

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
DRAFT Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
February 13, 2024, 8:00 pm  
Freedom Township Hall

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

Supervisor Lindemann called the meeting to order at 8:04pm

Members present: Lindemann, Bristle, Layher, Huehl absent: Schaible 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 January 9, 2024, Township Board minutes with no corrections. Motion carried with all ayes. **CARRIED**

**5. Treasurer's Report:** Moved by Bristle supported by Huehl: to Approve the January 9, 2024, Treasurer's report. Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Huehl, Layher, Lindemann, Bristle Nay: none **CARRIED**

**6. Communications:** Supervisor Lindemann reported the solar presentation will be next month on Monday March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. He received the monthly MTA magazine with information in it regarding the annual conference. He attended the supervisor meeting that was held on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Western Washtenaw Construction Authority is looking for a part time employee to help in the office. On January 24<sup>th</sup> Supervisor Lindemann and Trustee Huehl met with the Washtenaw Co. Road Commission to discuss future projects for 2024. The county is planning to provide 3 brines again. Proposed projects include work on Esch Road, the approach from Waters to Parker Road and the approach from Ellsworth to Parker Road.

**7. Public Comment:** offered at 8:40pm with no comments. Public comment closed at 8:40pm.

**8. Reports:**

**State Police/Washtenaw County Sheriff Report:** January Wash. Co. Sheriff Report had 31 calls with 12 handled by the state, 4 county and 14 administratively cleared. There was 1 traffic stop and 1 animal complaint.

**Manchester Fire Department Report:** January report had 6 calls with 2 assist invalid, 3 EMS responses, and 1 canceled enroute.

**Planning Commission report:** Matt Little reported on the last PC meeting. Gravel Pit Reports for 2023- American Aggregates/Pleasant Lake Aggregates-392,000 tons of gravel.

Michigan Materials & Aggregate, Stoneco Burmeister-762,000 tons of gravel.

Michigan Materials & Aggregate, Stoneco Pleasant Hills (Pit 9)-No materials were extracted from the pit in 2023. They expect to commence mining in 3 to 5 years.

Stoneco Conditional Use Application for Mining Expansion at Burmeister Site- an updated mining plan has been requested. Master Plan review will be discussed at the next meeting. Barn Sanctuary PUD- updates were received but got too late for this meeting. It will be on next month's agenda. Review Commercial Renewable Energy Installations. This will be on next month's agenda. Gravel Pit Tour will be April 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup>. A full copy of the PC minutes is available from the clerk or on twp. Website.

**Ordinance Enforcement Officer-** Austin reported no violations letter for the month of January.

**Zoning Inspector** – Jim reported 2 zonings for the month of January. A new home at 6125 Ernst Road and a denied zoning compliance for 4620 Schneider Road. The property owner will be filing for a variance.

**Manchester District Library-** No report.

**Clerk report-** The next election will be February 27, 2024, for the presidential primary. Tire drive results from December 2023 are 117 tractor tires, 62 semi tires, and 267 automobile tires collected for a total of 26.24 tons. Lindemann would like to see a county clean-up day held in the Freedom Township parking lot. AED equipment is installed and the company we ordered it from will send us information on maintenance for it. Next month the budget will be reviewed. Bristle would like to look at the cost of adding trash pickup from LRS for the town hall for rentals. And Bristle would like to gather prices for purchasing a shredder and document scanner for the township board.

**9. Unfinished Business:**

**Eisman Road Culvert-** Lindemann has submitted the grant to the Water Resource Dept. for the second round of ARPA funds. The decision will be made in April.

**Eric & Kathryn Fahlstrom Property Clean-Up-**Lindemann shared that he has visited the site, and all the debris is cleaned up except some blocks/bricks that they plan to use for the base of the driveway.

Motion by Huehl seconded by Layher: to refund the fire withholding check for the property clean-up for Eric and Kathryn Fahlstrom.

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

**10. New Business:**

**Salaries-** Lindemann presented proposed salary recommendations for 2024-2025. The board will vote to approve them at the next meeting.

**Poverty Exemption Guidelines/Hardship Application Resolution-** Moved by Bristle seconded by Layher: to approve the 2024 Federal poverty guidelines in the determination of poverty exemptions.

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

Motion by Bristle seconded by Layher: To adopt Freedom Townships' poverty exemption guidelines and put the application on file with the township.

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

Motion by Bristle seconded by Huehl: To adopt the policy for inspection of assessing records.

Motion carried by all Ayes: Nay: none **CARRIED**

**Budget Public Hearing-** Motion by Lindemann seconded by Huehl: To set the Budget Hearing for Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. Motion carried by all Ayes: Nay: none **CARRIED**

First Aid Kit- Motion by Bristle seconded by Huehl: To allow Lindemann to spend up to \$100 on a first aid kit for the town hall.

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

Town hall Improvements- Lindemann shared the drain in the back room needs to be cleaned.

Motion by Huehl seconded by Bristle: To allow Lindemann to contact Dynamic Drain Company and get the drain cleaned.

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

A few cabinets are broken in the kitchen. The board should start thinking about improvements to the kitchen area in the coming years.

**11. Warrants:** Moved by Lindemann supported by Huehl: To approve the online payments for the 941-tax withholding and warrants 5440-5463 and journal entries.

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

**12. Public Comment:** offered at 10:22pm with no comments. Closed at 10:22pm

Adjourned at 10:22pm

Valisa L. Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township