

**Fredonia Township Board Regular Meeting
November 20, 2023 6:30 PM
Fredonia Township Hall
8803 17 Mile Rd, Marshall, MI 49068**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 PM

BOARD MEMBERS present: Doug Damon, Supervisor Cathy Combs, Clerk JC Skowron, Treasurer Kyler Speaker, Trustee Terry Day, Trustee

STAFF present: Phil Damon, Fire Chief Jacob Washburn, Deputy Supervisor/FD Training Officer Dan Livingston Sr., Calhoun County Planning Commission George Crandall, Twp. Planning Committee

Terry Travis, Code Enforcement Officer

PLEDGE OF ALLIGENCE:

AGENDA – Additions/Deletions: Blink camera subscription

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MONTH: October 16, 2023

Terry made a motion and JC supported to approve the minutes as printed. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED AS READ

FINANCIAL REPORT:

JC provided Revenue and Expenditure report with % of budget used as of YTD. JC advised by moving the CDs to Southern Michigan, we are seeing an increase in revenue. Tax bills will be mailed soon. JC advised that Huntington did reimburse the township for the check that was improperly cashed in Arizona.

FILE FOR AUDIT

READING OF THE BILLS by **Cathy Combs**

An invoice register report was presented and reviewed by board. JC made a motion and Terry supported to approve the reading of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED AS READ

REPORTS:

Fire Department: Phil advised there were 8 fire and 7 medical calls for the month of October, 2023. SCBA training and pump training – pediatric and adult special considerations. The department is continuing to work on “box alarm cards” for mutual aid agreements, - we appreciate all those who came out and volunteered to help out with the annual “Trunk n Treat” at the Lyon Lake Church. Gabe Katz has resigned from the department due to moving out of the township and congratulations to Dan Cole on his promotion to Captain.

Ambulance: Newly refurbished ambulances have been completed.

Cemetery:

Roads: This year’s project has been completed. Next meeting will be held on February 11, 2023. 2024 projects will be discussed tonight.

Zoning/Ordinance/Planning Commission: Working on rezoning from ag to highway, county is reviewing at this time.

Code Enforcement: T. Travis states he has received an email for a property on 15 Mile and is following up with building inspector. .

OLD BUSINESS:

***ARPA Funds:** Board discussed IT proposal

***ARPA Spreadsheet:** Kitchen/hall flooring – quote for \$1.44 sq. ft. Doug went to Coldwater to check on some chairs but they were fabric so we are still working on finding chairs. Terry made a motion and Kyler supported for the approval on the kitchen floor. Motion carried unanimously.

IT – Kyler discussed raising the ARPA funding for replacing computers and software to \$17,500 with backup solution. Kyler made a motion and Cathy supported to increase the ARPA funding from \$10,000 to \$17,500. Motion carried unanimously.

***Doors –** Doors Unlimited to finish

***Janitorial Position:** Filled by Jeanine Speaker.

***Fire Substation #2 Roof:** Estimate received from Streamline Enterprises, Inc., with 3 options. The board discussed all 3 options. Terry made a motion and Kyler supported to approve Option 2 System Plus in the amount of \$20,359.30. Motion carried unanimously.

***Cemetery Rules:** Doug and Jacob are working on cemetery rules.

***Noise Ordinance:** At this time, will monitor and address issues when needed. Residents will follow-up with local officials.

***Snow plowing:** – Four bids submitted: Dustin Mauer bid will remain the same as last year \$70 per hour and New Horizon’s hourly rate is \$128; Earth Fathers bid is \$150 per hour and Teresa Washburn, \$50 per plow at Fire Sub Station 2 and \$25 per snow shovel at township. Cathy made a motion and Terry supported to accept bid from Dustin Maurer for plowing township @ \$70 per hour and Teresa Washburn for Fire Sub Station 2 and shoveling of snow at township, \$25 per occurrence. Motion carried unanimously.

***Short Term Rentals:** Table until November meeting.

***Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System:** Kyler made a motion and Terry supported to join the Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm system. Motion carried unanimously.

***Fence Repair – Township Hall Perimeter:** Justice Fence to provide estimate on 10/17 and Cathy will reach out to another contractor. Board suggested tabling this until November meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

***Signature on checks:** There are new deputies and need to have another person to sign checks for general accounts. Suggest 1 elected officer and deputy. There will be more information gathered on if 2 signatures are required with the tax account. Kyler made a motion and Cathy supported to update signatures with the bank on deputies and having 1 elected official with a deputy in the absence of either the clerk or treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

***Early In-Person Voting Agreement:** Cathy presented agreement that the township clerks are to sign with Calhoun County. Calhoun County and municipalities entered in an agreement pursuant to Article II, Section 4 (m) of the Michigan Constitution of 1963, and the Michigan Election Law, 1954 Public Act 116, MCL 168.720a et seq., for the purpose of operating a joint early in person voting site. County is looking for election workers and will pass on information as we receive it.

***Michigan Deal Membership:** Kyler discussed a membership for \$180 per year and benefits would include leverage for state contracts and will pay for itself in first year. Kyler made a motion and Cathy supported to submit membership to the MI Deal. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT (for any new issues):

*Discussion held on the following:

*MI State Police to be contacted on any marijuana grow operations

*BS&A use for other areas like code enforcement, timecards

*Adobe Editor needed to update permits on website

*Posting committee meetings

Collection of emails for township to reach residents and verifying signatures for voting

*Has owner of property for marijuana grower been contacted and an attorney letter been sent?

*Solar & Wind ordinance and township has an ordinance with restrictions

*Is Fredonia participating in pushing back on solar & wind ordinance and signing resolution?

BOARD COMMENT (TIME LIMIT-3 MINUTES PER ISSUE PER PERSON)

Supervisor Doug Damon adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM

Minutes prepared by Cathy Combs

Cathy Combs, Township Clerk _____

Date: 10/27/23

Doug Damon, Township Supervisor _____

Date: