

**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 14<sup>th</sup> of May, 2020**

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 1 citizen – Board Meeting conducted via Zoom online.

**REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Treasurer Lackie to approve the amended board minutes for February 13, 2020. (Treasurer’s report inadvertently left off original minutes.) Ayes 5, Nays 0.

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve the regular board meeting minutes for March 12, 2020. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler noted that he and Clerk Lightfoot had a discussion on whether minutes should be typed up for the April meeting that was missed. They decided that even though we did not have a meeting in April, that minutes should be typed up to reflect that. A motion was made by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the regular board meeting minutes for April 9, 2020. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

No guest speakers. However, County Commissioner Dale Majewski asked Supervisor Housler to pass on to all that the County Board is still working on budget amendments. They have asked all department heads to decrease their departments by 10%. They are also looking at possible layoffs.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Supervisor Housler noted that over the last month and a half, the Trustees have come in and approved the accounts payable in order for us to stay current on our bills. This motion is to officially approve the checks.

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve early check numbers 15404-15431 and regular check numbers 15432-15439. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

## **SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS**

Supervisor Housler discussed the amending of the 2019-2020 budget. Typically, this is done at the end of March. We contacted our auditor and informed him that we wouldn't be meeting by March 31, 2020, to which he replied that this would not be a problem. We should just approve the adjustments the next time we meet and make them retro to March 31, 2020, due to the COVID-19 situation.

Motion made by Supervisor Housler, seconded by Trustee Sable, to approve the amendments to the 2019-2020 Budget, retroactive to March 31, 2020. Ayes 5 (Housler, Lackie, Sable, Barnett, Lightfoot). Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler discussed the Maintenance Agreement presented to us from Generac and recommended going with the 5 year maintenance plan. Motion made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the 5 year maintenance agreement. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler discussed the contract with the Road Commission for limestone on Havenwood and a few turn arounds. We weren't sure about the turn arounds, but Al Leonard from the Road Commission assured us the trucks would be able to get in there. The cost is \$116,000 and the Road Commission would match \$20,000. Motion made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve the contract with the Road Commission. Ayes 5 (Housler, Sable, Lackie, Barnett, Lightfoot), Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler advised the Board that we have received our annual maintenance contract with the Equalization Department and recommended acceptance of this contract. Motion by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the maintenance contract with the County Equalization Department. Ayes 5 (Lackie, Housler, Barnett, Sable, Lightfoot), Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler advised the Board that Lincoln Township is desiring to sealcoat Hemlock Road. Since this is a township line road, we would have to concur and participate in the cost of sealcoating the road. Supervisor Housler informed the Board that he feels from conversations he has been hearing that the Road Commission may be having some financial problems and may not have the money to match local road projects. Also, last year they spent a lot of maintenance dollars in the north end of the County.

With this in mind, he is asking the Board whether we should get serious about sealcoating Hemlock Road. (Other Board members noted that the road is getting bad.) We typically don't like to go with sealcoat, but it may be the only thing we are able to do to get it repaired. Lincoln Township is ready to go with the project. Al Leonard of the Road Commission said they don't have the money to do this year. Supervisor Housler would like to get an agreement with the two townships and the Road Commission now in order to get the match for next year in writing. It would be 3 miles at about \$30,000/mile. Half of the cost would go to our Township. There could be a little more expense due to a couple of high spots that would have to be shaved down, but we're looking at around \$22,000.

Supervisor Housler noted if there were no objections, he'll get with Supervisor Zimmerman of Lincoln Township and talk further with the Road Commission to get a contract in writing.

## **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

There were none.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to adjourn the regular meeting.

**TIME: 7:17 p.m.**

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Alan Housler, Supervisor

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Julie Lightfoot, Township Clerk