

“Freeman Township Board Meeting Minutes, May 14, 2015”

The May 14, 2015 Freeman Township Board meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Eighteen citizens and guests were present for the Pledge to the Flag and Roll Call of Officers, Housler, Humphrey, Lackie, Sable and Wells.

The minutes of the April 9, 2015 meeting were approved with a motion from R. Wells, support from S. Sable. Vote Taken – Motion Carried.

R. Wells with support from J. Lackie moved to approve the minutes of the Special meeting held on April 30, 2015. All Board members were present to discuss the roads projects for the 2015/16 fiscal year. Official minutes of this meeting are included with the May 24th minutes. Vote Taken – Motion Carried.

The clerk asks for a motion to make a correction to the previously approved minutes of March 12, 2015. This was the meeting to approve the 2015/16 fiscal year budget. Inadvertently the motion to approve was left off the regular minutes; it appears on the agenda but not the official minutes. R. Wells moved to approve the 2015/15 General Appropriations Act, support from S. Sable. Vote Taken – Motion Carried. Voting at the March meeting were Housler, Lackie, Sable and Wells. The Clerk was absent at this meeting. Vote Taken – Motion Carried.

Dale Majewski, Clare County Commissioner reported that fees and deposits for live traps supplied to citizens will be increased from \$10.00 to \$20.00 with \$10.00 being returned to the citizens when trap is returned. Litter drop offs to the shelter will increase to \$25.00. The Board of Commissioners also approved the purchase of all necessary body mics/cameras for road patrol deputies. Five cameras will be supplied by county townships that contract with the department.

Julie Lightfoot, Clare County Road Commissioner reported that the voters turned down Proposal 1 at the May 5th election. There is some discussion of another plan and Lightfoot will keep us updated. A citizen with property on Cedar Rd ask Lightfoot to look at the flooding and the condition of that road, he had pictures of the damage which looks to be caused by beaver. Ms. Lightfoot said the RC would look at the problem and if it is beaver they have a contract with a person that will trap them out.

The Treasurers report was accepted and S. Sable with support from R. Wells moved to pay the vouchers as presented to the Board. Vote Taken – Motion Carried.

The clerk had no correspondence to present.

Supervisor Housler had a memo from Attorney Hoerauf with links to the updates in place for the Freedom of Information Act. The Board will visit these links and update our requirements for the FOIA requests that come to the township. The links are [MTA FOIA Compliance webpage](#) and www.mml.org/resources/.../opp_2014%20FOIA%20Changes.pdfH

The Planning commission presented their completed Ordinance #33. Dangerous Buildings and Ordinance #34. Outside Alternate Heating to the Board for approval. There followed a motion from P. Humphrey and support from S. Sable to send the ordinances to Attorney Hoerauf for any clarification that may be needed. Vote Taken – Motion Carried. A Public Hearing will be scheduled and published after we hear from the Attorney. Citizens may view the ordinances at the Township Hall during office hours.

The Planning Commission also discussed the new Golf Cart Law excerpt; Section 257.657a of Michigan Vehicle Code. In this new section of the Michigan Vehicle Code the driving of golf carts are now prohibited on Michigan roads with a posted speed limit of thirty(30) miles per hour or more except where a village, city or township has designated otherwise. The Freeman Township Planning Commission voted to recommend that the Freeman Township Board, by resolution, allow the operation of golf carts on the following roads, in accordance with Section 257.657a of the Michigan Vehicle Code.

1. All roads in any platted residential subdivision.
2. Ashard Road from Grass Lake Road to Hemlock Road.

3. Hemlock Road from Ashard Road to Browns Road

It is further noted that the person operating the golf cart must be sixteen years of age (16) and have a driver's license.

R. Wells with support from J. Lackie moved to pass the Golf Cart Resolution so naming the roads as listed above. This shall be Golf Cart Resolution 51415. Vote Taken – Motion Carried.

Discussion took place regarding a Waiver of First Right of Refusal from the Clare County Treasurer, which in accordance with Act 123, the township has the “first right of refusal” to acquire tax-foreclosed parcels. None of the parcels offered were anything that the township could accept, Supervisor Housler will sign off on the waiver and return same to the County Treasurer.

Committee Reports:

Planning, L. Stevens. Discussion of the Golf Cart Law took place earlier in the meeting.

Building, W. Mantei, wrote 6 permits

Zoning, H. Logan, wrote 4 permits

Blight, H. Logan, open Blight cases include the Rude property on Grass Lake/Monroe is at a standstill. The mobile on Lindhaven and Windermere is going to be demolished and removed from property. The old machinery and parts, etc located on the old Nance Property has had some cleanup but there is still much to do. Logan will continue to monitor this property and all other open cases he has.

Transfer Site, the 30 yard roll off will be on site for the Memorial weekend and remain there until it is full.

Comments and Concerns:

There was a complaint of trash and garbage around two rental properties on Spring Ave. Mr. Logan will contact the property owner and advise to clean this up.

J.Lightfoot also said that she has some concern about the curve at Sandy Shores. This area is very close to the lake and should a vehicle go off the road at this spot it could end up in the lake. The Road Commission is looking into some guardrail material to put up at this area.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50pm, motion from S. Sable and support from R. Wells. Vote Taken – Motion Carried. The next meeting will be June 11, 2015 at 7:00pm.

Patricia D. Humphrey
Freeman Township Clerk.