

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPROVED Minutes of the Regular Meeting
May 9, 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 10 were present in the audience.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Change to Agenda: none

4. Approval of Minutes: Moved by Huehl supported by Layher to: Approve the April 11, 2023, Township Board minutes with no corrections. Motion carried with all Ayes **CARRIED**

5. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Bristle supported by Schaible to: Approve April 11, 2023, Treasurer's report. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Huehl, Bristle, Layher, Lindemann, Schaible Nay: none **CARRIED**

6. Communications: Supervisor Lindemann reported the Manchester CRC will be holding a pop-up food pantry in the Freedom Town Hall parking lot on Thursday May 18th from 11am-1pm. A resident on Waters Road was unhappy that the road commission was using crushed limestone to repair potholes. The township does not have any control over what the Road Commission uses. The PLPOA newsletter has been received. Lindemann submitted a grant to the Water Resource Department for culvert projects. On Thursday May 18th at 7pm the Water Resource Commission will be holding a public hearing on the East Branch of Pleasant Lake Drain.

7. Public Comment: offered at 8:13pm with one comment. Aaron Helber asked on behalf of Bethel Church, if Schneider Road gets repaved that Bethel Church would like to pay to have the stretch of Bethel Church Road Infront of the church repaved. The board will be in touch with the church if/when that is planned. Public comment closed at 8:17pm.

8. Reports:

State Police/Washtenaw County Sheriff Report: April Wash. Co. Sheriff Report had 26 calls.

Manchester Fire Department Report: Jan-9 calls, Feb-9 calls, Mar-4 calls, Apr-6 calls

Planning Commission report: Matt Little reported the P.C. held their meeting last Thursday. P.C. approved a boundary adjustment for Schaible farms. Consumer Energy's final site plan application was approved with conditions. 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. The public hearing for June has been canceled. Review will continue of the lake district article 3 and Zoning Ordinance 43-B. The masterplan for the township needs to be reviewed with minor updates. A full copy of the PC minutes is available from the clerk or on twp. Website.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer- No report. The board will move forward with the attorney to get the Heller/Brooks property cleaned up.

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

Library- no report.

Clerk report- Jared was able to get the town hall hooked up with broadband internet and it is working great. The special election on May 2nd, for the Saline School District was held with 12 votes processed.

Resolution opposing HB 4526, 4527 & 4528- These house bills would seek to reduce or eliminate a municipality's ability to regulate sand and gravel mining operations . The following resolution was offered by Lindemann and supported by Bristle: To adopt resolution 23-09 now therefore be it resolved that Freedom Township Board of Trustees oppose the proposed legislation to preempt local control over sand and gravel operations found in House Bills 4526, 4527 & 4528. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Schaible, Layher, Lindemann, Huehl, Bristle Nay: none **CARRIED**

9. Unfinished Business:

Audio/Visual Equipment Quotes– A township resident shared his expertise in recommendations of audio-visual equipment needed for the town hall that seemed to be more financially reasonable. Bristle will follow up with him and have some equipment quotes for the next meeting.

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.

Motion by Layher supported by Bristle: To purchase a HeartSine Samaritan 360P AED unit with a 5-year service contract for \$3,292.36 (less tax).

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

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.

There are a couple sections that the board would like to have the township attorney review. Tabled till next meeting.

Wash. Co. Road Contract for 2023- This year the county will be covering the cost associated with three brines for the township for dust control.

Motion by Bristle supported by Huehl: to approve the Washtenaw County Road Commission’s 2023 Agreement for improvements to be made upon the local roads in Freedom Township (with specific projects on Hieber Road and Saline Waterworks Road), application of gravel, drainage projects, tree cutting and to use the matching funds.

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

10. New Business:

Lawn Mowing Bid– Motion by Lindemann supported by Schaible: To accept Jeannie Weidmayer’s bid to mow the Freedom Emanuel Evangelical Memorial Cemetery as needed at \$70 per mow and start before Memorial Day.

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

11. Warrants: Motion by Lindemann supported by Schaible: To approve the online payments for the 941-tax withholding and warrants 5247-5270 and journal entries.

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

12. Public Comment: offered at 9:50pm with one comment asking about the roadwork to be done on Hieber Road. Closed at 9:56pm

Adjourned at 9:56 pm

Valisa L. Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township