

**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 December, 2017

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 all members present, along with 16 citizens.

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was conducted to discuss the revisions to Ordinance #8. Supervisor Housler noted the changes being made and gave a brief history on why this came about. The changes included: The requirement of lap siding and a pitched roof on mobile homes; and used Mobile Homes will be inspected and approved by the Building Inspector.

Supervisor Housler asked for any Board or Public Comments. There were none.

Trustee Sable moved to close the Public Hearing and return to the Regular Order of Business, Seconded by Treasurer Lackie. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

Roll call was taken with all members present.

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable, to approve the regular board meeting minutes of November 9, 2017, with the amendment to the adjourning time from 11:25 a.m. to 7:25 p.m. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dale Majewski, Clare County Commissioner gave his report. It included the following: There is a newly created Compliance Plan with the State for indigent defense; The new County Building Inspector is David Laposki; The Clerks office vacancy is still open, but should be filled soon.

Tracy Alvaro, Mid-Michigan Community College gave her report. It included the following: Introduced herself as the person who helps handle student life outside of the classroom; Mid-Michigan Community College is looking for ways to serve our community; gave data on the school; answered general questions from the audience.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett, to approve early check number 14856 and regular checks #14857-14876, (Voids-None). Ayes 5, Nays 0.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Supervisor Housler noted that we had just had the Public Hearing on revisions to Ordinance #8 and asked for a motion to approve. Motion by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the amendments to Ordinance #8. (Ayes-Housler, Lackie, Barnett, Sable, Lightfoot), Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler discussed the Resolution for 2018 Board Meeting Dates and recommended acceptance of the same.

Trustee Barnett moved, seconded by Trustee Sable, to hold the Freeman Township Board Meetings at the Freeman Township Hall, 7280 Mannsiding Road, Lake, Michigan 48632, with meetings starting at 7:00 p.m. local time.

The monthly meeting schedule is as follows:

January 11, 2018	February 8, 2018
March 8, 2018	April 12, 2018
May 10, 2018	June 14, 2018
July 12, 2018	August 9, 2018
September 13, 2018	October 11, 2018
November 8, 2018	December 13, 2018

Special meetings of the Board will be scheduled as needed and noticed in accordance with State Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the above meeting schedule, time and place be adopted.

Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler discussed the resolution/letter to object the transfer of unsold properties from the County to Freeman Township and recommended the acceptance of the same. He noted that we get a list in late summer listing the properties. Unless we have a public purpose need for the property, we object the transfer.

Motion made by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the following resolution:

009-060-377-00-T18N R6W Sec 24, Lot 377 Birchwood Heights.

The following has been determined at a regular Freeman Township Board meeting held on December 14, 2017:

The Freeman Township Board **objects** to the transfer of the unsold properties listed above that were foreclosed upon in April of 2017 and did not sell at either County Auction.

Submitted, with this letter, are the minutes from the aforementioned Board meeting confirming the objection/acceptance.

Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Supervisor Housler gave an update on the Road Projects for 2018. He noted that the Road Commission is working thru the estimating process. Also, their Board will be discussing possible solutions for paying for the work done on Ashard Road if done all in one year.

Supervisor Housler informed the Board and those present that he has had some trying conversation with individuals that have violated or almost violated the blight ordinance. These individuals are stating that no one wants the blight ordinance and they think it is unnecessary. Also noting it was snuck in by previous boards. Supervisor Housler noted that it was not a secretive action as changes to ordinances are discussed at board meetings and then a Public Hearing must be had in order to hear everyone's views and the changes be approved. He did commit to these individuals that he would bring this up at a board meeting to get the public's view. He also noted that it is our policy to work with people as long as they are working with us. If not, citations are issued, when necessary. Supervisor Housler thought that the ordinance was valid and necessary to keep values up. The Board stated their opinions and agreed that it is a necessary ordinance and we don't want our property values going down. Mr. Diederich applauded the ordinance, as this is the only way we can get our community to be better. It helps us all. Mr. Phillips wondered whether the building inspector could also do some things to help with the three we have problems with. Supervisor Housler doesn't believe we are asking them to do more than what they should be doing. Supervisor Housler will report back to them and we'll see where it goes from here.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning: - No Report

Building: - Werner Mantai – Absent, no report

Zoning & Blight: – Harold Logan – Mr. Logan noted he had three zoning permits this month. He has received a request from AT&T for a cell tower on Lake Station at M-115. Also noted there is a violation at 705 Connie Drive. Wants to use mobile home for storage shed, but didn't get a permit so \$350 fine.

Blight: He is currently monitoring 8 places and 3 may get citations. (1). Corner of Grass Lake & Monroe – a letter has been sent, in no response then citation. (2). 9736 Ashard – fellow is working on it. (3). 705 Connie Drive – unlicensed vehicle and junk. Vehicle is gone, citation gone to default.

COMMENTS/CONCERNS FROM CITIZENS

Mr. Kawalski talked about the raise in trash fee on empty lots. Board stated that previously it was \$49 for a home on a lot and \$10 for a vacant lot. Items were coming from the outside, and those in vacant bringing in more than should be, so needed to make everyone the same at \$32/lot.

Mr. Diederich noted that downstate he had curbside pickup once per week and the costs were \$60 per quarter, with the senior discount. Coming up here his taxes were cut in half!

There being no further business, a motion was made by Trustee Sable, and seconded by Trustee Barnett to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. **Time: 7:50 p.m.**

Alan Housler, Supervisor

Julie Lightfoot, Township Clerk