

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DRAFT Minutes of the Regular Meeting
January 9, 2024, 8:00 pm
Freedom Township Hall

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Supervisor Lindemann called the meeting to order at 8:03pm

Members present: Lindemann, Bristle, Layher, Huehl, Schaible absent none 3 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 December 12, 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 the December 12, 2023, Treasurer's report. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Schaible, Huehl, Layher, Lindemann, Bristle Nay: none **CARRIED**
Layher shared that he transferred money from the general fund into two new certificates of deposits.

6. Communications: Supervisor Lindemann reported receiving the monthly MTA magazine. DTE will be in the area doing tree trimming. The new owners of the old pleasant lake school property have the correct permits to start repairs on the building, not just the roof.

7. Public Comment: offered at 8:21pm with no comments. Public comment closed at 8:21pm.

8. Reports:

State Police/Washtenaw County Sheriff Report: December Wash. Co. Sheriff Report had 21 calls with 10 handled by the state, 2 county and 9 administratively cleared. There also were 2 traffic stops.

Manchester Fire Department Report: December report had 7 calls with 3 EMS responses, 1 false alarm and 3 canceled enroute.

Planning Commission report: Matt Little reported on the last PC meeting. Several members are interested in attending an MTA zoom meeting on green energy on January 17th at noon.

Motion by Lindemann seconded by Bristle: to approve up to 5 members from the board or planning commission to attend the MTA zoom training on renewable energy.

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

The Barn Sanctuary has submitted a PUD application and needs to answer some more questions. Stoneco and Bethel Church are working on an agreement. The Stoneco Conditional Use Application for mining expansion at the Burmeister site will be discussed at the next meeting. The township planner will bring something to the next meeting regarding a draft solar ordinance. There is an individual interested in a home business that will need a conditional use permit. The masterplan will be reviewed at the next meeting. A full copy of the PC minutes is available from the clerk or on twp. Website.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer- Austin reported one violation letter sent out for the month of December to 11977 Elmdale Dr. for vehicles without registration and broken equipment (jet skis) around the property.

Zoning Inspector – Jim reported having issued no new zonings for the month of December. 2023 zonings- 37 permits issued, 21-roofing/siding/windows, 7-pole barns/detached garages, 1-fence, 5-additions/decks/pools, and 3-new addresses.

Manchester District Library- Alex McKay submitted a report.

Clerk report- The 2022-2023 audit is completed. The next election will be February 27, 2024, for the presidential primary. Ballots have been received and testing of equipment will start next week. AED equipment is installed and the company we ordered it from will send us information on maintenance for it. We thank Steve Hoeft for his years of service as town hall manager and will present him with a certificate of service. All township officials now have township emails and can be found on the township website. Next month work will begin on the 2024-2025 budget. Tax preparation has started and w-2s will be mailed this week. Fran Adler's PA116 application was denied for not meeting

the required minimum acreage in production. The 2023 assessing contract was not received so the county will send it next month for payment.

9. Unfinished Business:

Eisman Road Culvert- Lindemann has submitted the grant to the Water Resource Dept. for the second round of ARPA funds.

Burn Ordinance-Draft ordinance, with revisions from the township attorney, was discussed.

Motion by Bristle seconded by Huehl: to adopt Outdoor Burning Ordinance 53, an ordinance to regulate and control the burning of waste materials, garbage, refuse, rubbish, leaves, paper, and other combustible debris in the township of Freedom and to provide a penalty for violation thereof and its enforcement.

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

Bristle would like to contact the township attorney regarding a structure that was red tagged for being built without paperwork filed or approved.

10. New Business:

AT&T Metro Act- Motion by Huehl seconded by Layher: to approve AT&T Metro Act Right-of-Way permit extension for five years.

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

Solar Discussion (set a presentation date)- Lindemann shared that he attended a solar presentation and would like to set up a date for them to present at the Freedom Town Hall. It was proposed for March 20th. but the presenter needs to change it to Monday, March 18th at 7:00pm.

11. Warrants: Moved by Schaible supported by Huehl: To approve the online payments for the 941-tax withholding and warrants 5420-5439, voided check 5395 and journal entries.

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

12. Public Comment: offered at 10:07pm with no comments. Closed at 10:07pm

Adjourned at 10:07pm

Valisa L. Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township