

**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 12th of April, 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 20 citizens.

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the regular board meeting minutes from March 8, 2018. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

A motion was made by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the special board meeting minutes from March 28, 2018. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Lori Martin, Clare County Clerk/Register of Deeds: Highlights included: Aug/Nov Deadline for Partisan positions is April 24th, 2018, 4:00 p.m.; For Non-Partisan deadline is July 19. Last day to register to vote for August primary is July 9; last day for November election is October 9. Election inspectors will be required to attend 2 trainings this year due to new election equipment (July & October). She is working with high schools to register seniors to vote. Mid-Michigan College has also asked to be included in that. For concealed pistols licenses there is a one year grace period after your license expires to renew it BEFORE you have to take the class again. (However you can't legally carry during the expired time period.) She has hired a new employee in her office and will be asking for another at the next board meeting. Supervisor Housler asked if we get reimbursed for the two training from the State. Mr. Martin was going to find out.

Dale Majewski, Clare County Commissioner: Highlights included: The County Board reappointed the Prosecutor to the Parks and Rec board; Gypsy moth spraying will be done in selected area. Freeman Township is one of those townships and it is expected to have spraying done in mid-May.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett, to approve account payable checks. Early Checks #14934 & 14936 (Void 14935) and Regular Checks #14937 – 14949. No Voids. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Supervisor Housler noted that he had spoken with Karen Coronado of Charter Communications. If we don't sign the agreement with them regarding Franchise Fees, it will still be activated. He also talked about being able to change the fees in the future, if the Township needed additional monies, and she said no, the contract was good for 10 years. Supervisor Housler also discussed this with the Township Attorney and she noted we have no legal alternatives. Supervisor Housler also noted that we used to get the service at no cost and they no longer honor that and will not negotiate that. Supervisor Housler proposed the Board take the option of not signing the agreement and letting it go into effect. Since it is a 10 year contract, we don't know what will happen years out. If we don't concur and something changes down the road, the fact we didn't sign it may be more advantageous to the Township.

Supervisor Housler moved to not sign the agreement as presented and direct the Township Clerk to formulate a letter to Charter laying out the rationale for future options. Seconded by Treasurer Lackie. Ayes 5 (Housler, Lackie, Sable, Barnett, Lightfoot) Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler discussed the Zoning Board of Appeals. He noted he spoke with John Phillips and he has agreed to move from Alternate to Member on the Zoning Board of Appeals, therefore an alternate needs to be appointed. Treasurer Lackie moved to appoint Sandra Sable as the alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Seconded by Trustee Barnett. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler discussed the 2 worksheets from the ACT51 report the Clare County Road Commission submitted for our perusal. Clerk Lightfoot also explained the reports in a little more detail since she used to fill these out at the Saginaw County Road Commission.

Supervisor Housler reminded the Board the MTA meeting was this Monday, April 16, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse.

Supervisor Housler reminded those in attendance that the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend we would again have the open top 30 yarder for the larger items, noting that building supplies and tires are not accepted. Gary Maas asked if there was going to be a hazardous materials drop off soon. County Commissioner Majewski noted that wasn't until September. Mr. Maas also asked about latex paint in the 30 yarder. Supervisor Housler noted if it was hard by age, or if you mix kitty litter in it, it should be fine.

CLERK'S COMMENTS

Clerk Lightfoot noted the Legislature has passed, and Governor Snyder signed, legislation that gives Michigan motorists a 30-day grace period to affix their tab after renewing their vehicle's registration.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning-Chair John Phillips: Mr. Phillips noted the elections were conducted and they now have a full board. They have reviewed half of the ordinances. They are in the process of comparing ordinances 15 & 21 to see if one can be eliminated. Starting in June they will start looking at the Master Plan. They will also look at Ordinance #11.

Building-Werner Mantei: - Absent

Zoning & Blight – Harold Logan: Mr. Logan noted he has 1 zoning at 9715 Cadillac. He is also monitoring 7 places for blight. The blight issue on Connie Drive has been dismissed. There will be two new citations going out for 7560 Stephen Court and 9836 Ashard Road. (This means a fine and a person has to go to court.)

COMMENTS/CONCERNS FROM CITIZENS

Gary Maas asked if there is any more that will be done on the Rude property. Supervisor Housler noted that it's pretty much done. It will be up for tax sale as she had to pay by April 1. The State of Michigan gets first refusal, then the Township. If we get it, then it has to be specifically used for a public purpose. If we refuse it, then it goes to the County and up for sale.

Roger Diederich inquired about the hours for the Transfer Site for Memorial Day. Supervisor Housler noted the regular Sunday hours (11am to 2pm). He also noted that the 30 yarder would stay until filled.

Mr. Diederich also asked about the Blight citation fees and whether Freeman Township receives any of that money. Supervisor Housler noted that Township doesn't receive any monies...it goes to the Court.

Mr. Diederich further inquired on whether the new furnace has been installed. Supervisor Housler noted it had not been installed yet. The company is asking that it not be installed until the average daily temperature is 65° or more. This is due to the oils in the air conditioner unit. The company did note that if the current furnace failed, they would work with us to get a new furnace installed and deal with the air conditioning unit later.

Adjourn: There being no further business; a motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to adjourn the regular meeting. **TIME: 7:40 p.m.**

Alan Housler, Supervisor

Julie Lightfoot, Clerk