

**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 13<sup>th</sup> of June, 2024**

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

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

Roll Call was taken, all members present

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett, seconded by Trustee Mann to approve the minutes from the May 9th, 2024 Board Meeting. Ayes- 5 Nays- 0

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

Marlene Housler- Clare County will be having a couple of Electric Vehicle charging stations installed behind the County Jail in Harrison. No cost or maintenance fee for the county for 10 years.

The commissioners voted to lease a property in Hatton Township for 99 years at \$1 per year to a conservation district. They have leased yearly in the past but needed to own or have a long term lease to apply for a grant.

The Prosecutors lawsuit against the Commissioners is ongoing, they offered the Commissioners a settlement deal and they rejected it and are asking the judge for a dismissal.

Commissioner Housler brought some training and information flyers from the Ambulance meetings with MMR.

The board has been discussing closing the airport in Harrison, it is in disrepair and would require a lot of money to make repairs and improvements. There is an airport in Clare.

Sheyla Young- introduced herself and she is running for Trustee for the Freeman Township Board. She has served on the Board of Review for 12 years and is the current secretary for that board. She has also served as an Election Inspector for the township.

Robert Eckardt – he is also running for Freeman Township Trustee. He is the chairperson for the Planning Commission and chairperson for the Board of Review. He has served 6 years on the Lake of the Pines board and 5 years as President of the Men’s Club.

Gary Maas – he is also running for Freeman Township Trustee. He has served on the Planning Commission for 16 years and many as secretary. He is a member of the Boosters Club and a board member of Michigan Wild Turkey Hunters Association.

Tom Evans- he is running for Clare County Prosecutor. He is currently Chief Assistant Prosecutor. He has practiced law for 28 years, 17 in prosecution. He outlined his plan to improve the prosecutor’s office.

**TREASURERS REPORT**

A motion was made by Trustee Barnett , seconded by Trustee Mann to approve checks # 016563 – 016578 Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

## **SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS**

Motion made by Clerk LaFave and seconded by Treasurer Lackie and a roll call vote was taken to add property ID 009-220-125-00( for and extra can) and 009-002-300-09 ( for new service ) to our Special Assessment District. Ayes – 5, Nays – 0 And a discussion about keeping and eye on our list with the plus and minus changes and doing a bi-annual audit of the list.

Supervisor Housler reminded us that our Road Millage will be on the August 6<sup>th</sup> ballot and we also composed a letter that will outline the millage renewal to be included in the Tax bills coming out the end of June.

We received two bids from the County Road Commission to resurface Ashcroft and Lindhaven. Because of the shortage of millings, the cost to pave with asphalt was actually less expensive. A motion was made by Trustee Mann and supported by Treasurer Lackie, by roll call vote the board approved and signed a contract to pave Ashcroft and Lindhaven at a cost of \$60,305.00 Ayes – 5 , Nays – 0 Construction to begin later this summer.

Lapham Associated, Inc provided a bid of \$2,500 to stake the plots in the new addition in the cemetery approximately 360 plots. Motion made by Treasurer Lackie and seconded by Trustee Barnett to accept the bid from Lapham and for the cost of the caps with the lot numbers to not exceed \$2,380, roll call vote taken to accept the bid. Ayes – 5, Nay – 0 Lapham will also stake out our second row of cremation lots in the older section at no cost. Treasurer Lackie proposed a resolution to have only ground level grave markers in the new cemetery section it was seconded by Clerk LaFave, Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. The resolution passed and will be referred to the Planning Commission for preparation of proper documents.

Lake Tahoe association asked to have the Lake Tahoe Special Assessment District increased by 9%, in order to treat their lake. Motion to approve by Clerk LaFave, seconded by Trustee Barnett. Roll call vote taken. Ayes – 5. Nays – 0

We have received several bids for the purchase of lot #111 in Lake of the Pines on Shadowbrook Drive, the property that the township acquired from the blight situation and had for sale. Motion made by Clerk LaFave and seconded by Treasurer Lackie to accept the highest bid of \$2,100 from William Smith. Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Next step is to refer to our attorney to draw up the paperwork for the sale and a deed.

With the new cemetery addition, Supervisor Housler asked Trustee Mann to seek pricing and information for an additional lawnmower and to assess the storage situation for new equipment. There is a possibility that we may call a Special meeting to go over the information and vote, so we don't have to delay the decision until after the July meeting.

## **CLERK'S COMMENTS**

none

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Planning – Robert Eckardt – Planning commission did not meet this month; next meeting will be July 1<sup>st</sup> at 10am.

Zoning & Blight – Doug Johnson – he has issued 3 zoning permits this month. He is achieving 50% success with blight issues. He has sent out two letters on vacant lots, several unlicensed vehicles have been removed.

## **COMMENTS/CONCERNS FROM CITIZENS-** none

**Adjourn:** Motion by Treasurer Lackie , seconded by Trustee Mann to adjourn the regular meeting. Ayes -5 Nays - 0

**TIME: 7:50 p.m.**

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Alan Housler, Supervisor

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Lacinda LaFave, Township Clerk

