Fremont Township Minutes December 14, 2023

The regular meeting for the Fremont Twp. Board of Trustees was held on December 14, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Fremont Township Hall.

Board members present: A. Prill, R. Curell, M. Blatt, C. Franzel and Kyle Thom. Absent: None

Guests: Brandon Blatt, Greg Eggert, Henry & Carolyn Wymore, Theresa Miller, Terry Blackmer, Mike Fil, Jennifer Leitzel, Ken Bragg, Angie Burnette (ATBD), Gail Prill, and Johnny Smith.

MINUTES:

Motion made by R Curell seconded by C. Franzel to approve the November 9, 2023, meeting minutes as presented - motion carried.

BILLS:

Motion to pay the bills as presented, by K. Thom, seconded by R. Curell - motion carried.

KIM VAUGHAN (KRYSTAL LAKE CAMPGROUND):

Mr. Vaughan wanted to get approval from the Township Board for their 2024 fireworks. Motion to approve by K. Thom, seconded by C. Franzel – motion carried.

ANGIE BURNETTE (ATBD):

Angie attended the meeting to give the township an overview of the 2022/2023 audit. She stated that the township fund balance was at a healthy balance. She also stated that the audit went well with no issues.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

One of the Board of Review members stated that they had their final meeting for the year and that they need the Township Board to approve the 2024 poverty guidelines. A. Prill stated that she had the resolution to bring to the Board tonight. This member also stated that the Board of Review members are all signed up to take the required training, but they were wondering if they could get updated books since the guidelines have changed. A. Prill said that they would get them new books ordered.

A Resident asked again where we were with the siren telephone line and A. Prill stated that she had just received the new equipment today to be able to switch the number from AT&T to the new company. Another Resident asked why when they pay their taxes at Mayville State Bank do they need to give their social security number, drivers license number and other personal information if they have their tax bill present with them. This Resident stated that they always pay with cash and they are asked for this information every time. Other stated that they have not had that problem but they either pay with a check or they have accounts at Mayville State Bank. C. Franzel said she would check into this because they should not need this information if you have your tax bill.

CLERK REPORT:

A. Prill gave the Board the report from the Zoning Administrator. He issued one citation and one permit and dealt with three complaints.

A. Prill stated that they needed to pass an updated stated that they need to pass an updated Poverty Exemption Resolution for 2024. She stated that it is the same as the previous year's resolution with updated federal guidelines. Motion made by R. Curell, seconded by A. Prill to approve the 2024 Resolution for Poverty Exemption. R. Curell-yes, K. Thom-yes, C.Franzel-yes, A. Prill-yes, M. Blatt-yes. Motion carried. A. Prill also gave the Board an update on the changes with the election process and let them know that it was going to cost more so she would have to be increasing the election budget for the 2024/2025 budget.

TREASURER REPORT:

Treasurer balance as of November 30, 2023, was \$556,388.98. Motion to accept the treasurer's report made A. Prill, seconded by K. Thom - motion carried.

C. Franzel stated that she had to get Board approval to remove a retired parcel from the tax roll. Parcel number is 011-007-000-2700-00 and also had a resident request that the trash pickup be removed from their taxes (parcel # 011-023-000-0600-05) because they have a dumpster on their property and this resident provided C. Franzel with a copy of the dumpster bill. R. Curell wondered if we approve this if we are setting a precedence for others to have it removed from their taxes. M. Blatt stated that he thought we would have more people requesting this if we approved it. R. Currell asked what would happen if they stopped having a dumpster at their property and then did not pay for trash pickup on their taxes. M. Blatt also said that if they use the same company that the township uses we would know if they stopped have a dumpster at their property. C. Franzel stated that this resident does use the same company. Motion made by K. Thom, seconded by A. Prill to remove the tax parcels from the tax roll as requested. Motion carried with four yes and one no.

SUPERVISOR REPORT:

Cemetery Report – M. Blatt stated that all trees have been cleaned up that we contracted to have removed. He also stated that the Caretaker would be getting us a new contract estimate since his contract is up next year.

Road Report – Road Commission contacted M. Blatt with some concerns about Phelps Lake Road near Schott Road. M. Blatt stated that the township has spent a lot of money putting gravel on that area and there is still a water problem. He asked the Road Commission to fix the water problem before we put any more money into that road.

M. Blatt stated that we need to appoint members to the Planning Commission for a 3-year term. He would like to appoint Kim Vaughan, Kyle Thom, Greg Eggert, Brandon Blatt, and Dwight Uhl, Jr. Motion made by R. Curell, seconded by K. Thom to appoint the recommended members – motion carried.

M. Blatt stated that we need to appoint members to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3-year term. He would like to appoint Pete Moceri, Frank Ellicott, Soleiman Seghatoleslami and Amy Prill (alternate). Motion made by R. Curell, seconded by K. Thom to appoint the recommended members – motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

M. Blatt stated that the Zoning Administrator wanted to know which way he should go regarding shipping containers. Right now our ordinance does not allow shipping containers but he knew that the Planning Commission was discussing possibly allowing them with some regulations. R. Curell stated that if we make them move it and then change the ordinance in a couple months, we may have a bigger issue. M. Blatt stated that he spoke with the Planning Commission Chair and was told that they are discussing it, but it will probably be several months before we have a decision and he stated that it also has to go to a public hearing and be approved by the Township Board before any changes are made. K. Thom stated that it may change but right now the ordinance does not allow it, so they need to be moved. The Board agreed that at this time the Zoning Administrator needs to follow the ordinance and that shipping containers are not allowed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 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 Prill, Fremont Township Clerk.