

**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 11<sup>th</sup> of June, 2020**

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

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

Roll Call was taken with 4 members present, along with 9 citizens.

**REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the regular board meeting minutes for May 14, 2020. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

County Commissioner Dale Majewski gave the following highlights: The courthouse will be opening Monday to the public. Before you can enter, you will need to answer a brief questionnaire. Masks will be required.

As many have probably read in the Clare County Review or Cleaver, the County is having budgetary problems. Asked for Departments to take a 10% cut in their operating budget. A few layoffs have occurred; reduction in cleaning; no \$10,000 to airport; and tried to get people to retire early with enticement of 2 years paid healthcare. Will start working on next year's budget very soon. Commission Majewski noted that the County needs to live within their means. Looking at having to cut \$1 million out of next year's budget.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve early check numbers 15440-15449 and regular check numbers 15450-15463. Ayes 4, Nays 0.

**SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS**

Supervisor Housler discussed the vacancy on the Planning Commission and noted that it was advertised in several different areas. We did not receive many applications, but Mr. Richard Sieg expressed interest in joining the Planning Commission. Supervisor Housler moved to appoint Mr. Richard Sieg to the Planning Commission, seconded by Clerk Lightfoot. Ayes 4 Nays 0.

Next Supervisor Housler discussed the additions to the Curbside Pickup list. As stated before, there would be additions and deletions to the original curbside pickup list during the year. These are all habitable properties and therefore should be added. Motion made by Trustee Sable,

seconded by Trustee Barnett, to add the following habitable properties to our curbside pickup list. Ayes 4 (Housler, Sable, Barnett, Lightfoot), Nays 0.

009-016-400-06

Ron Croskey – 9152 West Ashard

009-013-100-02

Clyde Harris – 6663 West Mannsiding Road

009-440-011-00

James Rudnicki – 971 Windover Lake Drive

Supervisor Housler discussed some complaints he has been receiving from residents in Lake of the Pines concerning an individual shooting a gun and also playing his music in his car quite loud. Neighbors have contacted him and he's ignoring their requests. The Sheriff's Department when contacted said they don't have time for this type of call. Supervisor Housler recommended contacting the Lake of the Pines Board.

So, the question is (1) we'd like to contact our Township Attorney to see if there is a better way to control noise complaints and (2) we have an enforcement issue, so can we appoint our own person who can issue tickets and take to court. Zoning Enforcement Officer Harold Logan noted that if the Township would do the enforcement, we would need to purchase a certified DB meter. The Board did not have a problem with the Supervisor contacting our attorney on these matters.

Supervisor Housler gave an update on the chip and seal project for Hemlock Road. He received a call from the Road Commission that they can do the project immediately. Evidently since the flood happened in surrounding counties, they are unable to do their road projects, which frees up workers to do ours. He hopes we would have the contract from the Road Commission by the time of the board meeting but it didn't come in. Therefore, he's hoping to have a special meeting of the board when the contract gets in so it can get started as soon as possible.

Supervisor Housler asked those present who in the audience was disappointed with the brining application (CaCl) this time. (Almost everyone raised their hands). The Board was disappointed also. Comments were made by public and board of the speed the drivers took going down the road, some roads only getting half the road done, and other roads done light enough that within 2 days the dust was back already. Since we have an application coming up in a couple weeks, Supervisor Housler noted he will call them and let them know both the Board and the public were not happy with their work this last time.

### **CLERK'S COMMENTS**

Clerk Lightfoot noted that she has received communication from the United States Postal Service that mailing of ballot will take anywhere from 2-5 days. With this in mind, she encouraged everyone to mail in their ballots as soon as possible. If you choose to wait until almost the date of the election, she encouraged voters to drop their ballot in the drop box on the door of the hall. She doesn't want ballots showing up after the election.

As many of you may have heard, the Secretary of State mailed absentee ballot applications to everyone in the State, except those already on the permanent absentee ballot list. (Those were sent out by Clerk Lightfoot.) According to the Board of Elections, Clare Counties were sent out this past Monday. Clerk Lightfoot wanted to emphasize to voters, that you have the right to fill

these out and get a ballot in the mail, but in **NO WAY** does this mean that you have to vote by absentee ballot. You are still able to vote in person on election day if you so choose! We will be taking extra precautions with sanitation, masks, hand sanitizers, etc. We will be asking that everyone wear a mask, (if you don't have one, extras will be there for you to wear), unless for medical reasons you are unable to wear one. We also ask that social distancing be adhered to.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Planning Commission – John Phillips: Absent

Zoning & Blight – Harold Logan: Last month 5 zoning permits. One requires a variance. 3 permits this month so far and 1 variance.

He was notified that people are living in trailers behind the house at 7320 Ashard. He has sent a letter to them. Giving them 14 days to reply. If he doesn't hear from them they will get a zoning violation.

Blight: checking 6 places. 3040 Pinehurst – inoperable vehicles.

### **COMMENTS/CONCERNS FROM CITIZENS**

None

**Adjourn:** Motion by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to adjourn the regular meeting.  
**TIME: 7:32 p.m.**

---

Alan Housler, Supervisor

---

Julie Lightfoot, Township Clerk