

The Austin Township Board Meeting was called to order by Clerk Elizabeth G Carr at the Township Hall at 14132 Pierce Road, Stanwood, MI, 49346 on July 11, 2017 at 7:33 p.m.

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

Public Comment: County Commissioner Tom O'Neil-There are five other counties that are interested in using the Mecosta County Morgue. When their current contracts run out they will seek a contract with us. With the increase in contracts we would need to hire a full-time pathologist. The morgue is going to create a family viewing/conference room.

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

Financial Report: The Clerk and Treasurer's office match on the \$415,757.48, there is \$170.37 in adjustments left that need to be made by the auditor. We received the Metro Act check of \$4,156.00. The money will go towards roads. The Cemetery Fund matches at \$7,206.66. There was no activity in the Property Tax Account other than an interest deposit. Two CD's are up for renewal this month. We also received our Revenue Sharing check. Moved by Sandra Mayo, supported by Carolyn Towsley to accept the Finance Report. Approved subject to audit.

Payment of the Bills: Moved by John Brockway, supported by Sandra Mayo to pay Township check #'s 9066-9082, and Cemetery Check #'s 1587 and 1588. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

1. Fire Department and First Responder Report: The next Fire Board Meeting will be Thursday, July 13, 2017 at 7 p.m. The meeting has been moved to this time because the Fire Department will be in special training in preparation for the creation of the Dragon Trail.
2. Assessor and Supervisor Report: July 20th will be the July Board of Review. This will cover errors and PRE requests. As Assessor Kenn has agreed that the True Cash Value for Casair will be set at \$200,000.00. It would be too costly to appeal to the Tax Tribunal.
3. Treasurer's Report: The tax bills have been sent out. We have received 136 payments so far. The credit/debit machine is set up and running. There is a 3% of the bill fee for each transaction. Moved by Sandra Mayo, supported by John Brockway for Carolyn Towsley to go to the BS&A Tax User Group Meeting on August 9, 2017 and to pay for mileage to and from the meeting. Motion carried.
4. Clerk's Report: The next Mecosta County Township Association Meeting will be a potluck in Sheridan Township on July 31, 2017 at 4986 – 12 Mile Road, Remus, MI, 49340 at 6:00 p.m. Spouses are invited also. Please RSVP the Sheridan Township Clerk. The Bureau of Elections is consolidating the Clerk's email accounts under a personal account. We are still in disagreement with the State of Michigan about their request for back taxes. We have a copy of their cancelled check. Supervisor Kenneth Vredenburg has written a letter and enclosed a further copy of the check. We have received our membership sticker from Michigan Municipal League.

New Business:

1. Fire Department and First Responders: Austin Township would like to know about the cancelled checks in the bill report.

2. Olin Cemetery: John Brockway will be working to brush hog the entrance trail and the perimeter of the cemetery.
3. Tri-County Electric will be on the Agenda next month to renew their right-of-way Grant Agreement.
4. Verizon: Moved by Sandra Mayo, supported by John Brockway to switch our office phone, fax, and internet to Verizon One-Talk System.
Carolyn Towsley-yes John Brockway-yes
Sandra Mayo-yes Elizabeth G Carr-yes
5. Trees: James Johnson, Road Commission District Supervisor stopped by and told us that they had received some grant money and would be removing dead trees along the road. They will remove the nuisance trees at the Cemetery for free.

Adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Elizabeth G Carr

Austin Township Clerk