

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Freedom Township Board of Trustees

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held April 26, _____ 20 2023

The Board of Trustees of Freedom Township met on the above date. Mr. Schuerman called the meeting to order. Trustees Kent Schuerman, David Bruning and Richard Rahe were present. Also present were, Fiscal Officer, Julie Getz, and Road Superintendent, Robert Rentz, and Fire Chief, Duane Martin. Guests included Marissa Benschoter-Euler from Ohio Plan, Onsite Superintendent, Jim Cannon, and Dalton Landers of Rudolph Libbe, Inc.

Kent Schuerman called the meeting to order. The progress meeting began with Mr. Landers' discussion of the progress of the building to date. He reviewed safety at the site and went through the project schedule. Dalton reported that TTL will provide the 3rd party quality testing. The Board signed the change order previously negotiated. Rick Rahe will speak with the Village about a timeline for installing the new storm sewer.

There being no further discussion of the Office/Maintenance Building, the Board began the regular business meeting at 8:00 AM.

Mr. Bruning moved to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2023 meeting, seconded by Mr. Rahe, 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. Bruning, all yes, motion carried.*

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

FUND REPORTS – Fund reports were presented and reviewed.

ROADS – Strawser Construction requested that Freedom Township participate in ODOT's Cooperative Purchasing program. *Trustee Rahe moved to participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation Cooperative Purchasing Program in accordance with Ohio Revised Code §5513.01(B). Trustee Bruning seconded the motion, all yes, motion carried.*

Kent asked Bob Rentz to request an estimate from Morlock Asphalt to do some road preparation before Strawser Construction begins the micro-seal.

Bob reminded the Board that there is still a drainage issue in front of the Smith property on Linwood Road. Mr. Schuerman will talk to someone from the Wood Soil & Water Conservation District to determine how to calculate cost split. He will ask the Wood County Engineer's Office to provide an estimate.

The Wood County Engineer requested an order for any salt needed by the township for next year. Kent will contact Jason Sisco.

GUEST – Marissa Benschoter-Euler presented and reviewed Ohio Plan's Package Proposal for renewal of the township's property and liability insurance policy. *Trustee Bruning moved to approve the Ohio Plan's package proposal as presented for a premium of \$18,670.00 from May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024. Trustee Rahe seconded the motion, all yes, motion carried.*

FIRE – Chief Martin reviewed the Ohio Task Force recommendation #3 – Point Based Non-Wage Incentives program. The Board discussed the feasibility of the program and the additional cost for the township. The discussion continued and decided that it would be necessary to renew the Fire & EMS levy that is due to expire this year. *Trustee Bruning moved to renew the 3 mill Fire & EMS levy. Trustee Rahe seconded the motion, all yes, motion carried.*

The Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services Agreement with Webster Township is due to expire at the end of this year. The Board discussed the additional effective rate to be included in the formula for the new contract. Julie will check with the Auditor to find out the new effective rates to be included in the formula for calculating Webster Township's cost.

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CEMETERIES – Bob Rentz reported that Jake Grover started work mowing cemeteries. He will continue until the new summer help is available at the end of May or beginning of June. Mr. Rentz also reported that Jacob Hostottle is willing to weed whip the cemeteries after normal business hours when he is able. *Trustee Rahe moved to hire Jacob Hostottle to weed whip the cemeteries at a rate of \$15.00 per hour until the summer help is ready to start. Trustee Bruning seconded the motion, all yes, motion carried.*

NEW BUSINESS – Julie informed the Board that a check was fraudulently cashed back in March. The check was made out to P&R Communications in the amount of \$1,397.65. When she received another invoice from them she discovered that the check was stolen by “check washing”. An individual’s name and address replaced P&R Communications and was deposited accordingly. Julie informed the Bank, the Prosecutor’s Office and made a USPS mail theft claim. The Prosecutor’s office reported the fraud to the Wood County Sheriff’s department. The Bank said that they would reimburse the township the amount of the check.

There being no further business coming before the board, Trustee Schuerman adjourned the meeting until Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 7:00 A.M.



Chairman



Fiscal Officer