

Fredonia Township Board Regular Meeting
January 8, 2024
Fredonia Township Hall
8803 17 Mile Rd, Marshall, MI 49068

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: 6:43 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: Parks and Recreation

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA: None

CORRESPONDENCE: Received correspondence from NutriGro Environmental Solutions Inc. regarding notification of bio solids (sewage sludge) in the township.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MONTH: November 20, 2023

JC made a motion and Kyler 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. The tax payments have been steady coming in and were mailed on time. Income and expenses are looking good and will continue to monitor budget.

FILE FOR AUDIT

READING OF THE BILLS by Cathy Combs

An invoice register report was presented as of 11/21/23 to 1/8/24 and reviewed by the board. Kyler made a motion and Terry supported to approve the reading of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED AS READ

REPORTS:

Fire Department: Chief Phil Damon provided a report to the board for November. There were 9 fire and 10 medical calls for the month of November 2023. Phil states that training for the month included Mayday SCBA, small engine equipment checks, information on electric vehicles with Eaton Proving Ground, and respirator training with basic Pharmacology. The lock had to be replaced at station #1 due to malfunctioning, and the driver seat belt alarm had to be replaced on Rescue 8. Fire department continues to work on “box alarm cards” for mutual aid agreements. We appreciate all those who participated in the Marshall and Tekonsha Christmas parades.

Ambulance: There was not a meeting held in December and January meeting has not occurred yet.

Cemetery: Doug Damon provided a report and states 1 burial and another scheduled for Wednesday, January 10. Doug plans on printing off obituaries online to put with our records.

Roads: The County Road Commission did approve our 2024 road project to chip and seal Division Drive to A. Drive South then West on A. Drive South to 14 Mile Road to 13 ½ Mile Road to 12 Mile Road. Next meeting will be held on February 11, 2024. 2024 projects will be discussed tonight.

Zoning/Ordinance/Planning Commission: Planning will meet next on February 14, 2024.

Code Enforcement: T. Travis states he met with building inspector on the property located on 15, condemned the place and have spoken with homeowner. Homeowner is fixing it up to sell. Received a complaint on a couple of properties on A. Drive South and will work with Homeowner and Landlord.

OLD BUSINESS:

***ARPA Spreadsheet:** Updated and provided to the board. Discuss held on BSA proposal and will be discussed in February.

***Cemetery Rules:** Doug and Jacob are working on cemetery rules. The board will discuss in February.

***Cemetery Budget:** The board will discuss in February.

***Adobe Editor:** C. Combs advised that no more usage with Adobe Editor that we will need to recreate the permits vs. paying the fee.

***Short Term Rentals:** Table until February

***Road Funding:** G. Crandall discussed the PASER rating (Pavement, Surface, Evaluation and Rating System) and provided a map to review. There are 24 miles of local roads/non-primary and 25 miles of primary roads. Cost is approximately \$15,000-\$18,000 for all roads. This is where an engineer would distinguish where pot holes are located and then send to the road department for repairs. Cathy made a motion and Kyler supported to approve \$12,000 to conduct the PASER rating. Motion carried unanimously.

***Audit:** Ross with Walker, Fluke and Sheldon, PLC discussed recent compilation and states that F65 is done each year and this compilation helps with completing the F65 on time. Ross stated the township is financially in good shape and advised that we need to budget for the capital outlay and over budget with using the ARPA funds. Advised that the township should reconcile at the end of each month and provided examples of how something could get missed if not reconciling timely. He recommended a capital outlay policy. As of 6/30/23, \$530,000 in general fund. Ross discussed the few journal entries needed and the timing difference with state revenue and advised overall doing a good job.

NEW BUSINESS:

***Rezoning of Property – Dollar General:** The Calhoun County Office of Community Development sent a letter advising they reviewed the request to amend the zoning classification for the vacant property on 17 Mile Road (11-114-024-04). They found that the request is inconsistent with the Township Master Plan. In addition, vacant property zoned and planned as Highway Service Commercial is available to accommodate commercial development as needed. Therefore, staff recommend for denial of the proposed map amendment by the Fredonia Township Board. Discussion held on the recommendation and the Planning Committee's recommendation to rezone from future planning of medium density to Highway service. Kyler made a motion and JC supported to approve the rezoning. Roll call vote: K. Speaker – Yes; C. Combs-No; J. Skowron – Yes; T.Day-No. Vote failed. Terry made a motion and Kyler supported to have planning commission review, 63 days with public input. Motion carried unanimously.

***Planning Commission Appointments:** Doug provided an email stating: The terms of Bridget Hicks and John Dietz expire. John does not wish to be considered for another 3 year term. Bridget is willing to serve another 3 year term and Linda Smoot is interested in serving as well. Therefore, Doug Damon recommends that the board appoint Linda Smoot and Bridget Hicks to a 3 year term on the Planning Commission. Terry made a motion and JC supported to appoint Bridget Hicks and Linda Smoot to the Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

***Parks and Recreation:** Will discuss in February

PUBLIC COMMENT (for any new issues):

*Suggestion to possibly adopt the short term rentals with an April date to be able to make decision tonight

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

*Kyler expressed disappointment with having to do an engineer report

*Cathy advised pamphlets available for the Early Voting and packets for anyone interested in a board position

Clerk Cathy Combs adjourned the meeting at 8:26 PM

Minutes prepared by Cathy Combs

Cathy Combs, Township Clerk _____

Date: 1/8/2024

Doug Damon, Township Supervisor _____

Date: