

**Fremont Township Minutes
February 14, 2013**

The regular meeting for the Fremont Twp. Board of Trustees was held on February 14, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the Fremont Twp. Hall.

Board members present: H. Wymore, C. Sherwin, A. Holbrook, J. Welke, & I. Barrons.

Guests: 10

MINUTES:

Without objection or correction the January 10, 2013, minutes were approved. Motion made by I. Barrons seconded by J. Welke – motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A Resident stated that if anything had been done to make the hall driveway more visible, it still wasn't working because they cannot see the driveway at night. Another Resident asked if anyone on the Board had researched to see what attorney the other townships in the area use. H. Wymore stated that we will be discussing this later in the meeting as it is on the agenda.

CLERK REPORT:

Budget: Clerk gave Board members a list of necessary amendments for the current 2012/2013 budget. Motion made by C. Sherwin, seconded by I. Barrons to approve the amendments as listed – motion carried. PA116: Received a letter from the Tuscola Conservation District recommending approval of the PA116. Also received a letter from the Tuscola County Planning Commission suggesting that the PA116 applications be rejected at this time and be returned to the township for completion by the applicant. The Board decided to table the PA116 applications at this time until the applicant completes the necessary sections recommended by the Tuscola County Planning Commission.

TREASURER REPORT:

Treasurer balance was \$184,416.67 as of January 31, 2013. Motion to accept treasurer report made by A. Holbrook, seconded by J. Welke – motion carried.

SUPERVISOR REPORT:

Cemetery Report: H. Wymore gave the Board a list of proposed work to be done at the Cemetery. Also the Cemetery Caretaker would like to ask for a \$100 per month increase for the next budget year. C. Sherwin suggested that maybe we increase the Caretaker salary by \$150 per month and have this include the snow plowing and shoveling. The Caretaker stated that he would agree to that offer. The Board decided to table this at this time until we could work on the budget and will discuss it at next month's meeting. H. Wymore also stated that we will need to get a big dumpster placed at the Cemetery before April 1st.

Road Report: Work has not been started on Waterman Road yet. Also H. Wymore has tried to contact Jostock Trucking regarding roadside mowing but still has not heard back from him.

Township Attorney: We did receive a cost from Gary Howell's office. If we were to hire that law firm the cost would be \$135 per hour. The township paid \$185 per hour for John Bishop's office. C. Sherwin asked if we should try to find an attorney that is local. A. Holbrook stated that she will try to find out which attorney other townships use. The Board tabled this for now until we can get more information. The Board decided to continue using Gary Howell on an as needed basis until they decide on a Township Attorney.

CHRISTINE TRISCH (County Commissioner):

Christine handed out information regarding the Step Forward Program which can help people that may be losing their homes due to back taxes. J. Welke asked her if the proposed new gas tax would give increased revenue to the township. Christine stated that at this time she doesn't know but she will see what she can

find out. J. Welke also commented to her that he didn't like the new Election Law that was passed by the Governor which moved the Village election to even year November and to be held by the township. Christine stated that the reason this was done is because the government (from the Federal on down) is mandating that governments consolidate where possible and to try to work together to decrease the size of government. H. Wymore gave her some information on the digital tax mapping and she said that she thinks it is a great idea and that once the township gets all the information they should give it to her and they can present it to the County Commissioners. Christine also stated that she has a meeting next week at the Road Commission and to let her know if there is anything we would like her to bring to their attention.

ED SMITH (Representative from Congresswoman Candice Miller's office):

He introduced himself and stated that he is the liaison between the townships and the Congressional office. He stated that their office is always available if we have any questions. He also wanted to invite the Board to the USDA Seminar that will be held on March 7th from 10am-noon at the Cass City VFW.

NEW BUSINESS:

H. Wymore gave all the board members paperwork to review regarding the digital tax mapping.
H. Wymore also mentioned to the board members about the MTA Legislative Day coming up in May.
H. Wymore also handed out the TNU Activity update for the Board to read over.

BILLS:

J. Welke asked how much we have spent on attorney fees regarding the DTE case. A. Holbrook stated that it is a little under \$1,000. Motion to pay the bills by J. Welke seconded by A. Holbrook – motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

All meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at the Fremont Township Hall located at 4850 Mertz Road (M-24) at 7:00 p.m. All public is welcome to attend.

Amy Holbrook, Fremont Township Clerk