

**Fredonia Township Board Regular Meeting
April 18, 2022 6:30 PM
Fredonia Township Hall
8803 17 Mile Rd, Marshall, MI 49068**

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS present: Doug Damon, Supervisor Cathy Combs, Clerk JC Skowron, Treasurer Ken Huestis, 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: In supervisor’s excused absence, Clerk opened meeting with pledge, made motion to appoint Terry to lead meeting, supported by JC. Motion carried unanimously.

Guests:

Tommy Miller, County Commissioner talked about the 911 millage that is going on the ballot in August and that it is .988 mills. It will be combined with parks (.002) and veterans (.002). He also advised that less than 20% of the townships in the state have passed this millage.

AGENDA – Additions/Deletions: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MONTH:

Motion made by Ken and supported by JC to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2022 board meeting.

APPROVED AS READ

FINANCIAL REPORT-

Treasurer JC Skowron provided financial report for board review.

FILE FOR AUDIT

READING OF THE BILLS by **Cathy Combs**

Bill listing presented and reviewed by board 3/24-4/14/2022 totaling \$2,519.95. Motion made by Ken and supported by Terry to approve bills as presented.

APPROVED AS READ

REPORTS:

Fire Department: Fire department reported 8 fire and 6 medical calls for the month of March 2022. Fire departments including Fredonia, Marengo and Homer toured Eaton Proving Grounds. Training included Pediatric airway and assessments. Monthly truck checks were completed. Equipment: No new information provided on the radio grant hosted by Marshall City Fire Department. Grant provided to board members and will be discussed/approved at the next meeting. Department is starting to receive equipment thru the equipment grant. Engine 8 is over-heating and may end up going to Cummins of Grand Rapids to have engine work done. Activities: Continuing to prepare for our annual Golf outing at the Marshall Country Club – June 18, 2022.

Ambulance: Ken reported that meeting will be held next month.

Road: George reported the next road meeting will be May 10, 2022.

Cemetery: Doug submitted a report stating there was 1 Burial at Lyon Lake. The cemetery plots are being cleaned up every day and asked for a volunteer to assist with keeping the 4 white barrels emptied. Terry stated he would keep them cleaned out.

Zoning/Ordinance: ZBA meeting held on 4/4/22

Fredonia Planning Commission: Meeting held on April 14, 2022 to review maps for current zoning.

OLD BUSINESS:

***Lawn Mowing Bids:** Proposal received from Dan Cole – Lutheran \$125 (increase of \$25) and Houston \$175 (increase of \$25) Leaf/Brush \$20 per hr. Also, bid received from Phil Damon for the township/fire department \$60 and Fire Sub #2 \$35 with \$20 per hour for leaf/brush/limb. No action needed as boarded voted in March.

***FDIC:** JC reported that the meeting with Huntington was cancelled due to illness and rescheduled for this Friday.

***Security:** Doug provided a report stating he has not heard back from the business in Grand Rapids and if anyone knows of a company to please let him know. Cathy has talked to Bob Lyng with Marshall Township and more information to follow.

***Mausoleum:** Doug provided a report advising that he has not heard back from the people interested in the mausoleum and is still working on a proposed plan.

***Reconciliation:** JC advised reconciliation will be up to date by next board meeting.

***Equipment Sales – Fire Department:** Nothing finalized at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

***Terry Travis:** Terry understands that there are a few complaints to review. A resident spoke up to identify a potential marijuana grow operation on C. Drive South. It is making him and his wife ill and wanted to know what the township's next step. At this time, recommendation is to contact attorney to have a letter cease and desist as Fredonia Township opted out of marijuana grow operations and follows State guidelines. Another recommendation is to contact the Environmental Department due to the clean air act. Board will follow up with attorney and EPA.

***AFG Grant and Invoice:** Clerk received an invoice from Tekonsha Fire Department in the amount of \$5090.92. Clerk has asked the Chief and Captain to provide a copy of the grant for documentation since invoice has been received in office. In further review the AFG Grant hosted by Fredonia is an Operations and Safety Grant as well as the one Tekonsha is hosting. Auditor is requesting 3-4 documents to support engagement into a contract with FEMA. FEMA advises as long as the grant monies received are going to be spent on different equipment then each department can host the AFG grant – Operations and Safety. Chief spoke up, provided a copy of grant application and advises that he has had a copy since February 2021. Discussion held on importance of documentation when an invoice received, prior approval needed when over \$500 from any employee or department head and that the process with the auditor is that he will review and journal entries, expenditures, deposits and then will request the township to provide the backing or approval to do what has been done in our records. This is an accounting process and cooperation is needed from all to make sure we are following what is expected in our positions. The copy of the AFG Grant hosted by Tekonsha is to purchase turnout gear which is different than the grant hosted by Fredonia (S.C.B.A.). Motion made by JC and supported by Cathy to approve continuing with the AFG Region Grant hosted by Tekonsha in the amount of \$429,545.45 (turnout gear) along with Tekonsha, Fredonia, Homer, Marshall Township, Marshall City and

Burlington Twp. Motion carried unanimously. Motion made by JC and supported by Ken to pay Tekonsha Township \$5090.92 which is 10% portion of the AFG Grant for turnout gear. Motion carried unanimously.

***Budget Adjustments:** Clerk received invoice from Calhoun County Dispatch Authority, \$2724.32 and need \$256.36 to stay within budget. Clerk would like to do a budget adjustment in the amount of \$256.36 from office supplies to the Ambulance Dispatch Authority. JC made motion and Ken supported to have clerk complete budget adjustment in the amount of \$256.36. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: Suggestion was made that residents review cemetery policy and reposting of Sexton position as quite a few items placed on gravesites outside what is allowed. Also, agenda item missed – Website. Fire Chief advised that the Engine 8 truck blew a head gasket and will need to be towed to Grand Rapids. Board discussed authorizing repairs including tow bill up to the remaining budget amount \$7000 and once estimate received can revisit. Ken made motion and JC supported to authorizing repair costs up to \$7000 including tow bill and once estimate received to submit to board for a special meeting if needed. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Comment: None

Supervisor Doug Damon adjourned the meeting at 7:55 PM

Minutes prepared by Cathy Combs

Cathy Combs, Township Clerk _____

Date: 4/19/2022

Doug Damon, Township Supervisor _____

Date: