

**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 14<sup>th</sup> of December, 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 November 09<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Board Meeting. Ayes- 4, Nays- 0

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

Marlene Housler- Clare County Commissioner- The Board of Commissioners has decided to no longer hold the Committee as a Whole Meetings, only their regular monthly meetings.

The Clare County Sheriff Department was approved to order 28 new body cams for their officers and to contract with an off site company to store the data collected.

The Clare County attorney went to mediation with the attorney for the Clare County Prosecutor in regards to the lawsuit brought by the Prosecutor against the County. The Prosecutor asked for the County to pay for her attorney fees in exchange for dropping the lawsuit, the County declined the offer. A trial date has not been set.

**TREASURERS REPORT**

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett , seconded by Supervisor Housler to approve early check #016473 and regular checks #016473-016484. Ayes – 4 Nays - 0

**SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS**

The Planning Commission has presented to the Board for approval the Freeman Township Master Plan. The Board was given a copy last month for review. Motion was made by Clerk LaFave and seconded by Treasurer Lackie to approve. Roll Call Vote taken Ayes – 4, Nays –0 Supervisor Housler gave a summary of the new ordinance #45 CARGO, SHIPPING AND/OR STORAGE CONTAINER USAGE ORDINANCE that the Planning Commission has developed and presented for Board approval. Treasurer Lackie made a motion to approve, Trustee Barnett seconded. Roll Call Vote taken – Ayes- 4, Nay- 0

The Michigan Chloride Sales schedule for dust control for 2024 is as follows, May 24<sup>th</sup>, June 26<sup>th</sup>, and August 15<sup>th</sup> , weather permitting.

Supervisor Housler reported that in discussions with the Clare County Road Commission that it is still too early to get pricing on our proposed road projects. We did receive a traffic study from the County on Strawberry Avenue, it averages 100 vehicles per day. We will have more discussions at future meetings.

Supervisor Housler requested board approval for a refund to property ID #009-032-400-01. We have been collecting the curbside special assessment from this property owner for three years. It was just brought to our attention that this is a commercial property and they have their own rubbish removal arrangements and have never used our curbside containers. Motion was made

by Clerk LaFave to remove this property from the special assessment tax roll and to refund the property owner the amount collected for the past three years, seconded by Treasurer Lackie. Ayes- 4, Nay – 0

**CLERK’S COMMENT**

Clerk LaFave introduced the new Deputy Clerk Jan Mann. She has been training for the last couple of weeks in the daily operations, payroll, accounts payable and working towards her State Certification for access to election information.

The schedule for the 2024 Freeman Township Board meetings was presented and will be posted on the outside board and website.

Clerk LaFave also discussed Early Voting for the 2024 elections. We will be having 9 days of Early Voting prior all three elections next year, held at the Clare County Courthouse. Election Day will still be at our Township Hall and Absentee ballots will still be available.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Planning – Robert Eckardt: Thanked the Board for approving the Master Plan and the new Ordinance #45. The Planning Commission will be meeting next on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Zoning & Blight – Harold Logan – He issued 1 zoning permit last month, which will require a variance. The application and fee has been turned in. A meeting of the Board of Appeals will be scheduled.

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 Treasurer Lackie , seconded by Treasurer Barnett to adjourn the regular meeting.

**TIME: 7:26 p.m.**

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Alan Housler, Supervisor

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Lacinda LaFave, Township Clerk