

Fremont Township Minutes
June 12, 2014

The regular meeting for the Fremont Twp. Board of Trustees was held on June 12, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. at the Fremont Township Hall.

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

Guests: 9

MINUTES:

Without objection or correction the May 7, 2014, minutes were approved. Motion made by I. Barrons, seconded by J. Welke – motion carried.

BRIAN GARNER (Attorney):

Brian explained to the Board and the Public the process for a special assessment. He stated that the first step would be to pass a resolution stating that we intend to have a meeting to discuss the special assessment. He also stated that then the first public hearing would be to discuss with the public the reasons for the special assessment and get the public's input. Then the second public hearing would be so that the public could see what the special assessment cost would be for their property and give the property owners a chance to protest that charge if there is something incorrect. There was a lot of discussion regarding the special assessment and whether it would be a flat rate per property owner or if it would be a millage rate. Brian explained that for each public hearing a mailing would have to be sent out to each property owner as well as 2 publications in the newspaper. Brian gave the Board members a Resolution of Intent to Create a Special Assessment for Fire Protection. J. Welke stated that in the second paragraph under Recitals, we needed to change the word police to fire. It was also mentioned that the Resolution needed amended to show that the assessment would not affect the Village of Mayville and that the date for the public hearing will be July 16, 2014, at 6 p.m. Motion made by J. Welke, seconded by C. Sherwin, to pass the Resolution of Intent to Create a Special Assessment District for Fire Protection with the 3 corrections. Roll call vote: I. Barrons-yes, J. Welke-yes, C. Sherwin-yes, A. Holbrook-yes, H. Wymore-yes; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A Resident commented that they do not like the idea of a millage special assessment and that they think it should be a flat rate and that it should be put on the ballot. They also commented that they like the Township website. This Resident also commented that they do not think that the Township should purchase the property on Leix Road and that we should let it go up for tax sale and the new owner can clean it up. Another Resident questioned as to what the brush spray contains. J. Welke stated that he knows Kappen Tree Service is doing the spraying but he doesn't know what it is.

CLERK REPORT:

Upcoming elections are August 5th and November 4th. The Clerk should have ballots within the next week or two and then absentee ballots will be available.

TREASURER REPORT:

Treasurer balance was \$229,932.66 as of May 31, 2014. Motion to accept treasurer report made by A. Holbrook, seconded by J. Welke – motion carried.

A Resident asked if the current budget could be put on the website. A. Holbrook stated that she would make sure it was added and H. Wymore said that was a great idea.

Leix Road Property - There are 2 possible 3 people that are interested in the Leix Road property. It was suggested that the Board put it out for bids with a minimum bid of \$1,500. Once a bid was accepted, that person would have to pay half of the bid amount up front and then the remaining half would be paid after the property was cleaned up. They would have 90 days to clean up the property and get a zoning inspection. Motion made by J. Welke, seconded by I. Barrons to put the property out for bid with a minimum bid of \$1,500 and including the stipulations before mentioned regarding clean up – motion carried.

SUPERVISOR REPORT:

Cemetery Report – H. Wymore stated that there is a headstone at the Old Fremont Cemetery that is leaning and about to fall over. He would like the Board to approve to pay to have that headstone repaired. The Board decided to get a price from the Cemetery Caretaker for the cost to put in a new footing for that headstone and the Board will discuss it at next months meeting. J. Welke mentioned that the drain that was placed at the Fremont Cemetery has fallen over and wondered if it could be repaired. H. Wymore stated that he will talk to the Cemetery Caretaker.

Roads – Roadside mowing has stated that they plan to start mowing in the Township before the end of the month. H. Wymore talked to the Road Commission about the stop sign on North Lake Road and the Road Commission said they would check it out. H. Wymore also stated that we have gotten back all but 4 signed notices from property owners on Chambers Road regarding the tree removal. Kappen said that they are ready to start working on Chambers Road soon. H. Wymore received a bid from the Road Commission for ditching on Waterman Road. That bid was \$31,100 and it would cost the Township an additional \$1,000 for taking the spoilage to a property on Ambrose Road. I. Barrons asked what happened regarding the bids that were received last month and the fact that we were going to get more specifications to put it out for bid again. H. Wymore stated that the Road Commission said that the specs they gave us is all that they have to bid the job from. I. Barrons said that she objected to accepting the Road Commission bid because she felt the bid was too high. Motion made by J. Welke, seconded by H. Wymore to approve the Waterman Road project to be completed by the Road Commission – motion carried with one opposed and four yes.

CONNIE LIPKA (Assessor):

Connie was here to update the Board on the AMAR report. She wanted to state first that this wasn't a pass or fail audit. The audit showed some deficiencies but the Township did not fail the audit. The Township was shown deficient in three areas. Connie disagrees with two of the findings and we have sent a letter to the Tax Commission explaining why she disagreed with two of the finding and listing a corrective action plan for the other deficit which she is currently working to correct. Currently she is waiting for a response from the Tax Commission regarding the letter. H. Wymore commented that he was informed that every township in Tuscola County had deficits found during their audit and that Fremont Township did better than most of them.

NEW BUSINESS:

H. Wymore received a letter from HDC requesting the possible use of the Fremont Township Hall for the senior meal center. They are currently using the Golden Years Club but are looking for another possible option. J. Welke stated that he was not in favor of it at this time because he would like to continue working with the Golden Years Club. A. Holbrook and C. Sherwin are also not in favor of it. The Board decided at this time to not offer the Township Hall as a possible senior meal location for the HDC.

H. Wymore also received a letter from Charter Communications stating that they will be sending out a franchise agreement renewal soon.

H. Wymore also stated that he thinks we need to get a load of crushed gravel in to repair some of the holes in the township hall parking lot. J. Welke stated that we also need some at the Cemetery. H. Wymore will see what the cost would be to have a load of crushed gravel dropped off at both locations.

BILLS: Motion to pay the bills by C. Sherwin seconded by I. Barrons – motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 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