

**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 September, 2023

Present Board Members: Supervisor Housler, Clerk LaFave, Treasurer Lackie, Trustee Barnett

TIME: 7:00 p.m. Call to Order and Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call was taken, Trustee Sable absent, excused, all other members present

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Treasurer Lackie to approve the minutes from the August 10th 2023 Board Meeting. Ayes- 4 Nays- 0

GUEST SPEAKERS

Marlene Housler- Clare County Commissioner- The Clare County Airport in Harrison has had the runway repaired, and it came in under the estimated cost.

The Board of Commissioners are working on the budget, it is almost done and waiting on approval next week.

Clare County has been awarded 1.2 million dollars to combat the opioid crisis in our county. The funds will be appropriated over 18 years and they have received \$180,000 as of now. They have formed a committee on how best to spend the funds.

The lawsuit brought on by the Clare County Prosecutor is still ongoing, and the Clare County Administrator, Lori Phelps has responded, you can read her response in the August 24th Clare County Cleaver.

TREASURERS REPORT

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Supervisor Housler to approve Checks 016422 - 016439. Ayes – 4, Nays - 0

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Supervisor Housler's first item to discuss is the 2023-2024 Insurance Policy renewal. The coverage is basically the same, except a PFAS exclusion and the premium has increased by \$217. Supervisor Housler made a motion to renew our policy as written, seconded by Treasurer Lackie. Roll call vote taken, Ayes- 4 Nays- 0

Update on our Shadowbrook lot 111 situation – the deed has been transferred to Freeman Township, on the condition they have until September 30, 2023 to remove items, after that date anything left on the property will be deemed abandoned, and can be disposed of. We are looking for volunteers for a couple of Saturday work sessions to get the property cleaned up. The board will then look at options on what to do with it. Because of some ongoing health issues, Supervisor Housler has asked Don Mann to oversee the cleanup project and timeline. It has been a long process and we look forward to the conclusion.

Supervisor Housler reminded the board that over the next few months we will be having some discussions and final decisions on the renewing of the road millage. If we choose to ask for a renewal the August Primary Election would be the best timing for it to be on the ballot. Also if we decide to have on the ballot in August, perhaps a reminder included with summer tax bills would be advantageous.

In response to a question posed at last month's meeting about offering curbside recycling, Supervisor Housler found out we can offer it at a cost of \$6.50 per participant per month and we would need a minimum of 500 participants to begin the program. We have approximately 900 participants in our curbside trash pickup, so more than 50% would have to agree to the increase to be collected by the township for recycling. We will continue to collect information and possibly have a representative of GFL at a future meeting to explain cost and options.

CLERK'S COMMENT

none

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning – Robert Eckardt: The township has approved the repeal of 3 Ordinances so far and Ordinance 1 will be replaced by Ordinance 5 when approved. We have had questions about the Ordinance concerning camping in Freeman Township, we will be addressing this at future meetings. Another item the Planning Commission has discussed is shipping containers, which are becoming more prevalent. Next meeting is Monday November 6th, 2023 10:00am, open to the public.

Zoning & Blight – Harold Logan – 2 Zoning permits issued this month and one variance request which was denied by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

He has had two complaints about people living in a garage on Pinehurst without sewage and water. He has found no proof they are living there, but are weekenders.

There is another property on Shadowbrook that is an ongoing blight situation that he is monitoring. He has been investigating a property on Browns road on a noise violation and having more than 3 adult dogs on the property.

COMMENTS/CONCERNS FROM CITIZENS

Adjourn: Motion by Treasurer Lackie, seconded by Clerk LaFave to adjourn the regular meeting.

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

Alan Housler, Supervisor

Lacinda LaFave, Township Clerk

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