

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Freedom Township Board of Trustees

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3398 FORM NO. 10148

Held March 20,

20 2024

The Board of Trustees of Freedom Township met on the above date. Trustees, David Bruning, Richard Rahe and Kent Schuerman were present. (Mr. Rahe had to leave the meeting early.) Also present were Fiscal Officer, Julie Getz, Fire Chief, Duane Martin and Road Superintendent, Robert Rentz. Also present was guest, Scott Heacock.

Chairman, David Bruning called the meeting to order.

Mr. Bruning moved to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2024 meeting, seconded by Mr. Schuerman, all yes, motion carried.

Bills and Payroll were presented. *A motion to accept the bills and payroll was made by Mr. Rahe, seconded by Mr. Schuerman, all yes, motion carried.*

Receipts were presented. *A motion to accept the receipts was made by Mr. Schuerman, seconded by Mr. Rahe, all yes, motion carried.*

FUND REPORTS – Fund reports were presented and reviewed.

GENERAL OLD BUSINESS: SALT BUILDING - Guest – Scott Heacock – Trustee Rahe asked Mr. Heacock to attend the meeting to discuss drawings for the salt shed. Mr. Rahe received some quotes on pre-fabricated buildings. One of which was Attica Lumber. He talked about a 32' x 30' building. The board is interested in half salt storage and half stone storage and possibly an additional space for cold storage. They discussed specifications and Mr. Heacock agreed to put some drawings together based on their discussions. He will provide a proposal as soon as possible.

FIRE – Old Business - FIRE STATION ROOF REPLACEMENT – Buckeye Thermal Imaging sent an invoice for the thermal scan. As of this date, Trustee Rahe has not received a copy to distribute to the bidders. He called them during the meeting and Buckeye said they would get a copy of the scan to the trustees' email today. Mr. Rahe will distribute to the current bidders for review. The board agreed that the best plan would be to get a price to go over the top for a 25-year warranty. Discussion was tabled until bidders review scan.

SOLAR ECLIPSE - The Wood County Emergency Management Agency is having a meeting about the Solar Eclipse expected on April 8, 2024 between 2:45 P.M. and 3:15 P.M. Trustee Bruning will attend the meeting at the Health Department. Chief Martin recommended that the department have extra personnel at the station on that day to cover any unforeseen issues.

WEBSTER TOWNSHIP FIRE AND EMS AGREEMENT – Ms. Getz reported that she received a copy of the fully executed agreement from Webster Township.

New Business – **VEHICLE ACCIDENT** – Chief Martin responded to an emergency run this morning. On his way back to the meeting he hit a deer with the command vehicle. There was damage to the front right bumper, etc. but is still drivable. *Trustee Schuerman moved to file a claim with the township's insurance provider, Ohio Plan, and to take the vehicle to DC Collision for repair. Trustee Bruning seconded the motion, Kent YES, Dave YES, Rick ABSENT; motion carried.* Chief Martin will take the truck there following the meeting. Ms. Getz will alert Ohio Plan and file the claim accordingly.

SUPPLIES - Chief Martin reported that the department needs some new batteries for their monitors. Deputy Chief, Kent Appelhans was able to find new ones for a discounted cost of approximately \$300.00 each.

P.F.F.D. ASSOCIATION - Chief Martin reported that the Pemberville Freedom Fire Department Association is interested in putting up a building on the south west corner of the township property behind the current fire station at 104 E. Front Street. The Board is in favor of

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the project. Trustee Schuerman reminded Chief Martin that any building built on the property would ultimately be turned over to the township as owner and would be insured by the township.

MISC. - The board briefly discussed the possibility of setting up a fire district and what that would look like in the future. The main concern is personnel.

ANNUAL REPORT - Chief Martin presented and reviewed the 2023 Annual Report of Emergency Runs.

ROADS – Old Business – TRACTOR LOADER – The board discussed the dimensions of the loader we currently have and dimensions of the potential new loader we would trade for. They decided they need to get more information so they don't get another loader with same problem. Also discussed adding wheel weight to the tractor to help ballast the weight of the current loader and also downsizing current bucket size. Trustee Schuerman will get with AG Pro and see what they come up with and the board tabled the decision until the next meeting.

ROAD BORE PERMIT - The board discussed the progress of the permit for road bores in the township. They reviewed a sample permit from Attorney, Joyce Nowak and agreed to use it moving forward. There were still questions as to the type of and amount of the required bond. And the board will also need to put together a resolution to abide by certain specifications/requirements prescribed by ORC before use of the permit. Attorney Nowak will assist and review. The matter was tabled.

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS 2024 – Trustee Schuerman is speaking with Mr. Jason Sisco of the Wood County Engineer's office about the road work for 2024 including a cooperative project with Webster Township on Swan Road and also looking at Zeppernick Road at the same time. He will also look at S. River Road for ISSUE ONE Grant application. In addition, Bob Rentz reported that Tony Morlock asked him if the township would be doing any crack seal of other projects that he should quote. Trustee Schuerman indicated that the board should wait until Jason Sisco gets back to him.

MAINTENANCE BUILDING FLOOR – Mr. Rentz reported that a representative from Rudolph Libbe, Inc. came out yesterday to take measurements.

ZONING – Old Business – ZONING MANUAL CHANGES – Ms. Getz suggested that the date of the public hearing on solar and wind additions to the zoning manual take place immediately before the next regularly scheduled board meeting. Public Hearing to begin at 8:00 A.M. on April 10, 2024, with the regular board meeting to follow. She will contact Brooke Hahn to get the notice in the paper.

GENERAL OLD BUSINESS –

WATER/BRIDGE STREET PROPERTY – Trustee Schuerman reported that he attended the Village of Pemberville's council meeting last evening. He indicated that member Jeffery Kirkbride moved to give Parcel No. D16-512-100223002000, the "garage parcel", to the township. Mr. Kuhlman stopped the proceeding and said that there would need to be a survey of the parcel before the village can proceed with the transfer. The board will ask Attorney Nowak to follow up.

MAINTENANCE BUILDING FLOOR DRAIN – Trustee Schuerman reported that there has been no word from Rudolph Libbe, Inc. regarding their plans for fixing the flooding issue in the garage area since the special meeting on February 12, 2024.

OHIO PLAN INSURANCE APPLICATION – Ms. Getz reported that the application for renewal of insurance coverage from The Ohio Plan still needs to be completed. She suggested

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that she, Chief Martin and Bob Rentz all work together to review inventory and she will get the application submitted as soon as possible.

GENERAL NEW BUSINESS –

LEVY INFORMATION – The Trustees reviewed the levies due to expire this year to determine what needs to be considered for renewal. *Trustee Bruning moved that it is necessary to run a renewal of the 3-year, 1 mill, Current Expense (1000) levy in November. Trustee Schuerman seconded the motion,*

Roll Call: Kent YES, Dave YES, Rick ABSENT, motion carried.

Trustee Bruning moved that it is necessary to run a renewal of the 5-year, 1 mill, Fire & Ambulance (2194) levy in November. Trustee Schuerman seconded the motion,

Roll Call: Kent YES, Dave YES, Rick ABSENT, motion carried.

APPROPRIATIONS – Ms. Getz presented the 2024 permanent appropriations in accordance with the Wood County Auditor's Amended Certificate. After review by the board, *Trustee Schuerman moved to approve the permanent appropriations for 2024 as presented. Trustee Bruning seconded the motion,*

Roll Call: Kent YES, Dave YES, Rick ABSENT, motion carried.

There being no further business coming before the board, Trustee Bruning adjourned the meeting until Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 8:00 A.M.



David Bruning, Chairman



Fiscal Officer



Richard Rahe, Vice Chairman



Kent Schuerman, Trustee