

**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 12th of November, 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 5 members present.

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the regular board meeting minutes from October 8th, 2020. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dale Majewski, Clare County Commissioner, was absent.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve early check #15546-15549, and regular check numbers 15550-15563. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Supervisor Housler discussed the Inter-local agreement for a County Designated Assessor that is required by the State. As long as our assessor is doing a good job, then we are ok. If we have troubles for 2 years in a row, then the assessing responsibility would go to the County Assessor who would bring it back in order.

Motion made by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the contract and authorize the Clerk and Supervisor to sign. Ayes 5 (Housler, Lackie, Sable, Barnett, Lightfoot), Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler informed those present that we received paperwork from the County Drain Commissioner for 3 special assessment districts.....Doc & Tom Lake, Hickok Drain, and Croston Drain.

Supervisor Housler informed those present that we have the final court hearing on Wednesday regarding the Anthony Zielinski case (4407 Ridgeway).

CLERK'S COMMENT'S

Clerk Lightfoot noted that MERS (Municipal Employees Retirement System) is asking for an addendum to the current 401K system for the Board Members. Nothing is changing in the

system, they simply need clarification of who is eligible for the 401K system (board members) and what wages are counted (base wages). For governmental entities that have pension systems, they need to know if items like vacation payouts, sick payouts, overtime, etc. go into figuring the person's final pension amount. We don't have anything like that, so this is simply verifying that the Board Members are eligible using their base pay.

Motion made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve the MERS Agreement Addendum. Ayes 5 (Housler, Lackie, Barnett, Sable, Lightfoot), Nays 0.

Clerk Lightfoot discussed the purchase of a new office copier. As was pointed out at past board meetings, we received an Election Grant in the amount of \$5000. Besides buying a new election computer, a dutch door for the Clerk's office, and some miscellaneous items, we want to use some of the money to purchase a new office copier. This grant money will help us purchase a big ticket item that normally would have to come out of Township funds. The purchase is through MIDEAL, which is a State program that does all the bidding process for you and gets the best deal. Any governmental agency in the State of Michigan is eligible to purchase through this program.

Motion made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Treasurer Lackie, to purchase the new office copier through Ricoh. Ayes 5 (Housler, Lackie, Sable, Barnett, Lightfoot), Nays 0.

Lastly, Clerk Lightfoot wanted to thank all of the election workers for a great job. It was a very long day with most working from 6:00 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. As part of the Election Grant, we are also able to give our election workers Hazard Pay for having to work during the COVID-19 pandemic. Clerk Lightfoot recommended paying each of those that worked the November 3, 2020 election a hazard pay of \$100.

Motion made by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Supervisor Housler, to approve the \$100/person hazard pay. Ayes 5 (Housler, Lackie, Barnett, Sable, Lightfoot), Nays 0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning – John Phillips: Absent

Zoning & Blight – Harold Logan: Zero Zoning Permits this month. Checking out 3 properties for blight. Will go to court on 4407 Ridgeway (Zielinski case).

COMMENTS/CONCERNS FROM CITIZENS

Geri Shaw said thanks to the Board for the Hazard Pay. Supervisor Housler commended Vicki Brauner and Geri Shaw for all they do before an Election by getting the equipment, etc. ready for the election.

Adjourn: Motion by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to adjourn the regular meeting.
TIME: 7:25 p.m.

Alan Housler, Supervisor

Julie Lightfoot, Township Clerk