

**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 13<sup>th</sup> of July, 2017**

Present Board Members: Supervisor Housler, Clerk Lightfoot, Treasurer Lackie, Trustee Wells and Trustee Barnett.

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

Roll Call was taken with all members present, along with 12 citizens.

A motion was made by Trustee Wells, seconded by Trustee Barnett, to approve the regular board meeting minutes of June 8, 2017. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

Dale Majewski, Clare County Commissioner made the following comments: There were 5 foreclosure parcels in Freeman Township. (Down from 12 last year). The Sheriff's Department has added a new Narcotics Canine Dog, which was purchased in part by grant money plus some by the Sheriff's Department. An Attorney left so the Board gave approval to find a replacement. The County Board also gave approval for Senior Services Adult Daycare Director.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion was made by Trustee Wells, seconded by Trustee Barnett, to approve check numbers 14772-14789, (Void #14782). Ayes 5, Nays 0.

**SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS**

Supervisor Housler spoke about the brine issue for July 2017. He noted we fell off their list, and the company also has changed their procedures. July 14, 2017 the brine will be completed. Mr. Housler also spoke about 2018 and the company requiring us to submit the dates now to lock them in. He recommended changing the last application from the week before Labor Day to as close as possible to August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Barnett recommended setting the brine schedule for 2018 as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> application – week before Memorial Day; 2<sup>nd</sup> application – week before 4<sup>th</sup> of July; 3<sup>rd</sup> application – as close to August 15<sup>th</sup> as possible. Seconded by Trustee Wells. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler spoke about the Fire Insurance Withholding Program. He noted that if there is a house fire, funds are set aside out of the insurance money for cleanup and restoration. The Township would put these funds in an escrow account and they wouldn't be released until all the cleanup is done.

Treasurer Lackie moved to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the provisions of Act 495 of the Public Acts of 1980; as amended by Act 216 of the Public Acts of 1998, and the provisions of Act 217 of the Public Acts of 1998, provide that a portion of certain casualty losses for fire or explosion otherwise payable by insurers may be withheld in escrow by participating municipalities in order to secure repair, replacement or removal of damaged structures which violate the Township of Freeman health or safety standards; and

WHEREAS, Township of Freeman has determined that participation in said program would protect and promote the public health, safety and welfare and wishes to be included in the list of participating municipalities published by the Commissioner of Insurance; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Freeman desires to implement all procedures necessary to administer said program by designating the Township official responsible for administration of the program and establish an escrow account for said purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the Township of Freeman does hereby become a participating municipality in the program providing for the escrow of fire insurance as established by Act 495 of the Public Acts of 1980; as amended by Act 216 of the Public Acts of 1998, or as established by Act 217 of the Public Acts of 1998, and does declare its intention to uniformly apply the provisions of Section 2845 or Section 2227 to all property within the Township of Freeman.

2. That the Township of Freeman official responsible for the administration of Section 2845 or 2227 of said Acts and any rules promulgated by the Commissioner of Financial and Insurance Services is hereby designed as follows:

Freeman Township Clerk

3. That the Freeman Township Clerk shall establish an escrow account with Chemical Bank for the purpose of receiving and holding deposits of money received from insurers pursuant to Section 2845 or 2227 of said Acts, which account shall be separately maintained from all other accounts and may be an interest-bearing account.

Seconded by Trustee Wells. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler spoke about the revisions to the Cemetery Ordinance and asked for a Public Hearing to be set for August 10, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion made by Trustee Wells, seconded by Supervisor Housler to set the public hearing date for the revisions of the Cemetery Ordinance on Thursday, August 10, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler noted that the Township limestone projects are set for July 24<sup>th</sup>, subject to the weather.

### **CLERK'S COMMENTS**

Clerk Lightfoot informed the public that there is a new email service that the public can sign up for. You will automatically get any important notifications that the Board needs to send out, and you can also choose whether you'd like notification when new Planning Commission Meeting

Minutes or Board Meeting Minutes are available. You can sign up on our website under the Planning Commission or Board Meeting minutes, or you can fill out the paper that is in your agenda packet. Extra copies are at the back table.

Clerk Lightfoot spoke about the resolution for the grant for our new voting equipment. The resolution needs to be approved in order for us to qualify for the grant and get our voting equipment free.

Trustee Wells moved to approve the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Freeman Township Board wishes to apply to the Secretary of State for a grant to purchase a new voting system from Dominion Voting, which includes precinct tabulators, Absent Voter Counting Board (AVCB) tabulators (if applicable), accessible voting devices for use by individuals with disabilities, and related Election Manager System (EMS) software.

**WHEREAS**, full funding for the new voting system will be provided by the State, and will include a combination of Federal Help America Vote Act and State-appropriated funds. Local funding obligations, if any, are detailed in the attached Dominion quote.

**WHEREAS**, Freeman Township plans to begin implementation of the new voting system in 2017.

**WHEREAS**, "First Use" will occur for the November 2017 Election.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Freeman Township Clerk is authorized to submit this Grant Application on behalf of Freeman Township, Clare County on the 13<sup>th</sup> of July, 2017.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member Trustee Wells.

Second offered by Board Member Trustee Barnett.

Upon roll call vote the following voted:

"aye" (Housler, Lackie, Wells, Barnett, Lightfoot)

"nay" (None)

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Planning-Leo Stevens:** Mr. Stevens noted they have been working on the amendments to the Cemetery Ordinance. Amendments include when you take flowers, gravel blankets off; the definition of internment. They also looked at their bylaws and changed the meeting dates from Tuesday to Thursday, and looked into the Master Plan.

Supervisor Housler noted the wording in Section IV referencing Section III. It is kind of confusing as to what the \$250 is for and what the \$350 is for. (The \$250 is actually for the purchase of the lot, and the \$350 is the payment to the Sexton (along with an additional \$50 to the Township.) Supervisor Housler asked the Planning Commission to clear up this wording at their next meeting.

**Building Inspector-Werner Mantei:** Mr. Mantei noted that he had 6 permits this month.

**Zoning & Blight-Harold Logan:** Mr. Logan noted he had 4 zoning permits this month. He had 12 blight properties he was checking on. Marilyn Woolsey asked about the continuous garage sale on M-115. Mr. Logan said he would check it out.

**COMMENTS/CONCERNS FROM CITIZENS**

John Phillips asked about the new Consumers Energy meters. He had not received his new one yet. Those present made comments that they had already received theirs.

Mr. Phillips also asked about the trees on Twin Lakes and who took those out. Supervisor Housler noted this was taken care of by the Road Commission.

Supervisor Housler made one further comment by reminding those present that the Board of Review meeting was this Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Trustee Wells, and seconded by Trustee Barnett to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. **Time: 7:30 p.m.**

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Alan Housler, Supervisor

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Julie Lightfoot, Township Clerk