

**Fremont Township Minutes**  
**October 10, 2019**

The regular meeting for the Fremont Twp. Board of Trustees was held on October 10, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at the Fremont Township Hall.

Board members present: M. Blatt, C. Sherwin, A. Holbrook, J. Welke, and R. Curell. Absent: None

Guests: Greg & Judy Eggert, Henry & Carolyn Wymore, Kyle Thom, Jen Miller, Ida Barrons, Ken Bragg, Bill & Judy Raymond, Victoria Bennett and Cheryl Sherwin.

**MINUTES:** Motion made by J. Welke, seconded by C. Sherwin to approve the September 12, 2019, regular meeting minutes as presented - motion carried.

**BILLS:** Motion to pay the bills as presented, including check number 13830 for John Welke for \$92.07, made by R. Curell, seconded by J. Welke - motion carried.

**JUDY RAYMOND:**

Judy wanted an explanation on why the cost for roadside mowing was so much higher this year than the past years and whether the Board anticipated these extra costs. It was mentioned that instead of doing brush spraying this year we decided to put that money towards roadside brush and grass mowing but the cost was still about \$7,000 more than previous years. C. Sherwin stated that he thought we should have gotten more for our money and we need to look into other options for next year. M. Blatt stated that we were not happy with the mowing last year so we tried something different this year and we were hoping it would be better but we will look at better options for next year.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**CLERK REPORT:**

The Clerk has received a letter Thumb Electric's attorney requesting that the Board approves a franchise agreement for them. They requested this back in 2017 and the Board discussed it and also got our attorney's opinion and he suggested that we make some changes to their proposed franchise agreement prior to approving. J. Welke suggested that wait and see if they send us another letter prior to approving it since we have never had one in the past and if we get another request then have the attorney write up an agreement. M. Blatt asked if the Board wanted him to look more into the agreement or let the attorney deal with it. A. Holbrook stated that other townships are also receiving this request because Vassar Township also discussed it at their meeting and their attorney had also requested some changes to the provided franchise agreement. C. Sherwin stated that in Section 6 of our attorney's opinion from 2017 it states that we cannot withhold a franchise agreement. The Board decided to table this for now.

**TREASURER REPORT:**

No treasurer report this month because we did not receive the bank statements. C. Sherwin stated that he checked the PO Box twice today and we did not have the statements and he also talked to the bank and they said that the commercial statements are sent between the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**SUPERVISOR REPORT:**

Cemetery Report – No burials this month

Road Report – The Road Commission have finished all of our township projects for this year. They are currently working on fixing some of the shoulders of the roads that washed away from the recent rains and they are clearing the road right of ways.

Appoint Planning Commission member – Motion made by M. Blatt, seconded by J. Welke to appoint Kyle Thom to the Planning Commission to complete the term of Ron Curell. Roll call vote: R. Curell-yes, J. Welke-yes, M. Blatt-yes, A. Holbrook-yes, C. Sherwin-yes. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

M. Blatt stated that he is working on getting the two township doors sealed. He has contacted a company to fix the problem and they should have it completed next week.

J. Welke stated that he contacted Affordable Electric about putting in an automatic switch so that our emergency siren's breaker automatically resets. The cost will be around \$400-\$600. C. Sherwin mentioned that he reset the switch Wednesday prior to the siren testing and it still did not go off so we should have the siren checked out.

Motion made by C. Sherwin, seconded by M. Blatt to have the emergency siren repaired and the automatic switch installed for a cost up to \$600. Motion carried.

A Resident stated that at the last meeting there was discussion about the petty cash and getting a reconciliation on the accounts and they wondered what was happening with that. It was mentioned that we have not received the bank statements yet so there are no reconciliations. It was also mentioned about not taking cash payments anymore and C. Sherwin stated that he was willing to do whatever the Board wanted him to but that there are several people you make cash payments. C. Sherwin also wanted the Board to realize that residents cannot pay their taxes at the bank when they are past due. J. Welke said he did not see what the \$100 of petty cash was hurting. M. Blatt stated that he had just mentioned not taking cash because of liability reasons. It was also mentioned that since the township hall is in a rural area that if people realize there is cash at the township hall it will make the treasurer a sitting duck. A Resident asked if there were security cameras at the hall and M. Blatt stated that there were not. A. Holbrook stated that sometimes the Par Plan (part of the township insurance company) offers grants for things like security cameras and maybe we could apply for a grant to get them installed at the hall. M. Blatt stated that systems are not expensive and that he will work on getting a couple of quotes and A. Holbrook will check with the insurance and discuss this again at the next meeting.

M. Blatt also mentioned that it was suggested by the auditor that we have two signatures on all checks and that the bank requires this to be approved at a meeting so that they can put it in their records. Motion made by J. Welke, seconded by M. Blatt to require two signatures on all checking accounts. Roll call vote: M. Blatt-yes, R. Curell-yes, J. Welke-yes, A. Holbrook-yes, C. Sherwin-abstain. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 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.