

The Austin Township Board Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Kenneth Vredenburg at the Township Hall at 14132 Pierce Road, Stanwood, Michigan, 49346 on January 12, 2016.

Present were: Kenneth Vredenburg, Elizabeth G Carr, John Brockway, Sandra Mayo, Megan Guilliani-DT. Absent was Carolyn Towsley. There were no guests.

Minutes: Moved by Sandra Mayo, supported by John Brockway to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Financial Report: We have received the MML Worker's Comp Fund refund of \$2,263.00. There were three hall rentals this month. The METRO Act overpayment refund has not been withdrawn yet. Most of the \$21,128.38 in the Property Tax Account is the property tax payment to Austin Township. Moved by Sandra Mayo, supported by John Brockway, to accept the financial report as presented. Carried subject to audit.

Payment of the Bills: Moved by John Brockway, supported by Sandra Mayo to approve for payment Township check #'s 8639-8658, and to approve for payment Cemetery check # 1548. According to the Mecosta Township report the Fire Department spent a total of \$1,596.48 and the First Responders spent a total of \$53.04. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

1. Fire Department and First Responder Report: The next Fire Board Meeting will be January 20, 2016 at the Mecosta Austin Fire Hall at 7 p.m. Mecosta Township is applying for the First Responders to have their own FEIN number.
2. Assessor and Supervisor Report: I'm working on finishing the Assessor's Roll.
3. Treasurer's Report: 80% of the people have paid 95% of the summer taxes. 40% of the people have paid 30% of the winter taxes. There will be Treasurer office hours on Saturday, January 16, from 10 am to 1 pm.
4. Clerk's Report: Governor Snyder just signed two new pieces of legislation. PA 268 bans ballot labels in partisan elections from including an option where voters could make a single selection to vote a straight ticket. PA 269 bans public bodies, including townships, from using public money or resources (including facilities) within 60 days of an election to communicate any information about a local ballot question by radio, television, mass mailing for pre-recorded telephone message. These changes took effect on January 8, 2016 and apply to the 60-day period before the March election. Because the Chippewa Hills School district has a bond issue on the ballot at the Primary Election in March we will have three ballot styles for the election. One style would have just the bond issue if that's all the voter wants to vote on. The next style would include the bond issue and the Primary candidates for the Chippewa Hills district. The last style would have the Primary candidates for Morley Stanwood voters.

New Business:

1. Web Design: The Township website needs to be redesigned and updated. We will be researching programs to do that.
2. Board of Review: Russ Hopkins wants to retire. We will approach our alternate board member to see if they want to finish out his term. The Board of Review will be reappointed in June of 2017.
3. Wages:

- a. RESOLUTION 2016-01 WHEREAS, pursuant to MCLA 41.95(3), which provides that in a township that does not hold an annual meeting, the salary for officers composing the township board shall be determined by the township board, and

WHEREAS, the board of Austin Township deems it desirable to adjust the salary of the Supervisor/Assessor to ensure that compensation for this position remains equitable and commensurate with the duties of said elective office, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that as of April 1, 2016, the salary for the following township office shall be:

SUPERVISOR.....\$6,800.00,

ASSESSOR..... \$20,400.00

The foregoing resolution offered by board member Sandra Mayo

Supported by board member John Brockway

Upon a roll call vote, the following voted:

Sandra Mayo-Aye

John Brockway-Aye

Elizabeth G Carr-Aye

Kenneth Vredenburg-Aye

Carolyn Towsley-Absent

The supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

_____, Clerk

Note: If a petition signed by 10 percent of the qualified electors of the township requesting that the question of salary be submitted to the electorate is filed within 30 days after the township board adopts the salary resolution, the township board shall call a special election and submit the question of salary to the electors.

- b. RESOLUTION 2016-02 WHEREAS, pursuant to MCLA 41.95(3), which provides that in a township that does not hold an annual meeting, the salary for officers composing the township board shall be determined by the township board, and

WHEREAS, the board of Austin Township deems it desirable to adjust the salary of the Clerk to ensure that compensation for this position remains equitable and commensurate with the duties of said elective office, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that as of April 1, 2016, the salary for the following township office shall be:

CLERK.....\$13,500

The foregoing resolution offered by board member Sandra Mayo

Supported by board member John Brockway

Upon a roll call vote, the following voted:

Sandra Mayo-Aye

John Brockway-Aye

Elizabeth G Carr-Aye

Kenneth Vredenburg-Aye

Carolyn Towsley-Absent

The supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

_____, Clerk

Note: If a petition signed by 10 percent of the qualified electors of the township requesting that the question of salary be submitted to the electorate is filed within 30 days after the township board adopts the salary resolution, the township board shall call a special election and submit the question of salary to the electors.

- c. RESOLUTION 2016-03 WHEREAS, pursuant to MCLA 41.95(3), which provides that in a township that does not hold an annual meeting, the salary for officers composing the township board shall be determined by the township board, and

WHEREAS, the board of Austin Township deems it desirable to adjust the salary of the Treasurer to ensure that compensation for this position remains equitable and commensurate with the duties of said elective office, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that as of April 1, 2016, the salary for the following township office shall be:

TREASURER.....\$13,500

The foregoing resolution offered by board member Sandra Mayo

Supported by board member John Brockway

Upon a roll call vote, the following voted:

Sandra Mayo-Aye

John Brockway-Aye

Elizabeth G Carr-Aye

Kenneth Vredenburg-Aye

Carolyn Towsley-Absent

The supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

_____, Clerk

Note: If a petition signed by 10 percent of the qualified electors of the township requesting that the question of salary be submitted to the electorate is filed within 30 days after the

township board adopts the salary resolution, the township board shall call a special election and submit the question of salary to the electors.

- d. RESOLUTION 2016-04 WHEREAS, pursuant to MCLA 41.95(3), which provides that in a township that does not hold an annual meeting, the salary for officers composing the township board shall be determined by the township board, and

WHEREAS, the board of Austin Township deems it desirable to adjust the salary of the Trustee to ensure that compensation for this position remains equitable and commensurate with the duties of said elective office, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that as of April 1, 2016, the salary for the following township office shall be:

TRUSTEE.....\$2,000.00

The foregoing resolution offered by board member Sandra Mayo

Supported by board member John Brockway

Upon a roll call vote, the following voted:

Sandra Mayo-Aye

John Brockway-Aye

Elizabeth G Carr-Aye

Kenneth Vredenburg-Aye

Carolyn Towsley-Absent

The supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

_____, Clerk

Note: If a petition signed by 10 percent of the qualified electors of the township requesting that the question of salary be submitted to the electorate is filed within 30 days after the township board adopts the salary resolution, the township board shall call a special election and submit the question of salary to the electors.

4. Joint Meeting: The Fire Board needs to pass a motion concerning new FEIN number for the First Responders. Other issues to be discussed are the radios, SCBA tanks, the millage, and mowing for the Cemetery.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Elizabeth G Carr

Austin Township Clerk

