

Fremont Township Minutes

October 8, 2020

The regular meeting for the Fremont Twp. Board of Trustees was held on October 8, 2020, 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: Cheryl Sherwin, Kim Vaughan, Dwayne & Gloria Hall, Bill & Judy Raymond, Gail Prill, Greg Eggert, Ida Barrons, and Ken Bragg.

MINUTES:

Motion made by J. Welke, seconded by R. Curell to approve the September 10, 2020, regular meeting minutes as presented - motion carried.

BILLS:

Motion to pay the bills as presented made by R. Curell, seconded by C. Sherwin - motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A Resident stated that they have a problem with the Road Commission leaving debris on the side of the road and making it hazardous to drivers. This Resident stated that near Leix Road and Waterman Road they patched a hole in the road and left the broken pieces of road on the side of the road and they are big chunks of asphalt. Another Resident asked if the township was getting a new treasurer because they have been seeing signs for the election. C. Sherwin stated that he is not running again for the position. He stated that 11 years was enough and it was time for him to step down. This Resident wondered if there was a way to get some information on the candidates running. A. Holbrook stated that usually the Tuscola County Advertiser will run an article once it gets closer to the election. This Resident stated that it would be nice if something was ran in the Mayville Monitor because everyone in Mayville receives that publication and not everyone gets the Advertiser. A. Holbrook stated that she would check into it.

CLERK REPORT:

A. Holbrook stated that we have received a copy of the annual audit report and that if anyone would like to look at a copy of the report, it will be on the back table at the hall. The audit went well and everything for the township balances. J. Welke stated that he was hearing that some townships are open on the Sunday before the election. A. Holbrook stated that with the new proposal that passed it requires the Clerk to hold 8 hours of office hours on the Saturday and/or Sunday prior to the election. The Clerk can choose to work one of those days or split the hours between the two days but it has to be a total of 8 hours. A. Holbrook stated that she will be at the Hall on Saturday, October 31st from 8am – 4pm.

TREASURER REPORT:

Treasurer balance as of August 31, 2020, was \$301,967.97. Motion to accept the treasurer report made by J. Welke, seconded by A. Holbrook - motion carried. M. Blatt commented that he had talked with our Auditor about the drop in revenue sharing from the State and she stated that according to the state website it looks like we will be only losing around \$1,500.00.

SUPERVISOR REPORT:

Cemetery Report – Had two burials and one cremation removed this month. Also sold three lots at North Grove. M. Blatt stated that he is getting lots of calls about the cost of cremation burials and if we were planning on changing it. J. Welke stated that last month H. Wymore had recommended that we change the cost of the lots at North Grove because right now you can buy a full burial lot at North Grove for \$100 and the cost of a cremation only lot in the Fremont Cemetery is also \$100. It was recommended that we raise the cost of the lots at North Grove to \$250. The Board decided to table this until next month. M. Blatt also mentioned about having a sign at the cemeteries for the cemetery rules. It was mentioned that we use to have a sign but it had gotten old and fell apart so we put boxes at the cemetery to put paper copies of the rules but

those disappear very quickly and it is difficult to make sure they are always available. A. Holbrook will check with Larsen Graphics in Vassar to see what the cost would be to have some signs made up. A Resident asked about the map for the new cremation cemetery and A. Holbrook stated that the map has been printed we just need to get the frame to get it hung on the wall.

C. Sherwin asked if the new cemetery caretaker is also going to do the snow removal at the hall or if the sexton was going to do that. M. Blatt stated that it is included in the caretaker's contract and the new caretaker is going to do it.

Road Report – M. Blatt stated that it has been pretty quiet this month. The Road Commission has completed all the projects that we had for them this year. They are planning on grading the gravel roads one more time before it freezes.

NEW BUSINESS:

M. Blatt stated that he would like the Board to consider giving the Clerk extra money for all the work involved with the elections. J. Welke thought it was a good idea and stated that he would support and extra \$1,000 for the work for this years August and November election. R. Curell stated that he would also support that. A. Holbrook stated that she appreciated the offer but it was not legal for the board to pay extra for elections because that is part of the Clerk's statutory duties and is paid for through the salary. The only way for an increase for the purpose of elections is to increase the salary. A Resident stated that the Board should just do the increase that way then. R. Curell agreed. J. Welke stated that he felt that salary increases should be done with the annual budget meetings.

M. Blatt wanted to thank Chuck and Cheryl Sherwin for their 11 years of service to the township and he stated that he appreciates all that they have done for the township.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 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.