

**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 09th of November, 2023

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

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

Roll Call was taken, all other members present

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve the minutes from the October 12th 2023 Board Meeting. Ayes- 5, Nays- 0

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Sable to approve the minutes from Special Meeting on October 25, 2023. Ayes- 5, Nays- 0

GUEST SPEAKERS

Marlene Housler- Clare County Commissioner- The BOC met a week early to accommodate the deer hunters.

The County Prosecutor was approved for a grant of \$300,000 for a 3 year period. \$100,000 per year. She will be using the grant to hire a criminal analyst.

The Clare County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution opposing the legislation that would take control of zoning for solar and wind farms away for local townships and municipalities and turn over to a state appointed committee.

Redding Township had a recall election on Tuesday November 7th, 2023. The Supervisor, and two Trustees were recalled. The clerk was not on the ballot for recall and the Treasurer was appointed, so not up for recall. Will be going to their meeting next week to meet the new board.

TREASURERS REPORT

A motion was made by Trustee Sable, seconded by Trustee Barnett to approve checks # 016459-016471. Ayes – 5, Nays - 0

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Supervisor Housler updated the board that the Shadowbrook property has been cleaned up and is now for sale as approved at our Special Meeting of October 25th. Thank you to all the volunteers who showed up to work and bring their tractors to scoop and load the rubbish into the dumpsters. We filled two 40 yard dumpsters and had a bonfire with all the scrap wood. Thank you to Don Mann for coordinating the work effort and seeing it through. A bonus to the Township taking ownership to the property, is we did not have to inventory everything that was put into the dumpsters and were able to dispose of the refuse quickly.

At our Special Meeting on October 25th, 2023, we met with three representatives of Clare County Road Commission. The purpose of the meeting was to talk about the future of our road projects. The consensus of the board was that most of the roads that needed gravel or limestone has been completed and we would like to focus for the future on alternative surfaces, asphalt

millings. And if our road mileage renewal is passed to be able to hard surface those millings with chip and seal and or hot mix topping. This will help with dust control.

Included in the boards packets is a letter from Michigan Chloride with 2024 dust control information, schedule and pricing. Supervisor Housler encouraged the board members to read it and will discuss at a future meeting.

The Planning Commission passed an ordinance at their Monday meeting regarding shipping containers. A copy of Ordinance No. 45 is included in our meeting packet for review and will be on the agenda for our December meeting. Supervisor Housler congratulated the Planning Commission for a job well done.

Clare County has received a grant for \$500,000 for blight removal. There will probably be an article in the newspaper about it soon. After reading through it, Supervisor Housler does not believe we have any property within our township that would qualify under their stipulations. Said property must be owned by the township or in a land bank and abandoned or vacant. But we will keep an eye on it.

Supervisor Housler announced that he will not be running for re-election next year.

CLERK'S COMMENT

none

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning – Robert Eckardt: Ordinance No. 1 was repealed by the board last month and replaced with Ordinance No. 5. At their last meeting the Planning Commission wrote Ordinance No 45 in regards to Cargo, Shipping and/or Container Usage. We believe it to be a comprehensive ordinance specifying the lot size requirements, the color, the foundation and the setbacks and will await the township board's approval and feedback. We also reviewed Ordinance No. 39, a noise ordinance and believe it does apply to an issue of semi-trucks running overnight in a residential neighborhood. The Planning Commission elected officers at their last meeting on November 6th, 2023. Chairman- Robert Eckardt, Vice- Richard Seig, Secretary- Gary Maas. The board will be meeting next on March 4th, 2024.

Zoning & Blight – Harold Logan – He issued 1 zoning permit last month. We have an active citation for a property on Ashcroft but it is being held up by the court. There are more citations being issued this month.

COMMENTS/CONCERNS FROM CITIZENS

None

Adjourn: Motion by Trustee Sable, seconded by Treasurer Barnett to adjourn the regular meeting.

TIME: 7:27 p.m.

Alan Housler, Supervisor

Lacinda LaFave, Township Clerk

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