

Fremont Township Minutes
January 12, 2017

The regular meeting for the Fremont Twp. Board of Trustees was held on January 12, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Fremont Township Hall.

Board members present: H. Wymore, C. Sherwin, A. Holbrook, J. Welke & M Blatt. Absent: None
Guests: 13

MINUTES:

Without objection or correction the December 8, 2016, meeting minutes were approved. Motion made by J. Welke, seconded by M. Blatt – motion carried

BILLS:

Motion to pay the bills as presented made by J. Welke, seconded by C. Sherwin – motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A Resident stated that they are a land owner on Hunt Road east of M-24 and that there are several large dead ash trees that are in the road right of way and they think something needs to be done with them and stated that they are worried someone is going to get hurt. H. Wymore stated that we have several trees in the township that need to be taken down but the Road Commission isn't responsible for them and the township only has so much money to deal with road issues so we are trying to do as much as we can each year. Another Resident stated that they called the Road Commission about a large dead tree on Snover Road and the Road Commission told them that they would put it on a list and try to get it taken down during the winter months. A Resident asked how much we pay our attorney per hour due to the bill that was paid for \$262.50. It was stated that the bill was for a phone call and reviewing a packet for the ZBA meeting and that the cost per hour is around \$180. Another Resident stated that at last months meeting it was discussed about talking to the Road Commission about the bridge on Blackmore Road washing away. H. Wymore stated that the Drain Commission doesn't have an easement for that bridge because it is not a county drain, it is a creek. He also stated that the Road Commission only has 33' of right of way so they cannot do anything with the erosion. H. Wymore stated that at this point it would be the property owners responsibility but that he would be staying on top of it.

CLERK REPORT:

Received a letter from Charter Communications wanting to renew their franchise agreement. The current fee is 3%. J. Welke asked if this was just a standard renewal and A. Holbrook stated yes. Motion made by J. Welke, seconded by C. Sherwin to renew the franchise agreement for Charter Communications at the current 3% - motion carried.

Budget Hearing - Clerk stated that we need to schedule the budget hearing. The Board agreed that we would hold the hearing immediately following the February 9th regular board meeting.

TREASURER REPORT:

Treasurer balance was \$236,325.34 as of December 31, 2016. Motion to accept treasurer report made by A. Holbrook, seconded by J. Welke – motion carried.

SUPERVISOR REPORT:

Cemetery Report – Sold \$2,500 worth of lots in December. Also spoke with Dick Worth about getting a price on crushed concrete for the roads at the old Fremont Cemetery.

Road Report – Received a bill from the Road Commission for work on the Snover Road bridge. Total cost for the project is \$15,000 of which the township is responsible for 25% not to exceed \$2,000. H. Wymore wondered if we had money in the budget to pay it now or if we should wait and pay it with the

next budget. C. Sherwin said that we could pay it now out of the reserve account. Motion made by C. Sherwin, seconded by J. Welke to approve the bridge work and to pay the \$2,000 now out of the reserve account – motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Board Appointments: Motion made by C. Sherwin, seconded by H. Wymore to reappoint A. Holbrook to the Planning Commission for a 4-year term – motion carried.

H. Wymore received a fireworks permit request from Krystal Lake Campground. Motion made by J. Welke, seconded by M. Blatt to approve the fireworks permit – motion carried.

H. Wymore had a request to remove the hearing impaired sign from Schott Road because it is no longer needed. He has requested that the Road Commission take the sign down but that they give it back to the township because the township paid for it and we will store it in the shed at the cemetery in case there is need for another one.

H. Wymore also stated that he would like the Board to consider uncapping the cemetery fund so that we could get back to adding money to it. He stated that the reason the fund was capped was due to the bad economy and the need for money in the general fund but now that things are getting better he would like to see more money going to the cemetery fund for upgrade projects. He stated that once the back section of the Fremont Cemetery is cleaned up he would like to have a fence put up so that people would stop throwing wreaths & grave blankets back there. A Resident also stated that we should look at doing something to the ravine in that area so those lots don't have problems in the future. H. Wymore also stated that he would like to start putting all the cemetery records on the computer and that will cost money. A Resident questioned if we were going to have to pay someone to put the records on the computer or if we were going to use volunteers. H. Wymore stated that he would like to use volunteers but the records are not the easiest to understand so he would have to explain to each person how the system works. We are currently looking at all the options for getting the records on the computer and will hopefully have more information once we start working on the next budget. A Resident stated that they would like to see the money spent on cemetery lots put back into the cemetery. It was mentioned that even if the money doesn't go into the cemetery fund, it is still spent on the cemetery. We budget money each year to go towards fixing headstones or other projects at the cemetery. It was also questioned as to why we don't charge more for cemetery lots and H. Wymore stated that they use to be sold for \$1 a lot but they have been raised to \$100 per space at North Grove and \$300 per space at Fremont. He also stated that for a non-resident the cost is \$900 per space.

Hall Log Book – H. Wymore stated that when the hall was built we had a sign-in book for all the key holders to sign in when they are at the hall. He stated that we have drifted away from using it and he would like to see us start using it again. He wondered what the Boards opinion was. J. Welke stated that he thinks the log book is a good idea.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02` 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