

The Austin Township Board Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Kenneth Vredenburg on October 11, 2016 at the Township Hall at 14132 Pierce Road, Stanwood, MI, 49346 at 7:30 p.m.

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

Public Comment: Tom O'Neil-County Commissioner-Tim Ladd has been rehired as the EMS Director.

Minutes: Moved by Sandra Mayo, supported by Carolyn Towsley to accept the minutes with corrections. The September 13, 2016 minutes should read: "to accept the regular and special minutes." 2. Assessor and Supervisor Report should read: "Mecosta County wants a copy of the CLPOC Association By-Laws to look into this further." 3. Treasurer's Report should read: "66% of tax payers have paid 78% of the tax dollars so far. Last year 52% of tax payers had paid 67% of the tax dollars." 5. Audit: "Also he is removing the 14% (\$60,000.00) increase to the General Fund from 2015." is removed. 6. Should read: "Bank Transfer" (instead of "Fire Truck"). Motion carried.

Financial Report: We received the State of Michigan Revenue sharing check of \$20,636.00. \$15,000.00 was transferred from Isabella Bank CD5240 to the General Fund per Board motion. Outstanding check #8623 was reissued. Unfortunately we are off by the amount of the check, \$22.02, in the QuickBooks register. The Cemetery balanced at \$4,905.44. There is \$100.12 in the Property Tax account, and \$150.23 in the Property Tax petty cash account. There were two refunds, Corelogic and Bethel Wright. Normally we would just return the check to the private citizen, but this was a money order. Accepted subject to audit.

Payment of the Bills: Cemetery check #1571 is a reimbursement check for a cemetery lot we are buying back. Check #1569 is a reissue of a check to Julie Jankowski of a check that was lost. Moved by Sandra Mayo, supported by John Brockway to pay the bills. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

1. Fire Department and First Responder Report: The Fire Department spent \$5,519.45 in invoices and \$162.50 in payroll. The First Responders spent \$2,439.41 in invoices and \$1,698.98 in payroll. The total is \$9,820.34. The Fire Department has a total of \$43,865.38 and the First Responders have a total of \$10,802.16 in their accounts. There is \$12,290.46 in the CD account. The \$1,082.40 in the Firemen's Fund will be withdrawn and put in a safe under the control of the officers as a petty cash fund. The check will be written to Chief Ron Palmer and Captain Steve Cook. They have about 30 hours of labor into the truck so far. The tires were \$2,528.32. Roger Martin had the best bid to fix the rust spots and paint at \$3,458.60. This includes the eight storage doors in the back of the truck. This is \$986.00 over the budgeted \$5,000.00. The Fire Department and First Responders will both be contributing to the costs of the truck. The truck will be at the shop for two weeks, September 26th through October 10th. The vinyl will be applied October 11th-12th. They hope to have the truck in service on October 15th. The Board moved to give Ron Palmer the ability to accept a bid for the 3-11 and for that bid to be between \$22,500.00 and \$18,000.00 and to spend \$100.00 to put an advertisement in Fire Truck Trader, to be taken out of PR & Promotions. The Dragon Trail will require some special Rescue training. There should be money available from the Trail Association to cover some of the costs and equipment needed. Fire South is up and running, but the signal will not work for us. The pagers have been adjusted to work off from Fire West. 6 new pagers were bought. The Fire Department paid for three and the First Responders paid for three.

2. Assessor and Supervisor Report: The L4029 was completed last month. No news on the DEQ violation.
3. Treasurer's Report: 80% of taxpayers have paid 90% of the taxes so far. DOT Meeting-Was the only one there besides the presenters. The Mecosta County 2017 projects and the 5-year plan were discussed. Was able to discuss some of the road issues we have with the Amish. Kenn and Carolyn were invited to a second meeting that will address road safety issues.
4. Clerk's Report: The Michigan Department of Transportation is having a series of meetings highlighting the Grand Region Nonmotorized Plan and New Bike Maps. The purpose of the meeting is to develop a nonmotorized transportation plan for the Grand Region to "identify opportunities to enhance nonmotorized transportation, prioritize nonmotorized investment in the region, and provide a vision for a nonmotorized network." A new Bike Map will also be provided. 31 ballots for Morley Stanwood voters were accidentally sent to Chippewa Hills voters. We are in the process of collecting those ballots and re-issuing the correct ballots. The Mecosta County Townships Association Meeting is at the Mecosta Township Hall on October 24th at 7pm.
5. Dehumidifier: Fulmer Heating submitted a bid of \$2,583.48. Stratz Heating submitted a bid of \$2,243.00. Moved by Sandra Mayo, supported by Carolyn Towsley to accept the Stratz bid and to take it out of Township Hall Capital Outlay. Motion carried.
6. Tulleymore Tax Appeal: The petition was signed. They are paying the fees so there will be no extra cost to us. They will receive a new tax bill.
7. Gravel: Moved by John Brockway, supported by Sandra Mayo to spend up to \$5,000.00 for gravel on 8 Mile Road from 140th Avenue to 150th Avenue. Motion carried.
8. Fire Truck: Moved by Carolyn Towsley, supported by Sandra Mayo to give Ron Palmer, the Fire Chief, authority to negotiate the sale of the 1990 GMC. Austin Township would like to see the sale price of the 1990 GMC set between \$24,000.00 and \$17,000.00, and for the funds to be returned as a Capital Investment split 50/50 between Mecosta and Austin Townships. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 pm.

Elizabeth G Carr

Austin Township Clerk