

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 April 12, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Present were: Kenneth Vredenburg, Carolyn Towsley, John Brockway, Sandra Mayo, and Lisa Lambert-Deputy Clerk. Elizabeth G Carr, Clerk, was absent. There was one guest present.

Public Comment: Matt Lincoln, West Michigan Trails & Greenways Corporation-We are fundraising and looking for Township support in the form of a resolution as we work towards getting all of the White Pine Trail paved. Fred Meijer gave \$500,00.00 for the first phase. Phase one will pave 11.8 miles from Leroy to Reed City. It will cost 6 million dollars to pave from Big Rapids to Sand Lake. We have almost raised all the money that we will need for this part of the project. We are asking for a Resolution in favor of paving the trail by the Township with a copy of your minutes.

Minutes: Moved by Carolyn Towsley, supported by Sandra Mayo to accept the minutes with a correction to: Underages and Overages, should read "for tax payments and to not collect for any amount that is \$5.00 and below." Motion carried.

Financial Report: Moved by Sandra Mayo, supported by Kenneth Vredenburg to accept the Financial Report as given subject to audit. Motion carried. The Property Tax money has been deposited. The CD that expires on April 12th will be renewed. We can only deposit into it once a year. \$153.07 was carried over to the new Fiscal Year. There is \$150.33 in petty cash. There are two checks to Julie Jankowski because we discovered that we had missed one quarterly check to her this past year.

Payment of the Bills: Moved by Carolyn Towsley, supported by John Brockway to pay the Steve Lobart Law Office the \$125.00 (check#9023) fee for preparing the Quit Claim Deed, and \$30.00 (check #9024) to Kenneth Vredenburg for registering the deed, and to pay the Township check #'s 8986-9024 and the Cemetery check #'s 1579-1581. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

1. Fire Department and First Responder Report: Fire runs are up. The Fire Department needs three sets of turn-out gear. The old models have been discontinued, and the new sets are more expensive. With shipping the cost will be \$5,478.24. Three firefighters have completed Company Officer 1&2. The Gear washers and dryers have been ordered to arrive after April 1st. \$6,500 was approved for the washer. The actual cost is going to be \$6,897. \$1,700 was approved for the two dryers. The actual cost is going to be \$1,799.
2. Assessor and Supervisor Report: Three people came to the Board of Review. The Cemetery Board Meeting is Thursday, April 20, 2017 at the Fire Hall at 7:00 p.m. Clean-up at the Stanwood Cemetery is April 24th with an alternate date of April 27th. The Verizon cell tower is up on 140th. There is a retirement open house for Joyce Randall. 8 Mile is still unfinished. No gravel has been put down yet.
3. Treasurer's Report: The CD account that expires today, April 12th will be renewed. We can only deposit in it once a year.
4. Clerk's Report: NA

New Business:

1. Olin Cemetery: The gate and fence need to be repaired and the entry way needs to be cleared. Tabled for another month to get a better idea of what needs to be done.

2. White Pine Trail: Moved by Kenneth Vredenburg, supported by Sandra Mayo to support Resolution 2017-02, Resolution of Support for the {Asphalt/Crushed Limestone} Surfacing of the Fred Meijer White Pine Trail State Park between Big Rapids and Sand Lake, Michigan

“WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) is committed to improving the unimproved segments of the Fred Meijer White Pine State Park, and,

WHEREAS, the 11.8 mile segment between LeRoy and Reed City, Michigan of the proposed project is planned to be improved in 2018 with asphalt surfacing from Leroy to Reed City, Michigan, and,

WHEREAS, the 29 Mile segment between Big Rapids and Sand Lake, Michigan of the proposed project is within the jurisdiction of Austin Township,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Austin Township hereby supports the MDNR in developing the Fred Meijer White Pine Trail State Park with asphalt surfacing from Big Rapids and Sand Lake, Michigan in the next phase/s of the Fred Meijer White Pine Trail State Park improvement project.

AYES: 4

NAYES: 0

ABSENT: 1

MOTION APPROVED

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing is a Resolution duly made and passed by the Board of Austin Township at their regular meeting held on April 12, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in Stanwood, Michigan, 49346, with a quorum present.”

Carolyn Towsley-yes

Sandra Mayo-yes

John Brockway-yes

Kenneth Vredenburg-yes

Elizabeth G Carr-absent

Motion carried.

3. Xerox: The new Xerox copier would cost \$6.64 more than our current copier. Moving the monthly fee from \$38.45 to \$43.09. We can lease the new wireless printer/copier for 36/60 months. The decision is tabled for now until we are closer to the end of our contract.
4. Libraries: Moved by John Brockway, supported by Sandra Mayo to contribute \$1,300.00 to the Walton Erickson Library and to contribute \$700.00 to the Morton Township Library. Motion carried.
5. Planning Commission: The Special Use permit was given to the Amish Retail Store in our Ag Zone on 6 Mile Road. The permit passed by a 6 to 1 vote.
6. FYI: There will be an informational meeting hosted by Ice Mountain on April 13, 2017 at Ferris.
7. Budget Amendment: Moved by Sandra Mayo, supported by Carolyn Towsley to amend the 2017-2018 Fiscal Budget and to add \$4,500.00 to 600-626 Summer Tax Reimbursement.

Carolyn Towsley-yes

Sandra Mayo-yes

John Brockway-yes

Kenneth Vredenburg-yes

Elizabeth G Carr-absent

Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Lisa Lambert

Austin Township Deputy Clerk