

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 January 8, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Present were: Kenneth Vredenburg, Elizabeth G Carr, John Brockway, Sandy Mayo, and Amber Schneider-DT. Carolyn Towsley was absent. There was one guest.

Public Comment: Tom O'Neil, County Commissioner-The Fremont Community Foundation awarded \$500,000.00 toward the Dragon Trail. If everything continues to progress smoothly, the Morgue will be operational by the end of February.

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

Financial Report: Austin Township received the next State of Michigan check. The Treasurer's office and the Clerk's office balanced on all funds and accounts.

Payment of the Bills: Moved by John Brockway, supported by Sandra Mayo to pay Township check #'s 9437-9453 and Cemetery check #'s 1625-1626. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

1. Fire Department Report: The bill from the Morton Township Fire Department is \$4,500.00. There were six runs. Austin and Mecosta Townships are still in disagreement over the final financial settlement of the former Mecosta Austin Fire Department and First Responders. Austin Township is in the process of collecting addresses for our former Firefighters and First Responders so that we may send them a thank you letter.
2. Assessor and Supervisor Report: Nothing to report.
3. Treasurer's Report: 87% of the taxpayers have paid 96.5% of the summer taxes. 41% of the taxpayers have paid 26% of the winter taxes.
4. Clerk's Report: I have contacted Comprenew (electronics recycling) and they will be sending me information on their program and how we can recycle our old equipment. I received an email from the Bureau of Elections with a Legislative Summary and the ways that the new legislation will affect our offices. A few of the changes are: candidates for township offices may now file a refundable \$100 filing fee in lieu of a nominating petition; FOIA requesters who fail to pay a FOIA deposit within 45 days indicates the requester has abandoned the request; requires the Township Clerk to be in her office a total of 8 hours on the Saturday or Sunday before an election day to issue and receive absent voter ballots.
5. Telephones: The contract with Casair was signed and sent. The second office phone number was discontinued with Verizon. A portable One-Talk Verizon was ordered and installed. Firewall protection through Casair would be \$450 up front and \$40-\$50 subscription a year. They do not recommend it for our type of business.
6. Marijuana: Jim Chapman from the MCTA was contacted to request a speaker to answer some of our questions regarding township ordinances and the new marijuana rules.
7. Budget: Move 440-447 Met Act \$10,000.00 into 440-446 Highways, streets and bridges. Add a Capitol Outlay line to each Office category and to Building and Grounds, Cemetery, and Elections. As Doug Wohlberg if there is a specific GASB number for Electronics.

Adjourned 8:25 p.m.

Austin Township Clerk-Elizabeth G Carr