

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Draft Minutes of the Regular Meeting
August 11th, 2015 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. Approval of Minutes: Moved by Huehl supported by Schaible to:

Approve the July 14, 2015 Township Board minutes. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

4. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Schaible supported by Bristle to: Approve July 14, 2015 Treasurers report.

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

5. Communications: Supervisor received a letter from Phyllis Dasher (as did the clerk) voicing her opinion against a public boat launch on Pleasant Lake. SWWCOG meeting will be tomorrow night at 7:30pm in Bridgewater Township. The sheriff report for June had 33 calls, the state police responded to 13, the sheriff's office responded to 11 and 9 were cleared. The 4 accounts that have been set up at the First Merritt Bank in Manchester to accept donations for the 4 families affected by the tornado in June will be open until August 15th. September 19th, 2015 will be the county clean-up day in Saline on Taft Ct. The zoning board of appeals meet on August 3rd to review a land division for the Mann property, it passed and will now go before the planning commission for final approval. There was a meeting last Monday with Consumer Energy regarding a new pipeline running through the township. There will be an open house in Lima Township on Sept 16th. The township needs to stay proactive on the condition of the gravel roads with the different pipelines vehicles traveling the gravel roads as they make changes.

6. Public Comment: Felicia Kuebler asked about a stop sign being put up on Bethel Church Road at the intersection of Bethel Church and Steinbach Road because cars are going through that area above the speed limit. And she asked about the field of corn planted on the North West side of the "S" curve on Pleasant Lake Road and Steinbach Road. That it is very hard to see with the corn planted so close to the road. Beth Heuser gave a public invitation to the PLPOA potluck and speaker meeting Sept 27th at 2pm at the town hall. And she asked about the fence that is being put up at her neighbor's house the Carters. She wanted to know what was the deadline that the fence needed to be corrected by. Jim Coval told her he didn't have the exact date but it was 180 days from the date of the violation letter and that it would be around the end of September. Karen Felhey asked about an open house at the Consumer Energy plant, supervisor will inquire about setting one up. Ava wanted to know why the Road Commission cleared out about 30ft. of the east branch of Pleasant Lake drain on Lima Center Road. Layher said they were probably clearing out the drain to see how the ditch drains. It usually is the property owner's responsibility to remove any debris from cleaning out the ditch.

7. Reports:

Planning Commission report: The meeting was held last Tuesday with a full agenda. The master plan will go out to the surrounding areas. The permit transfer was reviewed from Barrett to StoneCo. They were set to review the conditional use application from Troy Busha but they have not received any additional information, it will be on the September agenda. Ron Milkey shared some ideas that he has for the Pleasant Lake school property and that he has plans to change the slope of the roof. A boundary adjustment for Ken Burkhalter was approved. There will be a public hearing on September 1st at 7:30pm to review the 2014 zoning ordinances and putting back in the keyhole ordinance for Pleasant Lake. A full copy of the PC minutes is available through the clerk's office.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: Alvin received no calls. Larry Lindemann received a call from Larry Schwab with a noise complaint on Pleasant Lake.

Zoning Officer: Jim had 2 new zonings - a new house at 7751 Schneider Rd and a pull barn at 6875 Schneider Rd. He received 2 calls, one about the property at Reno and Elmdale from the health department that a person was living there in a tent and needs to be removed. The next was for the Zunki property on Elmdale that had a fire about 10 years ago and needs to clean up the property. The township may need to review the dangerous building ordinance with this property.

Library- none

Clerk report: Clerk received a letter from Laura at the Community Resource Center in Manchester thanking the board for allowing her to speak at the July meeting. Clerk is working on having the 55 Freedom Township voters that are in the Saline school district be sent to Saline to vote on a school proposal for the special election being held in November. The intent is that this would save time and money.

9. Unfinished Business:

Pleasant Lake Inn property public boat launch- There was 25 lake residents in attendance to advocate against a public boat launch on Pleasant Lake. Karen Felhey read the resolution that Citizens Respecting Our Waters (CROW) passed two weeks ago. The planning commission received two letters and a phone call from residents against a public boat launch. The clerk received 2 letters and 2 calls with the same position. Beth Heuser and Karen Felhey shared their concerns with a resolution from the township board not holding a lot of weight but it shows support to the Pleasant Lake residents against a public boat launch. A resident stated that the lake is too small for 13 more boats to be added, it is a safety concern to add a public boat launch. It was brought up about the removal of the keyhole ordinance from the 2014 zoning ordinance edition and Larry Lindemann shared the public hearing on September 1st at 7:30 to discuss that. He also shared that if the state comes in and buys the Pleasant Lake Inn property that state law will override township law.

Motion by Layher supported by Bristle: To adopt a resolution to prohibit a public boat launch on Pleasant lake.

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

Pleasant Lake Inn- Report sent in from Colleen Grinnell property representative- Posts have been set for the new security fence. She has asked Dale Behnke for help in filling out the asbestos form needed by the state before it can be removed. The state needs the paperwork 10 days before it can be removed. The AT&T line going to the building will be removed. They are aware that the building is to be torn down and the property restored by the next meeting.

10. New Business:

Pleasant Lake Weed Management Update- Jeff Krcmarik from the Washtenaw County Board of Public Works came to share some of the good news in the weed management program set up through a special assessment district around Pleasant Lake. They had to borrow \$40,000 from the treasurer to get started but that will be paid back from the taxes collected over the next 5 years roughly \$45,000. There was one application on the lake last year and one this year to date. Milfoil has been a problem that they are currently targeting. Phosphorus levels have decreased which could be from improvements to septic fields around the lake.

Township Lawyer- The township lawyer Mark Reading is moving so the township is actively seeking a new township attorney. Pat Kelly recommended Mariah Fink out of Dexter.

Rural Reach- Rural Reach is a local company that offers high-speed internet service. Jack Westbrook, the owner, is looking for access points such as barns, silos or other high points to position his equipment. Installation is \$99 and he will come out and check the signal at your location before he installs anything. If the township will pay for the installation cost he will provide monthly internet service to the town hall for free. Jim Coval will be in contact with the owner about paperwork that needs to be submitted to the township.

Fire Bill- After reviewing the contract with the Manchester Fire Department the board will pay the invoice from Briskey Construction for equipment they needed after the fire at the Pleasant Lake Inn. The board will look into adding a line to the fee schedule that would allow the township to bill the party involved in a fire run any costs above the normal fire run.

11. Warrants: Motion by Schaible supported by Huehl: To approve the online payments for the 941 tax withholding and warrants 3200-3221 holding 3217.

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

12. Public Comment:

Adjourned at 10:18 pm

Valisa Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township