

**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 14th of November, 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 7 citizens.

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the regular board meeting minutes of October 10th, 2019. Ayes 5 Nays 0.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dale Majewski, Clare County Commissioner was present and gave the following highlights: Pete Preston of Equalization came and gave an update on tax rolls; they have purchased a program to show border and property lines, which will also be a benefit to the Townships; Courthouse security has changed at the request of the judges and has been moved to the double doors in order to include the Treasurer's and Clerk's offices; update on taking over the Road Commission – first public hearing regarding the takeover will be next Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. with a second public hearing in December (at the regular County board meeting) – if they decide to take it to a vote of the people, that will take place in August 2020 – probably have an Advisory Board over the Road Commission – you can send in a letter to Commissioner Majewski either for or against the County taking it over. (majewskid@clareco.net).

TREASURERS REPORT

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve early check numbers #15321-15322 and regular check numbers 15323-15337. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Supervisor Housler spoke on the Ashard Road property and the fact there is a reverter clause on this property. It was donated for Township purposes and now that it is no longer being used for Township purposes, it reverts back to the owner. Per our attorney, the cleanest way to revert the property is a Quit Claims Deed. This will give us a clean paper trail. Supervisor Housler has been in contact with the owner and he noted that he wants the fence to stay. Supervisor Housler also asked the Board whether they want to move the caretaker shack or leave it. He received a bid of \$300 from Delos Blain to move it, but we would also have to pay to have a site prepared to put the shack on. Clerk Lightfoot wondered whether the shack would be damaged by moving it in the cold. Supervisor Housler noted that the Ashard Road property has been cleared, except the converter needs to be picked up yet.

Motion made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to authorize Supervisor Housler to sign the Quit Claim Deed. Ayes 5 (Housler, Lackie, Lightfoot, Barnett, Sable) Nays 0.

Motion made by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Trustee Sable to leave the shed on the premises. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler informed those present that he had received the information for brining our roads next year. The bid for the brine is \$.1725 per gallon. He also received the 2020 dates for brining and they will be May 18th in the afternoon, June 30th and August 13th.

Motion made by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Trustee Barnett, to approve the brine bid of \$.1725 per gallon. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler noted that we have a vacancy on the Planning Commission and we are going to place an ad to ask for applicants for the position. Hope to have the position filled by February, 2020.

Supervisor Housler gave the following update on the tree work. The work is fairly well completed. Contractor still needs to load quite a few of the logs. Looks nice and the brush is piled up. The septic tank was damaged by the Contractor's equipment during the process of cutting trees, but the necessary permits were obtained and the Contractor paid for a brand new septic tank to replace the damaged one. Money from the trees will be used to pop out the stumps. Supervisor Housler will be coordinating this with Delos Blain.

CLERK'S COMMENTS

Clerk Lightfoot noted that the Farwell School Millage passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning – John Phillips - Absent

Building – Werner Mantei – Absent

Zoning & Blight – Harold Logan: 1 Zoning permit; 6101 Tamarack Trail variance has been approved; watching 5 places for blight; 3 places have been cleaned up; 2760 Twin Lakes having issue because person who owns the property doesn't live there anymore; 705 Connie, junk has been removed; for property on Norway he is going to have to start paperwork on them.

Geri Shaw mentioned the property at Ridgeway and Larch (Green house) that 3 people from LOP complained at the LOP meeting. Couple vehicles not working. Harold will take a look.

COMMENTS/CONCERNS FROM CITIZENS

Don Kowalske asked if the brine rate is the same as last year. Supervisor Housler said yes.

Don Kowalske said he knows we can't talk about the lawsuit but is there any progress. Supervisor Housler noted there is a pre-trial set for November 25th.

Don Kowalske asked about the test strip on Ashard. The Road Commission noted that the contractor was backed up and too small a project to come out.

Adjourn: Motion by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to adjourn the meeting.
TIME: 7:36 p.m.

Alan Housler, Supervisor

Julie Lightfoot, Township Clerk