

**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 12<sup>th</sup> of September, 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 48 citizens.

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the regular board meeting minutes of August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the special board meeting minutes of August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve the special board meeting minutes of August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

Dale Majewski, Clare County Commissioner was present and gave the following highlights: Working on the budget, with its challenges, and trying to balance; expenses didn't expect, presently cutting Parks and Rec and Development; may do more cuts; don't want to raise taxes; work within means; Question on Sheriff's budget – Board asked department to go to 2017 levels

Steven Scoville, Superintendent, Farwell Schools was present and gave the following highlights; Bond proposal on November ballot; vote in Lincoln Township; 2 committee forums; folks wanted fewer years and scope; 19 years-3 months; 3.37 mills (May proposal) to 3 mills (November proposal) plus .9 mills increase (November proposal) – May proposal was 2.1 additional mills; This bond saves interest; Focused on safety and security; Student enrollment down; Athletic field redone and fixing fences; state enrollment down; housing and family relocation; try to keep class size the same; double door entry – all but one door locked.

Lori Martin, County Clerk/Register of Deeds was present and gave the following highlights; Updated on collection of 2.2 million debt; more commit crimes, but more pay, so still around the same. Elections – November election – vote in Lincoln Township this time; Clerk in office Saturday and Tuesday if anyone wants absentee ballot or register to vote. 2020 – March, August, and November elections. Partnering with Veterans Department to issue Veterans I.D.; Budget went back to 2017 amounts – had to ask for more in elections because of 3 elections. Dale Majewski stands firm on issues and how he spends your money.

## **TREASURERS REPORT**

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve early check #15279-15282 and regular check numbers 15283-15299. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

## **SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS**

David Pohoda has resigned from the Planning Commission. Motion was made by Supervisor Housler, seconded by Trustee Sable, to accept Mr. Pohoda's resignation. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

Liability insurance quote came in at \$6655, which is \$100 increase from prior year. Motion made by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the insurance quote. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

## **CLERK'S COMMENTS**

Clerk Lightfoot noted that the executor of the Lockmiller Estate said they will not be burying the Lockmiller's in the Freeman Township Cemetery, and therefore would like to sell their lots back to the Township. Motion by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Trustee Barnett to buyback the 2 lots from the Lockmillers. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Planning – John Phillips: - No Report

Building – Werner Mantei: - No Report

Zoning & Blight – H. Logan: 5 zoning permits – variance 6101 Tamarack – Cadillac/Lake Station, removing vehicles – Blight 10 – 6 notices, working on 3.

## **COMMENTS & CONCERNS FROM CITIZENS**

Kristi Shakula – Ashard Road – working on rubbish – 400 signatures – don't believe it will benefit the community – will you reconsider.

Debra Coburn – very frustrated – looking at law – read some quotes – read the law

Linda McCaffrey – why don't we get a list of every accounts payable – I want to keep my budget – I'm not voting for anything

Shellie Kelly – most of this board doesn't know how this nice hall that got here – I can't lug this can – talk to us respectfully – chance to discuss – chance for committee

Carol Bednarkiewicz – questions about 1 or 2 yarder – I can barely see to pull out of Boutilier – where are you going to put it? How am I going to see?

Recycle – so many counties given free bins for recycling – could get 2<sup>nd</sup> one at Lake George

Brenda Blackwell – what's going to happen when trash all over – is Harold going to fine us? – Where do I put my trash bin? – Not taking consideration of the seniors in this community

Supervisor Housler noted that procedure was followed by Township Attorney.

Brenda Blain – we all have same concern – we’ve been asked by 2 areas for increased taxes – many of the people won’t vote for all these – mistake to not listen – didn’t give a timely manner – I Work – I’ll have to put out Monday am or Sunday night.

Roger Diederich – close relative in politics – single hauler contract – if contractor day late \$100 fine – if damages property \$250 fine – 6 or 8 fines with vendor.

Purchase of generator – that facility is for use by public when power out – does public know where facility is – it’s our hall

Darrell Stafford – census is garbage issue was done not with consent of general public – domino effect – trucks going down roads – money for dirt roads – where’s money to fix roads – we don’t want to be citified – forced upon us – communism – why would you be proud of not taking it to the people – who’s the loser

Gary Maas – can you opt out of program (no) – if habitable property you will be charged

Debra House – mom can’t push canister so I’ll have to push both – brother sick – I’m not in good shape but I’ll help – I can’t afford taxes

Neno Rangel – apologize for not hearing – why do we have if we didn’t vote for it – we have no rights – I agree with 99% of the people – when do we have a chance to vote

Ward Meggison – has the board voted on contract

Supervisor Housler said yes.

Mr. Meggison aggressively approached the board table. Supervisor Housler asked him to sit down. When he didn’t, the Sheriff’s deputy came to the front and directed him to sit down or go to jail. Crowd became unruly at which time the Supervisor closed the Public Comment and requested a motion to adjourn.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to adjourn the meeting.  
**TIME: 8:00 p.m.**

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Alan Housler, Supervisor

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Julie Lightfoot, Township Clerk