

**Austin Township Board Meeting  
Tuesday May 14, 2019**

Austin Township board meeting called to order by Supervisor Kenneth Vredenburg at the Township Hall at 14132 Pierce Rd, Stanwood, MI 49346.

Present were: Kenneth Vredenburg, Lisa Lambert, Carolyn Towsley, John Brockway, and Sandra Mayo. Two guests present.

I. 7:30 - Call to order – pledge of allegiance

Public Comment –

- Public participant discussed road reports.
- Introduce Nichole Smigiel as Deputy Township Clerk.

II. Approval of minutes

Sandra Mayo moved to approve April 9 Board Meeting, April 9 Election Commission, and April 21 Special Board Meeting minutes. Supported by Carolyn Towsley. Motion carried.

III. Approval of Treasurer's Township and Cemetery Reports

- Savings account did not balance out correctly on report would not line up correctly on QuickBooks. Fixed now next report should balance correctly.
- Income into general fund from halls and delinquent taxes.
- Talk about PRE
- 2 lot sales for cemetery

Payment of Bills Add checks 9545, 9546, 9547 not listed on treasurer's report. Moved by Carolyn Towsley. Supported by Sandra Mayo. Twp checks 9519-9547 to general fund.

Cemetery check 1631, and 1632. Motion carried.

- Election costs to be paid by schools – Lisa Lambert already submitted to County.

V. Unfinished Business

1. Fire Dept Report – Small claims against Mecosta Twp kicked to Circuit Court, Suing for a disputed balance. Township attorney suggest both sides forget about it too much money to go through court over such small amount. All board members agreed.

2. Assessor's and Supervisor's Report – Couple complaints, cemetery clean up done and completed. Have to pay TinkerPeete, email received May 11 for amount \$220. Lisa Lambert to write check to pay TinkerPeete. Motion to pay TinkerPeete, moved by Carolyn Towsley, supported by Sandra Mayo. Motion carried.

- Amish sawmills burning slab wood still, considered a bi product of commercial business and can't burn, PA says not commercial bi product, way to charge them for fire dept fees?

3. Treasurers Report – Email from equalization for certification of state education levy. 6 mills 2019 summer levy. KCI to do mailing of bills for taxes. Mecosta County Township Association meeting discussed Trap, Neuter, Release program. Bought counterfeit bill pen, County equalization county assessed evaluation report. Report given on dragon trail. MTA workshop on

assessing – not convenient locations or times may be able to get info once classes have been completed.

4. Clerk's report – receive request for Wish a Mile use township July 27<sup>th</sup>. Need yes or no. Would not use inside building only outside, would have a porta potty delivered day before and picked up at end of following day. Use of parking lot area only. All board members agreed ok. Lisa Lambert to inform them yes. Received thank you from Morton Twp library for check. Bureau of Elections has determined voters can take picture of ballot in privacy booth. Most recent school election had 19 voters, 15 AV 4 in person voters. Lisa Lambert needs a new desk. Board says OK.

5. Court Case – Discussed under Fire Dept Report

6. Marihuana ordinance – Two versions submitted, one more detailed. All board members agree to opt- out of Recreational Marihuana Establishments.

Motion moved by Carolyn Towsley supported by Sandy Mayo motion carried by all. Adopt Township of Austin, County of Mecosta, State of Michigan, Ordinance NO. 2019-01. Prohibition of recreational marihuana establishments ordinance. Aye: Carolyn Towsley, Sandy Mayo, Kenn Vredenburg, John Brockway, Lisa Lambert. Nay: None. Ordinance Adopted: 5/14/19 Effective: 5/23/19. Need to be published in Pioneer.

7. Roads: - 140<sup>th</sup> done, 8 mile black topped, gravel on other roads another month or two.

VI. New Business: Wish a Mile in Clerk's report above.

New Cell phone: Lisa Lambert to use personal phone for township business. Public can call main number and it will transfer to her cell phone. Does not want to give out her personal number. Does not want to have two phones. Lisa Lambert bill per month \$35.92 for her phone. Policy needs to be created to be able to reimburse for personal use of phone before they agree to do it. Make policy is agreeable by everyone and should be done by next meeting.

Adjourned 9:10.

Lisa Lambert  
Austin Township Clerk