

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPROVED Minutes of the Regular Meeting
July 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 5 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 June 13, 2023, Township Board minutes with no corrections. Motion carried with all Ayes **CARRIED**

5. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Bristle supported by Huehl to: Approve June 13, 2023, Treasurer's report. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Huehl, Bristle, Layher, Lindemann, Schaible Nay: none **CARRIED**

6. Communications: Supervisor Lindemann reported receiving an email from Wolverine Pipeline regarding a fence around their building. He asked that they speak with the township planner regarding the requirements. The township may need to review the fence ordinance regarding commercial or industrial fencing. MTA will be holding a taxation training course for treasurers. The WWCA meeting was held on June 21st, and the current balance of funds will keep the office running for at least two years if no new permits fees were collected. The office is looking to hire a new part-time office assistant. At the last SWWCOG meeting the county shared they have a second county-wide patrol car on the road. The Kress Farm has put 200+ acres into the PDR program.

Moved by Schaible supported by Layher: to allow the supervisor to speak with the township attorney regarding the Wolverine fence.

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

7. Public Comment: offered at 8:29pm with one comment. Nick Machinski, with the Washtenaw County Conservation District, presented to the board the idea of partnering again on an agricultural tire drive in December 2023 in the Freedom Town Hall parking lot. He will get back to us with details. The second thing he wanted to share was the Saline River Headwaters Easement Pilot Project. The project focuses on the installation of filter strips along drains, creeks, and ditches within the Saline Headwater's watershed. Letters have been mailed to property owners asking for their interest in signing up for the program. Public comment closed at 8:39pm.

8. Reports:

State Police/Washtenaw County Sheriff Report: No report for the month of June from the Wash. Co. Sheriff's office.

Manchester Fire Department Report: No report for May or June.

Planning Commission report: No meeting for the month of July. A full copy of the PC minutes is available from the clerk or on twp. Website.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer- Austin Helber reported updates on the shipping container violations within the township. Don Day has removed his, Jon Vincent is working to have his removed or will submit paperwork to make it permanent. Cameron Bure has not submitted the required paperwork so Supervisor Lindemann will contact him and if he does not comply the township will proceed with legal action. A meeting is being held to evaluate the cleanup of 11445 Waters Road.

Zoning Inspector – Jim Coval submitted two zoning for the month of June. A new address at 5805 Hickory Sticks Drive and a new address for Consumer Energy City Gate (for electrical service) at 12151 Pleasant Lake Road.

Library- No report.

Clerk report- Freedom Township will be entering into an agreement with the Washtenaw County Clerk's office to administer the 9 days early voting option, details are not known at this time.

9. Unfinished Business:

Audio/Visual Equipment Quotes– Bristle has spoken with Aaron Helber (township resident with knowledge and expertise in technology) to purchase the necessary equipment for the town hall.

Moved by Lindemann supported by Layher: To approve the clerk to purchase the audio/visual equipment needed up to \$6,000.00 and the tv should be a minimum of 60 inches.

Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Lindemann, Schaible, Bristle, Huehl, Layher 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 would like to review a few other sample ordinances from MTA. Tabled until next meeting.

Generac Town hall generator annual maintenance- Two quotes were reviewed and within \$5 of each.

Moved by Lindemann and supported by Huehl to hire S&B for an annual maintenance on the Generac generator at the town hall.

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

10. New Business:

Fireworks Ordinance– Currently, Freedom Township does not have a fireworks ordinance. The board reviewed the ordinance that Lodi Township has adopted. The board would like to review some sample ordinance that MTA may have. Tabled till next meeting.

Town Hall Blinds – Supervisor Lindemann gathered a quote for new blinds for the town hall windows from Esquire Interiors, Inc for \$6,250. He will get a couple more quotes and the board can discuss them at the next meeting.

11. Warrants: Moved by Lindemann supported by Schaible: To approve the online payments for the 941-tax withholding and warrants 5292-5306 and journal entries.

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

12. Public Comment: offered at 9:59pm with no comments. Closed at 9:59pm

Adjourned at 9:59pm

Valisa L. Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township