

**FREEMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD
CLARE COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

At a meeting of the Freeman Township Board of Clare County, Michigan, held at 7280 Mannsiding Road, Lake, Michigan on

Regular Meeting, Thursday, the 11th of January, 2018

Present Board Members: Supervisor Housler, Clerk Lightfoot, Treasurer Lackie, Trustees Barnett & Sable.

TIME: 7:00 p.m. Call to Order and Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call was taken with all members present, along with 13 citizens.

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve the regular board meeting minutes from December 14, 2017. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dale Majewski, Clare County Commissioner, was present to give his update on County business. Highlights included: He gave Supervisor Housler the contact information for our siren system. (Nick at All Warning Sirens). Supervisor Housler noted he wanted the system tested. Commissioner Majewski also noted that the batteries are only good for around 3 years. Further highlights included the County Clerk requesting a temporary employee to help bring the courts up-to-date; the Board appointed two to the Parks and Rec Board; a discussion was had on donating land to the Parks and Rec Board; and setting their Board meetings for once a month at 9:00 a.m.

TREASURERS REPORT

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve early check number 14877 and regular check numbers 14878 through 14893, (no voids). Ayes 5, Nays 0.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Supervisor Housler discussed the current wage for the Deputy Treasurer and Deputy Clerk and recommended that the hourly wage be increased from \$9.50 to \$10.00 which is commensurate with other Township employees.

Moved by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Clerk Lightfoot to increase the Deputy wage from \$9.50 to \$10.00/hour. Ayes 4, Nays 0, Trustee Sable abstained.

Supervisor Housler informed the public that we have taken applications for the position of Planning Commission, noting also that there is a vacancy in the Board of Review. After Board discussion, Supervisor Housler appointed Robert Eckardt as Planning Commission member and requested Board approval. Moved by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve

the Supervisor's appointment of Bob Eckardt as Planning Commission member. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

In addition, Supervisor Housler recommended Bob Eckardt as a new member to the Board of Review, which Mr. Eckardt has agreed to assume. Moved by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Clerk Lightfoot, to appoint Robert Eckardt as Board of Review member. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

A moment was taken to swear Mr. Eckardt in as Planning Commission member and Board of Review member.

Supervisor Housler discussed the Dust Control contract from Michigan Chloride Sales, Inc. He noted that the price is a fraction of a penny more than last year. He also noted the emails sent from the Road Commission and Michigan Chloride noting the time schedules for application.

Motion made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the dust control contract with Michigan Chloride Sales, Inc. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler informed those present that the furnace in the hall has been acting up. Over the last several days, we have had new parts put in, only to have them last about a day or so. The furnace was installed with the new building in 1991. Rather than throwing a lot of money into an old furnace, Supervisor Housler requested authorization from the Board to get quotes for a new unit. Roger Diederich from the audience highly recommended getting a quote from Martin Heating and Cooling in Clare. A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to get quotes for a new furnace. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler informed those present that in the next few weeks he would like to have a special board meeting to discuss an easement request from Consumers Energy. Consumers would come off a power pole 10 feet in on our Transfer Site property (Ashard Road) and proceed westerly.

CLERKS COMMENTS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning - None

Building (Werner Mantei) – None

Zoning & Blight (H. Logan) – Mr. Logan noted he had no zoning permits this month, but did receive a few phone calls. He also has one citation for Zoning at the end of Patsy Place. In regard to blight, he has two removed: 9736 Ashard Road was dismissed in court and 998 Grass Lake has been given a little more time to clean up the property. Property on Connie Drive has received a second notice. Junk is still there and there has been no progress, so he expects to go to court on this property.

COMMENTS/CONCERNS FROM CITIZENS

Don Kowalske asked about Dave Pohoda as a Deputy. Supervisor Housler noted that he is Treasurer Lackie's Deputy Treasurer. We are required to have both a Deputy Treasurer and a Deputy Clerk. He was thinking about Deputy as a police, but said he hadn't heard the whole

conversation when we were talking about the Deputy pay, that's why he asked for clarification. He also brought up the garbage rates. He said he is paying less now and is thankful for that, although he still doesn't agree with the rates.

Roger Diederich noted that two individuals have spoken with him that they are not going to put their garbage sticker in the upper left-hand corner of their windshield as they think it blocks their vision.

Adjourn: Motion by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to adjourn the regular meeting.
TIME: 7:29 p.m.

Alan Housler, Supervisor

Julie Lightfoot, Township Clerk