

**Fredonia Township Board Regular Meeting
February 17, 2025 6:30 PM
Fredonia Township Hall
8803 17 Mile Rd, Marshall, MI 49068**

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS present: Terry Day, Supervisor Meg Bosserd, Clerk Kyler Speaker, Treasurer
 Cathy Combs, Trustee John Miller, Trustee
STAFF present: Phil Damon, Fire Chief Jacob Washburn, Deputy Supervisor/FD Training Officer
 George Crandall, Twp. Planning Committee
 Terry Travis, Code Enforcement Officer

CALL TO ORDER: Terry Day called meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by all

Agenda Additions/Deletions: T. Day added Bruggeman Dwelling Update under Old Business.

CORRESPONDENCE: M. Bosserd read the attached letter sent to the Township Board from Martin LaFayette dated February 6, 2025 expressing concern regarding short-term rentals in the township.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MONTH: Regular: January 20, 2025

C. Combs made a motion and J. Miller supported to approve the minutes as printed for the January 20, 2025 regular board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED AS READ

FINANCIAL REPORT: K. Speaker provided reports to review; Winter taxes were due on February 14, 2025. One township payment was sent to Calhoun County in early February and a final payment will go out in March to close out the tax year.

FILE FOR AUDIT

READING OF THE BILLS by M. Bosserd

M. Bosserd provided a check register for the board to review dated January 20, 2025 - February 17, 2025, totaling \$7,264.28. There were 10 voided checks due to a Windows update that affected BS&A Accounts Payable printer settings. K. Speaker made a motion and J. Miller supported to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED AS READ

REPORTS:

FIRE: Chief Damon provided a report and stated there were 6 fire and 15 medical calls for the month of January 2025. Training this month: Ropes and knots; quarterly training with Marshall City, Marshall Township and Marengo Township, which was on electric vehicle cell plant response and confined space and rope operations. Continuing Ed classes were on the subjects of airway/ventilation, basic airway management, and managing the pediatric airway. Chief Damon, Assistant Chief Ken Huestis and Captain Mike Russell attended the Pipeline Awareness Class. Equipment: They are working on getting quotes on undercarriage power pressure washers.

CEMETERY: There was no news for the township cemeteries this month.

ROADS: 2024 road projects are completed. They have been paid for and came in under budget. The two 2025 projects have been approved by the county. Confirmation of approval to be forwarded to T. Day. Downpayment possibly due in May.

ORDINANCE: None.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: None.

PLANNING: The last meeting was on February 12, 2025. The next meeting is March 12, 2025 at 7:00pm. They will continue to discuss the lake district as well as an amendment to the conditional use permit for a concrete construction plant.

OLD BUSINESS:

***Bruggeman Dwelling Update:** Condemnation letter from Building Inspector was sent out dated 1/7/25. T. Day contacted the Township attorney once 30 days passed. T. Day read the response from the attorney. Township is moving forward with steps. A civil infraction citation will be issued. Upon confirmation of receipt, resident will be given one last chance to respond and then issue will go to the courts. T. Day hopes to have an update at the next Board Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

***FOIA Coordinator:** In Fredonia Township's FOIA Procedures and Guidelines, the Township Supervisor is currently listed as the FOIA Coordinator. Per MCL 15.236, the Township Board designates the FOIA Coordinator. As the Township receives more FOIA requests, and, since the Clerk is responsible for record-keeping, T. Day suggests that the Township Clerk become the FOIA Coordinator. J. Miller made a motion to change the designation of the FOIA Coordinator to be the Township Clerk. K. Speaker supported. Motion carried unanimously.

***Budget Parks & Rec:** K. Speaker explained the Parks and Recreation fund balance. The Township collects the taxes, disperses to Calhoun County, and then receives a check back from the County with the allocation. The Township has been receiving funds and applying to the Parks & Rec fund balance. This should have been recorded in revenue. Moving forward, the Board will identify amount and plan for expenditures. The township spent \$6,678.37 for trash bins, a bench, and a shed for Brooks Nature Area in 2024. There is a \$11,377.50 millage balance. In order to qualify for our 2025 allocation of \$5,308.04, we need to reduce the balance to \$10,712.17. At the January 20, 2025, Board meeting, the Board approved a \$700 contribution to a controlled burn at Brooks. The invoices for these expenses need to be paid.

K. Speaker motioned to add a line item for \$7,400 to the 2024-2025 budget for Parks and Recreation expenditures.

Upon roll call vote the following voted "Aye": John Miller
Kyler Speaker
Meg Bosserd
Cathy Combs
Terry Day

Upon roll call vote the following voted: "Nay": None

Per the January 20th Board meeting, M. Bosserd emailed the 2024 Parks Millage Allocation Report & 2025 Allocation Request to Luck Siefken, Parks Coordinator on February 11, 2025.

***Public Hearing Date – Short-Term Rentals:** This will be a meeting to come up with a plan one way or another regarding short-term rentals in the Township. A notice will be put in the Ad-visor and on the website. The meeting will be held on Monday, March 17, 2025, at 5:00pm before the regular Board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT (for any new issues):

*Resident spoke for three minutes on short-term rentals, battery storage, and asked if parks and rec funds could go towards cemeteries.

*Resident commented on condemned house being a safety issue.

*Resident commented on condemned house being an issue that has gone on way too long.

*Resident commented that many Lyon Lake residents are in Florida and may not make the March 17th Public Hearing.

*Resident commented that the Lyon Lake short-term rental committee is made up of volunteers.

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

*K. Speaker said he's given J. Diver of Lyon Lake Association weed fund info and they can come up with a five-year plan.

*T. Day pointed residents to the short-term rental ordinance on page 91 of Fredonia Township's Zoning Ordinance on the township website if they have questions. The Board is not trying to rush or delay short-term rentals.

*T. Day commented that Parks money cannot be used towards cemeteries.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM.

Minutes prepared by M. Bosserd

Meg Bosserd, Township Clerk *Meg Bosserd*

Date: *3/18/25*

Terry Day, Township Supervisor *Terry Day*

Date: *3/18/25*