

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Draft Minutes of the Regular Meeting
April 12th, 2016 8:00 pm

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Supervisor Weidmayer called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm
Members present: Weidmayer, Bristle, Layher, Huehl, Schaible

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Change to Agenda: Moved by Huehl supported by Bristle to add fence zoning ordinance to unfinished business.
Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

Huron River Watershed Green Infrastructure- Kris Olsen with the Huron River watershed council made a presentation on her findings from the workshop she held with the township back in January. She gave the township a map with areas highlighted. The information she shared can be included in the master plan for the township or used when making recommendations for zoning ordinances (ex: riparian, PDR, natural features, storm water or land use).

4. Approval of Minutes: Moved by Huehl supported by Schaible to:
Approve the March 15, 2016 Township Board minutes. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Schaible supported by Huehl to: Approve March 15, 2016 Treasurers report.
Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Huehl, Weidmayer, Bristle, Schaible, Layher Nay: none CARRIED

6. Communications: March Sheriff report had 28 calls, the state handled 1, Washtenaw county responded to 10 and 17 were cleared over the phone. MTA magazine received. April 19th at 7:30pm there will be a meeting with the Bridgewater Township board, Washtenaw County Road Commission and residents from Bemis Road to discuss the bridge closure on Bemis Road. Supervisor received a letter from Beth Heuser and Patricia Redding. Robin Berke will be here next month to present information on the PDR program.

7. Public Comment: Stan Tschiltz brought up the poor road conditions on Haab, Waters and Ellsworth Roads. He called the Road Commission Manchester location with no answer. Dale Weidmayer will follow up with the road commission. Helen Parker added that Hieber Road is in terrible condition as well. Consumers Energy had a truck stuck on Hieber Rd. Discussion on the current road condition and previous problems with Hieber Rd. Dan Schaible added that Road Commission have said there are times they will close a road before they are able to repair it. Stan Tschiltz said the recycling bins at the town hall are continuously full and asked that we have the company empty them more. Dennis Herrst asked what was happening with the Tony Griffin property and why Dale Behnke has not put up a red tag/stop work order. Dale Weidmayer will follow up with Dale Behnke on the situation. Beth Heuser asked about the may 5th election. Planning Commission will still plan to hold their meeting that night in the town hall office. Sara Swanson with the Manchester Mirror shared that they now have a printed publication and will have about 50 copies each week available for free at Fredoinias. Beth Heuser asked (for Scott Burk) if figures have been found to compare lawyer and planner fees. Larry Lindemann said he and his wife rented the town hall this past weekend for \$150 and there were problems with both the men and women's bathrooms. Town hall manager should make sure that supplies are ready for rentals and all fixtures working properly. Patricia Redding wants to know what is happening with the fences around Pleasant Lake. She does not want to see 6ft fences going around the lake.

8. Reports:

Planning Commission report: Meeting was held last week. Riparian committee will meet next Thursday and is close to wrapping up this month with changes. P.C. reviewed a fence ordinance draft (ordinance 6.09). Front, side and rear yard illustrations were reviewed and clarified. They discussed 4ft with 50% see thru fences and were in agreement for them in the front and rear yards but not sure of the side yard height. Setbacks and other dividers such as hedge rows were also discussed. There is a construction trailer on site for Consumers Energy and it will be removed after phase 1 is completed. A full copy of the PC minutes is available through the clerk's office.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: 9755 Ellsworth is still out of compliance with the township's ordinance but the property may be protected by The Right To Farm Act. So the township will contact the Michigan Department of Agriculture with a complaint and have them investigate. 11445 Waters Rd had a motor home on the property with people living in it and were told it needs to be removed. Alvin will need to follow up with a visit and letter for violations at Tony Griffin's 11977 Elmdale for home business.

Zoning Officer: 2 new zonings, new address at 6625 Schneider Rd and a new pole barn at 3600 Schmidt Rd. Nicole Strieter's fence at 9755 Ellsworth Rd have a section that needs to be turned around. Jim has sent a written letter with illustration and instructed her to contact her neighbor to arrange a time to go on her neighbor's property to reverse the fence. Jim will be present if possible to make sure it is done correctly and that there is no mess left behind. April 2nd building meeting discussion on a credit card machine but they have not decided to get one yet.

Library- none

Clerk report: Freedom Township had an election audit last week with only minor issues found. There was clerk election training at Pittsfield Twp. provided by the state. There will be a Special election held on May 3rd for the entire township with a proposal from WISD and Chelsea school district will have an additional millage for their school district. Email from River Raisin Watershed asking if we would like to join. Board decided to pass at this time. Motion by Huehl supported by Schaible to have clerk update QuickBooks payroll to 2016 edition.

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

9. Unfinished Business:

Fence Zoning Ordinance Lake District- Planning Commission received a draft amendment fence ordinance and were in agreement with most of the change such as allowing a 4ft fence with 50% see thru in the front yard and back yard 25ft from the high water mark but could not settle on the side yard height. The board would like to set up an information meeting with a post card mailer going out to all parcels on Pleasant Lake asking them to join in the discussion on fences around pleasant lake.

Motion by Schaible supported by Huehl to put a moratorium on for 90 days from today on the fence zoning ordinance in the Lake District and set a public open informational meeting to discuss the fence zoning ordinance

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

Road Contract- Tabled till next month

Office Improvements- Motion by Huehl supported by Bristle to have Norris Floor Covering LLC replace the carpet in the town hall office.

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

10. New Business:

Lawn Mowing Bids- Motion by Huehl supported by Schaible to have ER Lawn Service mow the town hall lawn for 2016 for \$40.00 per mow and Fletcher rd cemetery 6 times at \$60 per mow.

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

11. Warrants: Motion by Huehl supported by Schaible: To approve the online payments for the 941 tax withholding and warrants 3383-3401.

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

12. Public Comment: Dan Schaible is concerned with a pond being dug on Lima Center. The board will look into alight for the flag pole.

Adjourned at 11:05 pm

Valisa Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township