

**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 8th of February, 2018

Present Board Members: Supervisor Housler, Treasurer Lackie, Trustees Barnett & Sable. Clerk Lightfoot was absent due to illness.

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

Roll Call was taken with four (4) members present, along with 11 citizens.

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Treasurer Lackie to approve the regular board meeting minutes from January 11, 2018. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve the Special Board Meeting minutes, with the amendment of "four (4) members present" instead of "all members present". Ayes 4, Nays 0.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dale Majewski, Clare County Commissioner. Highlights included: stating that Attorney Smith came in and talked about litigation on Opiod abuse similar to a class action suit is going around to see if the cost can be reduced by the manufacturers to help the first responders. We have decided not to get involved until more information can be gathered.

A question was asked if we have an Ordinance to protect animals that are left outside in brutally cold weather and in talking to the lawyers it was stated that it would be up to the individual townships and no county side ordinance can be had.

Approval has been given to have the jail boiler replaced. The cost will be \$11,000.

Lori Martin, Clare County Clerk/Register of Deeds. Highlights included: The look of the CPL is going to change. You can still have either laminated for \$10 or paper for free. The Michigan State Police are going to put a silver star on the new cards for a more official look. They will no longer be available when you renew your card.

There will be no election in May. In July she will be giving the Election Inspector classes. She is doing this every year instead of every 2 years so that the inspectors can refresh knowledge if chosen, but they are still only required every 2 years.

The Board of Commissioners approved in December that she could hire another employee as the case load for the courts has increased due to having 3 murder trials in Clare County in the future months.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable, to approve account payable checks. Early Checks #14894-14896 and Regular Checks #14897 – 14910. No Voids. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Comments all have to do with the road projects that we will be doing in the coming year (2018). Tamarack Trail and Greenbrier will be done with limestone and the projected cost would be \$65,000. We have been working on the premise of paving Ashard from Hemlock to Grass Lake with the estimated cost being \$160,000, but we are unable to do that. We have talked about splitting the project into 2 years (2018 & 2019) and the Road Commission would put in their \$40,000 contribution in both years. Next would be to do nothing in 2018 and put that money aside and do the entire project in 2019. Last option would be to do the entire project in 2018 and request that the Road Commission contribute their entire \$80,000 at that time. If there happens to be a shortfall, it would not exceed \$5,000, and we could take a loan from another fund or ask the Road Commission to wait until next year for the funds. Supervisor Housler presented a contract with the Road Commission for discussion/action. Motion made by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Trustee Barnett, to approve the contracted dated February 7, 2018 with the Road Commission to pave Ashard from Hemlock Road to Grass Lake. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

A motion was also made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve the contract for Greenbrier and Tamarck Trail. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

There has been lot of 4-wheeler and golf cart traffic between Shadowbrook and LOP proper, so it was offered that for the same price, the Road Commission would add 1-1/2 foot out on the shoulder to better accommodate the traffic. They were told yes to do it as long as there was no additional cost to us.

Supervisor Housler discussed the public hearing date for the 2018-2019 budget. Motion made by Supervisor Housler, seconded by Treasurer Lackie to set March 8, 2018 for the Budget Public Hearing. Ayes 4 Nays 0.

Motion by Supervisor Housler, seconded by Trustee Sable, to make the public inspection of the budget starting February 12, 2018, and publishing of the Budget Public Hearing notice for February 15, 2018. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler discussed the easement Consumers Energy wants across a sliver of our transfer station property. He had some changes and submitted them to their legal folks. He stated the last date to get them and they have not responded to us. He's called them and can't seem to get an answer so it is in process as we wait for their response.

Supervisor Housler gave an update on the furnace situation. Vendors Martins, Accu Air and Hills have been contacted and will have specs and proposals of cost by the March 8, 2018 meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PLANNING: - None

BUILDING (Werner Mantej): 3 permits for the month. Demo on Ashcroft, Garage on Timberline, Roofing on Sandy Shores. Got a call from the engineer about the tower on M-115 and they are supposed to start pouring cement for a foundation in 2 weeks.

ZONING/BLIGHT (Harold Logan): 1 permit this month. Three different people want to put towers up, AT&T, Verizon and a private company. He has no paperwork only phone calls. Blight: 705 Connie Drive – Fire last week.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS:

None

Adjourn: Motion by Trustee Sable, seconded by Treasurer Lackie to adjourn the regular meeting. **TIME: 7:40 p.m.**

Alan Housler, Supervisor

Sandra Sable, Deputy Clerk