

Austin Township Board Meeting

Tuesday November 10th, 2020

The Austin Township board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Kenneth Vredenburg at the Township Hall at 14132 Pierce Rd, Stanwood, MI 49346 and virtually, using ZOOM.

Present were: Kenneth Vredenburg, Billie Jean Barnes, Carolyn Towsley, John Brockway, and Sandra Mayo. One Guest present: Tom O'neil

I. 7:32 p.m. Call to order - Pledge of allegiance

II. Public Comment

- Tom O'neil gave the Austin Township Board a road project list. No report from the Park Commission.
- The Ford Drain project was discussed.

III. Approval of minutes

- Carolyn Towsley moved to approve the October 13th board meeting minutes as presented, Supported by Sandra Mayo. Motion carried.
- Carolyn Towsley moved to approve the Public Accuracy Test as presented, supported by Sandra Mayo. Motion carried

IV. Approval of Treasurer's Township and Cemetery Reports

- General Fund reports match.
- Money was transferred from CD 5240 to the General Fund.
- Isabella CD 6033 was renewed into a 1yr CD. Mercantile is expiring on 11/14/2020. Carolyn is looking at whether to let it rollover or do a 6moth CD.
- Cemetery reports were off \$20.00. We found the mistake, The Tinker Pete bill was \$220, and was on the treasurer's report as \$200.
- Reports accepted subject to audit. Motion Carried.

V. Payment of Township and Cemetery Bills

- Township Checks #9933 through #9969. No cemetery checks were written this month.
- Carolyn Towsley moved to approve Township payments, Supported by John Brckway. Motion approved.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Assessor's and Supervisors Report

- CPI- 1.4%
- Equalization report was discussed.
- There was one applicant for the Interlocal agreement.
- Board of Review will be on 12/8/2020
- Kenn received complaints about tires hanging in a tree on 135th ave.

B. Treasurer's Report

- 86% of taxpayers paid 93% of the summer taxes.

- Audit was discussed
- Our portion of the Ford Drain project spans over 15 years at 3.5%. We can pay one lump sum and save the interest. The board will discuss more when we plan next year's budget.
- Our Road project bill has been paid.
- Kenn will look for companies that brine roads for next year.
- Discussed roads that still need to be paved within the township.
- Kenn discussed the gypsy moth information.

C. Clerks Report

- Election went well. We had a total of 848 voters, I sent 343 absentee ballots and 322 absentee ballots were returned on time.
- Casair is now part of Point Broadband, Casair will be rebranded later this year.
- Julie Jankowski came into the Township to make sure she was off of the cemetery board.
- Morton Township Library donation was discussed.

VII. New Business

A. Deputy Clerk

- Lisa Lambert resigned on 11/3/2020 as Deputy Clerk. Billie Jean Barnes is asking for Ashleigh Martin to become the Deputy Clerk.

Kenneth Vredenburg made a motion to approve Ashleigh Martin as Deputy Clerk, supported by Sandra Mayo.

Roll Call Vote:

John Brockway- Yes	Sandy Mayo- Yes
Carolyn Towsley- Yes	Billie Jean Barnes- Yes
Kenneth Vredenburg- Yes	

Motion Carried

B. CDARS Signature

- Carolyn Towsley made a motion to remove Elizabeth Carr's name off of the CDARS account and Replace it with Billie Jean Barnes's name, supported by Sandra Mayo.

Roll Call Vote:

John Brockway- Yes	Sandy Mayo- Yes
Carolyn Towsley- Yes	Billie Jean Barnes- Yes
Kenneth Vredenburg- Yes	

Motion Carried

C. Cemetery Trees

- There are trees that have fallen and/or are dead, we would like to have those trees removed. There was a quote received, and it would cost a total of \$2300.00, Mecosta Township would pay half and Austin Township would pay half.

Carolyn Towsley moves to pay half (\$1,150) of the cost to have the fallen and/or dead trees removed, supported by Sandra Mayo. Motion Carries.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm

Billie Jean Barnes