

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 March 12, 2019 at 7:58 p.m.

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-The Parks Commission is pushing for a Parks Millage. Discussion would like to see a price break for residents and/or a raise in rates for out-of-town campers before there is an added millage.

Minutes: Moved by Sandra Mayo, supported by Carolyn Towsley to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

Finance Report: There were four hall rental deposits, Charter Franchise Fee, and the Local Community Stabilization Fee deposits. The Clerk's and Treasurer's offices balanced on the Township and Cemetery accounts. All the Property Tax disbursements have been made except the Austin Township disbursement. Accepted subject to audit.

Payment of the Bills: Moved by John Brockway, supported by Sandra Mayo to pay Township check #'s 9473-9489 and Cemetery check # 1628. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

1. Fire Department Report: The Thank You letter was sent to all the former Mecosta Austin Fire Fighters and First Responders for their service to Austin Township over the years.
2. Assessor and Supervisor Report: We have received one letter at Board of Review. There haven't been any walk-ins. We may need to look at repairs to 140th Avenue again.
3. Treasurer's Report: 88% of the tax-payers have paid 95% of the summer tax dollars and 83% of the tax-payers have paid 93% of the winter tax dollars. There were two dog tags sold. One insufficient check was received. The Treasurer will invest the Township taxes after comparing investment programs. The Treasurer attended the Economic Development meeting. Casair is looking into small cell towers with a radius of 2 miles and will be laying more fiber. Two Townships are applying for grants for the Dragon Trail. 90 people showed up for Morgue Day. Big Rapids Township is fundraising \$80,000.00 for Highland Cemetery. Mecosta Township is looking at zoning all of 8 Mile Road as commercial. Michele Hoitenga, 103rd Representative, is introducing a bill to do away with Daylight Savings time.
4. Clerk's Report: The ballots should be here this week. I declined to consolidate with Millbrook Township for this election. Our voters would have had to drive to Remus, and I would still have had to be here in this office for the whole day to take registrations and absentee ballots. I will need to order a new stock of changed forms per the changes voted at the last election.
5. One Talk Phone Service: The One Talk Service is working. The fax is working on Verizon. There may still be problems with the fax, and we are waiting to see what we will be charged for data.
6. Recycle: N/A
7. Marijuana Ordinance: The Township is waiting on a response from our lawyer. We have questions about fines and enforcement.
8. Casair: Moved by Carolyn Towsley, supported by Sandra Mayo to approve the Right of Way Telecommunications Permit with Casair, Inc. for 5 years from February 7, 2019-2024. Motion carried.

9. Budget: Moved by Kenneth Vredenburg, supported by John Brockway to resolve to take \$100.00 from 900-276 and put it in 750-751 Parks and Recreation.

Sandra Mayo-yes

John Brockway-yes

Carolyn Towsley-yes

Elizabeth G Carr-yes

Kenneth Vredenburg -yes

10. Local Community Stabilization Fee: Moved by Elizabeth G Carr, supported by Carolyn Towsley to amend the 2018-2019 Budget to include Income line item 575-573 and to add to the 2018-2019 Budget \$522.00 in 575-573.

Sandra Mayo-yes

John Brockway-yes

Carolyn Towsley-yes

Elizabeth G Carr-yes

Kenneth Vredenburg-yes

11. Authorization to Settle: Moved by Sandra Mayo, supported by Kenneth Vredenburg to grant to Elizabeth G Carr-Clerk and Carolyn Towsley-Treasurer, the authorization to settle the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Elizabeth G Carr

Austin Township Clerk