

The Austin Township Board Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Kenneth Vredenburg at the Township Hall at 14132 Pierce Road, Stanwood, Michigan, 49346 on May 9, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

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

Public Comment: Tom O'Neil, County Commissioner-There are eight counties back in the Morgue Authority. Osceola and two other counties have joined. They have begun the process of trying to hire a pathologist to run the morgue. They would also need to hire an assistant. There have been a few other groups step forward and donate money towards the Dragon Trail. Construction is supposed to start next year. It will take two years to complete. The Mecosta County Parks voted not to put a millage on the ballot in August. They will consider whether to put one on in November.

Minutes: Moved by Sandra Mayo, supported by John Brockway to approve all the sets of minutes presented tonight. Included are the April 10th Township Minutes, the April 10th Election Commission Minutes, and the April 16th Public Accuracy Test Minutes. Motion carried.

Financial Report: The Clerk and Treasurer balance. There is still \$61.12 in Accounts Receivable. We will ask the Auditor about it on Monday. The Tax Account money was transferred to a CD. We received \$61.12 in Delinquent Taxes from Mecosta County. The Property Tax Account just has interest going into it right now. The Cemetery balances. Approved subject to audit.

Payment of the Bills: Moved by Sandra Mayo, supported by Carolyn Towsley to approve for payment Township check #'s 9250-9277 and to approve for payment Cemetery check #'s 1605-1607 with the addition of nine more checks in the Township to pay the Election Inspectors and one more check in the Cemetery to pay for the Veteran flags on the graves. We received a Capitol Credit of \$77.01 from Tri-County Electric and a Dividend Credit of \$195.00 from the Michigan Municipal League. Both amounts were automatically applied towards our next bill. Motion carried.

Old Business:

1. Fire Dept and First Resp Report: Kenn approved to pay the regular bills and for an additional \$1,600.00 for training for three more people to attend Rescue Class to be taken out of the First Responder regular budget. There was an additional \$38 to be paid in bills received. Kenn will write a letter to Ron Palmer, the Fire Chief, asking for a detailed inventory of everything at the Fire Department. There should be a Fire Board Meeting April 16, 2018 at 7 p.m. at the Fire Hall. Moved by Carolyn Towsley, supported by Sandra Mayo for the Superintendent, Kenneth Vredenburg, to send a letter to the Mecosta Austin Fire Chief and ask for a complete inventory of all equipment and assets of the Mecosta Austin Fire and Rescue Department. Motion carries.
2. Assessor and Supervisor Report: The Michigan State Treasurer wants to revamp the way assessing is done in Michigan. They would do away with all Level I & II assessors and only use Level III & IV assessors. Assessing Districts of 5,000 + would be created. You would not be allowed to assess in your own district.
3. Treasurer's Report: The County uses an independent third party, KCI, to print their tax bills. There will be an additional charge to print the Township newsletter with the tax bill. After a thorough price comparison between KCI, Ferris Printing, and her ability to print them herself, it will be more cost effective to have KCI do the tax statements and newsletters.
4. Clerk's Report: There were 89 ballots cast at the School Election on May 8, 2018. 46 of those were absentees. The next Election will be the Primary Election on August 7th. They are very

important elections because many of the Michigan Legislature is term limited and will not be able to run again. We also will be choosing a new Governor and Cabinet. The Make-A-Wish Foundation would like to use our parking lot on July 28, 2018 as a break-stop for their Wish-A-Mile Bicycle Tour. Austin Township approved the event. Austin Township received a Thank You Letter for our contribution to the Morton Township Library. The Annual Membership Meeting for the Homeworks Tri-County Electric Cooperative will be Wednesday, May 23, 2018 at the St. Michael's Parish Center on M-20. I only have another two weeks to decide if I am renewing the payroll function of QuickBooks.

5. Roads: The County Road Commission did a good job patching 140th Avenue. Austin Township will not repave half of the road this year. We will still go ahead with the gravel project on 7 Mile Road.

New Business:

1. Table Covers: Austin Township will discuss requiring table covers and the price of table covers at the June Board Meeting.

Adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Elizabeth G Carr

Austin Township Clerk