

**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 August, 2019

Present Board Members: Supervisor Housler, Treasurer Lackie, Clerk Lightfoot, 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 64 citizens.

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve the regular board meeting minutes of July 11th, 2019. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Treasurer Lackie to approve the special board meeting minutes of July 13th, 2019. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve the special board meeting minutes of July 16th, 2019. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dale Majewski, Clare County Commissioner was present and gave the following highlights: 44 North, their benefits provider, came to the County to review their policies. They also informed them there would be a savings of \$100,000 on their healthcare premiums; The Land Bank Auction will be August 15th at Noon; there will be an increase in DHS costs – State mandated – of approximately \$100,000; working on balancing the budget.

Melissa White, has commercial property on Cadillac Drive. Wants to open a medical marijuana store. There would be some revenue to Township and County. Supervisor Housler noted the Board passed a resolution last November to prohibit this, but she could still get the information to the Clerk.

Deputy Gruno of the Sheriff's Department – Been here 2-1/2 years; not much crime in Freeman Township.

TREASURERS REPORT

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve early check #15261-15262 and regular check numbers 15263-15278. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Supervisor Housler noted that the Planning Commission has given us a new ordinance and asked the Board to take a look at it.

Supervisor Housler noted we have received the package for our 2020 liability insurance. We are looking to have the same coverages as last year. At this time, we don't have a price, but have to submit all the necessary paperwork. Supervisor Housler moved to accept the policy, pending receipt of an invoice. Seconded by Trustee Sable. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

Next Supervisor Housler spoke on increasing the wages for the Transfer Site/Township facilities maintenance personnel. Supervisor Housler moved to increase their wages by \$5.00. Seconded by Trustee Sable. Ayes 3 (Housler, Sable, Barnett), Nays 0, Abstain 2 (Lackie & Lightfoot).

Supervisor Housler then reminded the Board members that the MTA meeting will be Monday, August 19th, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. in the basement of the Courthouse.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Commission – John Phillips: They are cancelling September's meeting. Gave Board Ordinance #38.

Building-Werner Mantei: 8 building permits

Zoning & Blight – Harold Logan: 4 zoning permits. Cadillac/Lake Station – Car Place – Fined once, gave 30 days which will be up soon – if not cleaned up then 2nd citation; Blight – 11; 3 cleaned up and one added, 6661 Ridgeway; 2671 Ashcroft – can't get ahold of owner; 6703 Birchwood.

COMMENTS/CONCERNS FROM CITIZENS

Supervisor Housler had a couple of items he wanted to talk to the public about. #1 accusations that the Board is trying to rush to get away with something....we have been working on this for approximately 1 year and the discussions have become more in depth as the year went on. Notices went out to the Public. Board received written protests through 7-13-19 public hearing. Heard comments and wanted time to discuss so met on 7-16-19 to proceed with special assessment district. We will hear everyone tonight. We never made any attempt to prohibit anyone from speaking during public comments. Passed resolution and set up special assessment district. Supervisor Housler then read from Veronica Bohannon's letter: " DO NOT let the brd. Make you think that your opinion/concerns are not important and cannot be excepted by the board since they say the deadline is passed for comment." Supervisor Housler noted that he has read every since letter, even those received after the deadline. The next public hearing is 8-15-19 where you can object to the amount only. You are more than welcome to come and talk about what you want, but what counts is the subject matter of cost.

Supervisor Housler also noted that he was frustrated with the misinformation and misleading information. He said he let the gentleman that was passing out the fliers know that he had not done enough research. Neither the man or woman have called our office to see what was wrong.

Supervisor Housler reminded the public that they will have 3 minutes to speak and it will be timed.

DEBRA COBURN – 10640 Ashard – read mission statement, against curbside

BERNIE BLAIN – 1135 S Cook – against curbside

DANA COBURN – against curbside, will work for the dump if not on Sunday

ROD McMAHAN – against curbside

BRENDA BLACKWELL – 6391 Woodridge Drive – against curbside

SHELLEY KELLY – 9295 W Monroe – Why isn't Sandy Shores included; would like to know what 2nd canister would cost

BILL BATZ – 10758 W Cedar Rd – said in 2-13-14 they looked at curbside and decided against it – have bears, coyotes, no curbs

(No Name) pick up for people – vote at election

CAROL SPENCER – 701 Connie Dr – Talked with Harold about blight issues next door – attacking dog – trees cut down by neighbor – he's building pole barn – had closed porch with burner and dog died – very concerned – disarray in neighborhood – shared pictures of encroachment – he cut down my trees – unlicensed vehicles. Supervisor Housler asked her to set up an appointment with him later so he could take a look at the issue.

JOHN MITTEN – 6171 Woodridge – drag dumpsters to end of driveway – snow/ice on driveway – weekenders – Harold will be busy with blight – need to do more for recycling

(No Name) on Lake Tahoe – lives in Bay City – 38 years old and she can't drag tote to end of driveway

(No Name) – tree laws – give you value of trees – part-time resident, why are we not voting on this – (Supervisor Housler noted because it is a special assessment district) – does he hall downstate? Can you put a dumpster here for people to dump in?

(No Name) On Pinehurst – part-time – decision made for me – want to recycle – what are solutions and what is wrong with flier – can I have meeting with you? What do you do with recycling?

BRENDA BLAIN – 1135 S Cook Avenue – I only got one letter. You don't care about our concerns – you'll just listen to them. They are doing 20% by acreage.

DARRELL – 6291 Woodridge – heard everyone's concerns – board for the people – how much more rural

JOHN HAINBECKER – Leaman Trail – ½ mile from county road – against curbside

DON BORLE – How many bids and who? American Waste

(No Name) – 9295 W. Monroe – diapers pile up – only open 2 days – one nigh and place stinks – had in Beaverton and cans were trashed – how long is contract

VERONICA BOHANNON – 10758 Cedar – thanks for support – I am not out to chastise – our voices need to be heard – we have a right to vote – you’re not considering all sides – we’ve made other suggestions – support the board and come to board meetings

SHELLY KELLY – I would like to thank the board for listening and see what you can come up with.

Adjourn: Motion by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to adjourn the meeting.
TIME: 8:16 p.m.

Alan Housler, Supervisor

Julie Lightfoot, Township Clerk