

The Austin Township Board Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Kenneth Vredenburg at the Township Hall at 14132 Pierce Road, Stanwood, MI, 49346 on May 10, 2016 at 7:40 p.m.

Present were: Kenneth Vredenburg, Carolyn Towsley, Elizabeth G Carr, John Brockway, and Sandra Mayo. There were three guests present.

Public Comment:

1. Howard Bowersox-running for the County Commission seat for the 5th District.
2. Tom O'Neil-current appointee for the County Commission seat for the 5th District. The County has purchased a portable antenna to try out to boost the signal to the new 800MHz radios. They will try it out first at the County Road Commission building on Jefferson Road in Morley. If it doesn't work there, they will try it out at the Mecosta Austin Fire Hall property on 8 Mile Road. The County Commission will be addressing the issue that there is no zoning regulating commercial sawmills only agriculture sawmills. Tom will also be running to fill the seat for the County Commission 5th District for the next term.
3. Lisa Lambert-Is there a reason that Austin Township doesn't have a trash pickup day? It is Austin Township's position that there are several recycle facilities nearby, also Austin Township participates with Morton Township's recycle program and it is open to Austin Township residents. We would prefer residents to take care of their trash on a regular basis and not stockpile for a particular day.
4. Morris Langworthy-running to fill the 102nd State Representative seat that will be open this fall.

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

Financial Report: We balanced with the Township at \$377,932.66 and with the Cemetery at \$5,968.85. The Property Tax Account has \$206.26. Accepted as presented subject to audit.

Payment of the Bills: Moved by John Brockway, supported by Sandra Mayo to approve for payment Township check #'s 8740-8760 and Cemetery check #'s 1553-1556. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

1. Fire Department and First Responder Report: The next Fire Board Meeting will be next Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at 7 p.m. at the Fire Hall. They will accept six of our folding donated tables and give in exchange two fixed leg tables. The meeting to discuss some of the particulars of the accounting switch from QuickBooks to BS&A with Mecosta Township was helpful and informative. Several areas of confusion were cleared up and several changes will be implemented, mainly as it refers to the Firemen's Fund donations.
2. Assessor and Supervisor Report: Nothing has been done with the taxes with Tulleymore yet. We will be part of any settlement with Morton Township. We had a

- bad hall rental. There was a hole in the wallboard, footprints on the wall, the indoor flag pole was broken, all of the trash bags were used up, the edging of the playground was torn up, etc. We may need to change our hall rental policy i.e. a rental deposit, a signed rental agreement, etc.
3. Treasurer's Report: The State of Michigan finally cashed their check from last fall. The Treasurer's Office is getting ready for the new tax season. Please proofread the new tax letter and let me know of any corrections. I will be sending the newsletter to the printer the last week of the month. The MCTA Meeting was April 25, 2016 at Hinton Township. The director of the County Parks was the main speaker. There will be a 0.5 Mill on the ballot for the August Primary. There will be a free Parks Day to correspond to the free fishing weekend. The millage would be used for capital improvements. Political candidates Jason Rescoe, Michelle Huizinga, and Ormond Hook spoke about their political platforms. The candidates will be given an opportunity to debate at the July 25th Meeting.
 4. Clerk's Report: Morton Township Library sent a Thank You note for our contribution. Rhonda Baumann from Burnham and Flower sent a corrected contract for us to sign to increase our voluntary contributions in our Retirement Plan documents. We would like to invite a representative from Burnham and Flower to come to a Board Meeting to discuss our Plan and the details of our pre- and post-tax contributions.
 5. Roads: The bid to pave 180th came in lower than projected at \$166,072.52.

New Business:

1. ANR-FYI: We received a public notice that they will be conducting their next hydro test.
2. Fire Department: The transmission is out on the 1990 truck. The Fire Board needs to consider how much money they are willing to put into the truck and what their options are if it isn't feasible to repair it.
3. Cemetery: Regina Geib is doing the mowing for \$190.00/mowing. Julie Jankowski is gone on vacation right now. Kenn Vredenburg will be handling any cemetery lot sales while she is gone. The Morley Stanwood Senor class did an exceptional job at spring clean-up this year! There are several dead poplars on the south side of the road. The Road Commission and Electric Company will be approached to see if they are willing to remove them.
4. Tables: Moved by Elizabeth G Carr, supported by Sandra Mayo to dispose of the old tables in the Township Hall for \$20/pc. Six of the tables will be donated to be used at the Mecosta Austin Fire Hall. Kenn Vredenburg and Elizabeth Carr will dispose of the two fixed leg tables that the Fire Department will be bringing here as part of the exchange of tables. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Elizabeth G Carr

Austin Township Clerk