fire Department. The board reviewed the burn ordinance that Manchester Township adopted. Motion by Huehl supported by Lindemann: To have the township attorney review the Manchester township open burning ordinance and make a recommendation for Freedom Township.
Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Layher, Lindemann, Huehl, Bristle, Schaible Nay: none **CARRIED**

Wash. Co. Road Contract for 2023- Washtenaw County Road Commission shared the proposed 2023 projects for Freedom Township totaling \$379,480.00. Freedom Township has used up our stock of free gravel from Levy so all gravel will need to be purchased for proposed projects. This year the county will be covering the cost associated with three brines for the township for dust control. Discussion on the proposed projects on Saline Waterworks, Lima Center (south of Hieber), Hieber (Lima Center to Reno), Esch (south of Altenbrent) and Steinbach (between Bethel Church and Saline Waterworks) Road. Lindemann will contact the road commission and get a quote for Hieber Road (Lima Center east to the Miller Farm). The vote will take place at the next meeting.

11. Warrants: Motion by Lindemann supported by Layher: To approve the online payments for the 941-tax withholding and warrants 5225-5246 and journal entries.
Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Layher, Bristle, Huehl, Lindemann, Schaible Nay: none **CARRIED**

12. Public Comment: offered at 10:15pm with one comment asking the noise ordinance to be reviewed. Closed at 10:16pm

Adjourned at 10:16 pm
Valisa L. Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township