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**FRENCHTOWN CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

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**GARY KLEMZ**

**MATT RIMEL**

*TRUSTEES*

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**BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 16, 2024**

A Regular Meeting of the Frenchtown Charter Township Board was held on January 16, 2024 at 3:00 PM at the Township Hall, 2744 Vivian Road, Monroe, Michigan.

PRESENT:	TRUSTEE – Matt Rimel
SUPERVISOR – Al VanWashenova - EXCUSED	TRUSTEE – Chris Collins
CLERK – Kyle Bryant	TRUSTEE – Christiaan Carlton
TREASURER – Julie Ellison	TRUSTEE – Gary Klemz
TWP ATTORNEY – Kerry Bondy	

Deputy Clerk, Jessica Burt; Fire Chief, Wendy Stevens; Economic Development and Public Safety Director, Dave Uhl; Recreation Director, Phil Coyle; Utility Director, Richard Weirich; HR Director, Sarah Karl via ZOOM; County Commissioners; Randy Richardville and Jay Heinzerling; Michigan State Representative, Jamie Thompson; State Representative Thompson’s Legal Aid, Sam; 1 off duty firefighter and 2 persons were in attendance.

Clerk Bryant declared there was quorum at 3:01 PM.

**CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** Add 13A, Hiring Request, Ordinance Enforcement Officer and 15A Closed Session under Open Meetings Act 8h.

**MOTION #24.10 – APPOINT ACTING CHAIRPERSON:** Motion made by Mrs. Ellison; seconded by Mr. Klemz to appoint Clerk Bryant as Acting Chair for this meeting. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried 6-0.

**MOTION #24.11 – AGENDA APPROVAL:** Motion made by Mr. Bryant; seconded by Mr. Rimel to approve the January 16, 2024 agenda as amended. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried 6-0.

**MOTION #24.12 – APPROVAL OF JANUARY 16, 2024 CONSENT AGENDA:** Motion made by Mr. Rimel; seconded by Mr. Carlton to approve the consent agenda as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Bryant-Yes; Mrs. Ellison-Yes; Mr. Carlton-Yes; Mr. Collins-Yes; Mr. Klemz-Yes; Mr. Rimel-Yes. Motion carried 6-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. January 9, 2024 –Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- b. Invoices to be Paid on January 16, 2024

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**MOTION #24.13 – DISCUSSION – SEMCOG ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES 2023:** Motion made by Mr. Carlton; seconded by Mr. Klemz to approve paying the SEMCOG Annual Membership Dues for 2023. A roll call

vote was taken. Mr. Rimel-Yes; Mr. Carlton-Yes; Mr. Collins-Yes; Mr. Klemz-Yes; Mr. Bryant-Yes; Mrs. Ellison-Yes. Motion carried 6-0.

**MOTION #24.14 – DISCUSSION – MICHIGAN WEEK BUILDING PERMIT FEE WAIVER:** Motion made by Mr. Rimel; seconded by Mr. Carlton to waive residential building permit fees for flat cement work, roofing, siding and windows during Michigan Week, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried 6-0.

**MOTION #24.15 – DISCUSSION – REVIEW ATHLETIC FIELDS/COURTS RESERVATION FORM:** Motion made by Mr. Rimel; seconded by Mr. Carlton to table this item for more information. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried 6-0.

**MOTION #24.16 – DISCUSSION – PURCHASE 2 LAWNMOWERS – DPW & WATER DEPARTMENT:** Motion made by Mr. Rimel; seconded by Mrs. Ellison to approve purchasing 2 Wright Lawnmowers (one for DPW and one for Water) at a cost not to exceed \$36,000.00. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Bryant-Yes; Mrs. Ellison-Yes; Mr. Klemz-Yes; Mr. Collins-Yes; Mr. Carlton-Yes; Mr. Rimel-Yes. Motion carried 6-0.

**MOTION #24.17 – DISCUSSION – REQUEST TO APPLY FOR AN AFG GRANT – FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Motion made by Mr. Klemz; seconded by Mrs. Ellison to approve the Fire Department applying for AFG Grant and if the grant is awarded to match the required 10%. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Rimel-Yes; Mr. Klemz-Yes; Mr. Collins-Yes; Mr. Carlton-Yes; Mr. Bryant-Yes; Mrs. Ellison-Yes. Motion carried 6-0.

**MOTION #24.18 – DISCUSSION – REQUEST TO HIRE GRANT CONSULTANT – FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Motion made by Mr. Rimel; seconded by Mr. Klemz to approve hiring the Grant Consultant as proposed at a cost not to exceed \$2,500.00. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Bryant-Yes; Mrs. Ellison-Yes; Mr. Carlton-Yes; Mr. Collins-Yes; Mr. Klemz-Yes; Mr. Rimel-Yes. Motion carried 6-0.

**MOTION #24.19 – HIRING REQUEST – ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:** Motion made by Mr. Bryant; seconded by Mr. Carlton to approve the Hiring Committee’s recommendation of hiring Brett Ansel as the Part Time Ordinance Enforcement Officer with a starting day of January 22, 2024, not to exceed 27 hours a week and an hourly rate of \$27.00 per hour. A roll call vote was taken. Mrs. Ellison-Yes; Mr. Bryant-Yes; Mr. Carlton-Yes; Mr. Collins-Yes; Mr. Klemz-Yes; Mr. Rimel-Yes. Motion carried 6-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** State Representative Jamie Thompson gave an update to the Board.

**MOTION #24.20 – CLOSED SESSION – OPEN MEETINGS ACT 8A:** Motion made by Mr. Bryant; seconded by Mrs. Ellison to go into Closed Session under Open Meetings Act 8a to discuss employment contract as requested by Director Weirich and to include Utility Director, Township Attorney and Deputy Clerk. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Bryant-Yes; Mrs. Ellison-Yes; Mr. Carlton-Yes; Mr. Collins-Yes; Mr. Klemz-Yes; Mr. Rimel-Yes. Motion carried 6-0. This vote was taken at 3:38 pm.

**MOTION #24.21 – ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION/APPROVE CLOSED SESSION MINUTES/RECONVENE INTO WORKSHOP MEETING:** Motion made by Mr. Bryant; seconded by Mr. Rimel to approve the minutes of Closed Session and to reconvene in open session. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried 6-0. This vote was taken at 3:46 pm.

**MOTION #24.22 – DISCUSSION – HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR:** Motion made Mr. Bryant; seconded by Mrs. Ellison to table this item until the next Board meeting. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried 6-0.

**MOTION #24.23 – CLOSED SESSION – OPEN MEETINGS ACT 8H:** Motion made by Mr. Bryant; seconded by Mrs. Ellison to go into Closed Session under Open Meetings Act 8h to discuss attorney client

privileged correspondence and to include Jay Heinzerling, Randy Richardville; Jamie Thompson, Legal Aid to Jamie Thompson Sam; Fire Chief; Director Uhl, Township Attorney and Deputy Clerk. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Rimel-Yes; Mr. Carlton-Yes; Mr. Bryant-Yes; Mrs. Ellison-Yes; Mr. Klemz-Yes; Mr. Collins-Yes. Motion carried 6-0. This vote was taken at 3:53 pm.

**MOTION #24.24 – ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION/APPROVE CLOSED SESSION**

**MINUTES/RECOVENE INTO WORKSHOP MEETING:** Motion made by Mr. Bryant; seconded by Mr. Collins to approve the minutes of Closed Session and to reconvene in open session. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried 6-0. This vote was taken at 5:21 pm.

**MOTION #24.25 – RESCHEDULE JANUARY 23, 2024 TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING:** Motion made by Mr. Bryant; seconded by Mr. Rimel to reschedule the regular Township Board meeting from January 24, 2024 at 7:00 pm to Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 3:00 pm. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Rimel-Yes; Mr. Klemz-Yes; Mr. Collins-Yes; Mr. Carlton-Yes; Mrs. Ellison-Yes; Mr. Bryant-Yes. Motion carried 6-0.

**MOTION #24.26 – ADJOURNMENT:** Motion made by Mr. Bryant; seconded by Mr. Carlton to adjourn the January 16, 2024 Board Workshop Meeting at 5:28 PM. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried 6-0.

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Al VanWashenova, Township Supervisor

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Kyle Bryant, Township Clerk