

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 July 12, 2016 at 7:40 p.m.

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

Public Comment: Commissioner Tom O'Neil-The County took action on several eyesore buildings. The Pension is underfunded. The County will be catching up non-union wages.

Howard Bowersox-is participating with the Trail Towns Committee. Trail Towns will be a part of the Pure Michigan tourist campaign. It refers to the towns or municipalities that lie along the trail systems in Michigan, i.e. The White Pine Trail that runs through Mecosta County. The Committee is looking for each township to develop a committee to utilize the resources available from the Trail running through it. The committee is also looking for someone to participate in a steering committee on the Trail Towns project. The next Steering Committee Meeting will be September 13<sup>th</sup> at City Hall from 3-4 p.m. Sandra Mayo will be our representative on the committee.

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

Finance Report: We balanced with the Township and settled for the month at \$387,772.35. The next Metro Act payment came in and was moved from the Savings Account to the General Fund for Roads. We settled with the Cemetery for \$6, 985.62. We received interest and lot sales this month. There is a balance of \$206.30 in the Tax Account. We received 0.02 in interest this month in the Tax Account. Accepted subject to audit.

Payment of the Bills: Moved by John Brockway, supported by Sandra Mayo to approve for payment Township check #'s 8766-8788 and Cemetery check #'s 1560-1561. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

1. Fire Department and First Responder Report: The next Fire Board Meeting will be July 20, 2016 at the Fire Hall on 8 Mile Road, Stanwood, MI, 49346 at 7 p.m. After conversation with the Mecosta Township auditor, it was determined by their auditor and ours that the Fire Department and First Responder Financials will be included in the Mecosta Township Audit Report with a note included in our report to that effect.
2. Assessor and Supervisor Report: There will be a Board of Review Meeting next Tuesday, July 19, 2016. There will be a couple of adjustments to be taken care of. The hall was accidentally overbooked this past month for the same weekend. We found an alternative sight and covered the cost to reserve it. Free rental of our hall has been promised to the over-booked party for the future.
3. Treasurer's Report: The taxes are coming in slowly. 9.5% of tax payers have paid 5% of the tax dollars. Because we will not be collecting the Morley Stanwood summer taxes the amount of collected taxes will be greatly reduced. There have been lots of calls from taxpayers who didn't understand the change in their tax bills.
4. Clerk's Report: MTA on the Road will be coming up on October 25<sup>th</sup> in Big Rapids at the Holiday Inn. The Wish-A-Mile organization will be using our parking lot on Saturday, July 30, 2016 as a staging area for one of the stops on their bike tour. Porta potties will be dropped off on Friday night and picked up before dark on Saturday. We will be their first stop, so they will only be at our hall from 6-9 a.m. The Human Trafficking Notification Act was passed

into law and takes effect on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Display posters in English and Spanish were sent to us to display on our bulletin board. We received our membership tag from MTA. You have a copy of the Financial Audit policy in your package before you for your review. The registered letter has been sent to organization I received the phony toner from. I have not received a reply from them. The 2016 Government Units Survey from the US Census Bureau has been completed and returned.

5. Burnham and Flower: Carolyn Towsley, Sandra Mayo, and Elizabeth G Carr met with Burnham & Flowers representative, Lynn Bright, today at 1:30 p.m. Our 401A accounts are not pre-tax accounts. The Clerk signed three new additional fund contracts that have been added to our investment options. Everyone was given new Beneficiary Designation of Plan Participant Forms. These need to be filled out and filed here at the Township in the Clerk's office. Updated investment packets will be sent to us to review if you want to change anything.
6. Roads: They are still working to prepare 180<sup>th</sup>, tiling the hills and other trouble spots to drain them. We received two brining complaints.
7. Rugs: Moved by Carolyn Towsley, supported by Sandra Mayo to pay \$152.00 to Gilberts for new rugs in front of the service windows for the clerk's and the treasurer's offices. Motion carried.
8. FYI: Website renovation information will be forwarded to Kenn for review. Still need to contact Verizon for upgrade to office phone. The Casair appeal will be ongoing for a couple of years.

#### New Business:

1. Seal Coat: Moved by Carolyn Towsley, supported by John Brockway to choose B & E Coating Services to seal coat the parking lot with the provision that they kill the grass first before sealing and stay at the same price quoted. If they are unable to keep the price the same as quoted, we will choose Taylor Asphalt.

#### Public Comment:

1. The Dam Fest will be Saturday, July 16, 2016 at the Roger's Height's Dam.

Adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Elizabeth G Carr

Austin Township Clerk