

Fredonia Township Board Regular Meeting
October 16, 2023 6:30 PM
Fredonia Township Hall
8803 17 Mile Rd, Marshall, MI 49068

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: 6:33 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: MI Deal Membership

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA: None

CORRESPONDENCE: Metro Act Permit received for Doug's signature to allow access to ongoing use of public ways by telecommunications.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MONTH: September 18, 2023 and September 25, 2023 Special Board Minutes

Kyler made a motion and Terry 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. Doing well with revenue and suggest being proactive to groups to advise the township of any increase prior to next budget. Zoning is up and taxes collected. JC is following up with Huntington on 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. Terry made a motion and Kyler supported to approve the reading of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED AS READ

REPORTS:

Fire Department: Phil advised there were 3 fire and 11 medical calls for the month of September 2023. Training this month included positioning apparatus at scenes, pump training and basic Cardiology. They are continuing to work on the "box alarm cards" for mutual aid agreements. Captain Charlie Fisher turned in his captain resignation due to not having tie to fulfill his Captain duties but will stay on as a firefighter for Fredonia. We are sorry to hear the passing of retired Chief of Marshall Township, Paul Kiessling.

Ambulance: None

Cemetery: Doug reported three full burials, one cremation, 2 lots sold, and foundations delivered today. Doug and Jacob are working on cemetery rules. Brad Parker has been putting many hours in at the cemetery office. We review budget and discuss with auditor. The lawn at the cemetery looks good.

Roads: Next meeting will be 11/7/23

Zoning/Ordinance: There are 2 zoning permits: Dollar General (rezoning), public hearing will be 11/15/23 and reviewing one for auto repair shop on 15 Mile Road.

Code Enforcement: T. Travis is working on 2 condemn houses, 1 house is down and 1 needs a demo permit.

Planning Commission:

The next meeting will be held on November 15, 2023. There will be a powerline meeting at Eckford on 11/24, 2:00 PM.

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: