

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Draft Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
July 14<sup>th</sup>, 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**

**Change to Agenda:** Motion by Huehl supported by Schaible to add broadband and a fire run bill to new business.  
Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

Community Resource Center in Manchester- Laura Seyfried director of CRC came to speak to the board and other township residents. For 28 years the Community Resource Center has been operating as a human resource center. It is opened to anyone in the Manchester School district. The center is appreciative of the \$500 donation from Freedom Township to help off set costs. One of the main resources used from the center is the food pantry. Roughly 10% of those receiving assistance from the food pantry are Freedom Township residents. People can receive help with their utilities or other expenses. There are public computers and fax machines they are allowed to use and receive assistance from organizations like WIC. The board thanked Laura for her time speaking that night and all those who help keep the Community Resource Center running.

**3. Approval of Minutes:** Moved by Layher supported by Huehl to:  
Approve the June 9, 2015 Township Board minutes. Motion carried with all Ayes. CARRIED

**4. Treasurer's Report:** Moved by Huehl supported by Schaible to: Approve June 9, 2015 Treasurers report.  
Roll call vote was unanimous. Aye: Weidmayer, Schaible, Layher, Bristle, Huehl Nay: none CARRIED

**5. Communications:** Supervisor reported 4 accounts have been set up at the First Merritt Bank in Manchester to accept donations for the 4 families in Freedom Township with damage to their homes after the EF1 tornado on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. The accounts will be opened until August 15<sup>th</sup>. Weidmayer attended a Rover pipeline meeting today for township supervisors and there will be a public meeting tomorrow night July 15<sup>th</sup> at the Washtenaw Co Farm Council Grounds in building G from 7-9 pm. September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 will be the county clean-up day in Saline on Taft Ct.. DTE hearing in Lansing will be held on July 16<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. MTA monthly magazine quotes Pittsfield Township as increasing its number of residents by 894. The permit meetings in Manchester have been moved to Saturday morning.

**6. Public Comment:** Ron Milkey shared that he has had a couple of meetings with the township supervisor, clerk and planner regarding the old Pleasant Lake School property he owns. He will be at the planning commission meeting in August.

**7. Reports:**

Planning Commission report: The meeting for July was canceled. Their next meeting will be August 4<sup>th</sup> and it is a full agenda. They will review the conditional use application from Troy Busha, a boundary adjustment for Ken Burkhalter, and a permit transfer for StoneCo. There will be a zoning board of appeals hearing for the Mann property on August 3 at 7pm at the town hall. A full copy of the PC minutes is available through the clerk's office.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: Alvin received a noise complaint for 11470 Waters Rd.

Zoning Officer: Jim had a new zoning at 13655 Waters Rd and a run in shed at 6015 Esch Rd.

Library- none

Clerk report: Clerk reported that that a law has passed taking away the February election date. The Washtenaw Now paper is no longer publishing public notices so the township needs to switch newspapers. After discussion the board feels the best publication to use is The Sun Times.

**9. Unfinished Business:**

Pleasant Lake Inn- Report given by Colleen Grinnell property representative- Holes have been dug for the new security fence. Next week they will have a company come in to start pulling the asbestos samples and it should take

2-3 days for the results. Paul Parkinson the owner is taking bids for demolition of the building. Carol Westfall asked if the property had any change to the for sale status and all Colleen could comment on was the property is still for sale and the liquor license will go with it.

Weed Management- discussion on new ordinance for weed management.

Motion by Weidmayer supported by Huehl to adopt an ordinance to secure the public health, safety and welfare of the residents and property owners of Freedom Township by control and regulation of weeds; to permit the Township to have lien for expenses incurred in controlling and eradicating such weeds; and to provide penalties for violation.

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

#### **10. New Business:**

Pleasant Lake Inn property public boat launch- Frank Lobbestael read a letter with his concerns of a public boat launch going into Pleasant Lake. Gretchen Driskell was in attendance and said she was approached by several Pleasant Lake residents about the DNR purchasing the Pleasant Lake Inn property to put in a public boat launch. After talking with her contacts at the DNR and state level she found 2 things- 1 that the DNR has not been approached about purchasing the Pleasant Lake Inn property and they are not actively seeking to purchase that property and 2 that if the property is not zoned for a boat launch the DNR does not want to go through the paperwork and hassle to change it. Catherine Roberts asked where the key hole ordinance was in the new zoning ordinance. Larry Linemann said he was not exactly sure without looking over it. Lon Nordeen gave the Township Board a resolution concerning public access to the lake and he would like to see the board pass it. Carol Westfall said PLPOA and CROW have all passed a resolution concerning public access to the lake. Catherine Roberts brought up the lake residents have been good stewards of the lake. Karen F brought up the harm that zebra mussels and other invasive species brought in from boats in a public access site can cause. Dale Weidmayer said he would like to keep Pleasant Lake a private lake. At this time Washtenaw County has no interest in the Pleasant Lake Inn property. The township board will talk with the township planners about an ordinance or resolution to keep Pleasant Lake a private lake with no public access.

Township Lawyer- The township lawyer Mark Reading is moving so the township is actively seeking a new township attorney.

Broadband- Rural Reach is a local company that offers high-speed internet service. The owner Jack Westbrook is in contact with the township planner regarding the paperwork needed and procedures to follow.

Fire Bill- the Manchester Fire Department received an invoice from Briskey Construction for equipment they needed after the fire at the Pleasant Lake Inn. They are passing it onto the township. The board would like to review the contract with the fire department before the township pays this invoice. Tabled till next month.

**11. Warrants:** Motion by Huehl supported by Schaible: To approve the online payments for the 941 tax withholding and warrants 3178-3199.

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

#### **12. Public Comment:**

Adjourned at 9:47 pm

Valisa Bristle, Clerk, Freedom Township