

Austin Township Board Meeting

Tuesday October 8, 2019

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

Present were: Kenneth Vredenburg, Billie Jean Barnes, Carolyn Towsley, Sandra Mayo and John Brockway. Six guests present.

- I. 7:34 - Call to order - Pledge of allegiance

- II. Public Comment
 - Anthony Van- The Amish produce auction manager and has complaints about the poor road conditions of 130th - 140th Ave (recently was ground up and made into a gravel road). He questioned what the township does to maintain the roads and was told that the road commission maintains the road and the township is responsible for improvements. He would also like to know what can be done to turn that into a paved road again. It was discussed that there is too much traffic, however if he could get the road commission or someone else to split the cost of the new road with Austin Township we would consider paying half of the cost for the new road.
 - Elma Jean - Has a concern of the "big ditch" that was left in front of her driveway where the curbing stopped and never picked up again.. She would appreciate it if we can try and fill it in for them.
 - Tom O'neil - Gave Kenn a copy of the September road projects.

- III. Approval of minutes
 - Carolyn Towsley moved to approve September 10th board meeting as presented. Supported by Kenn Vredenburg, pending corrections. Motion carried.

- IV. Approval of Public Accuracy Voting Machine Test
 - Carolyn Towsley moved to approve October 7th Public Accuracy Voting Machine Test minutes. Supported by Kenn Vredenburg. Motion Carried.

- V. Approval of Treasurer's Township and Cemetery Reports
 - Clerk and Treasurer's report match
 - Clerk to check on the accounts payable - auditor amount.
 - State of MI revenue sharing higher than before.
 - Land division payment refunded.
 - Report accepted subject to audit.

- VI. Payment of Township and Cemetery Bills
 - Township Checks #9628 through #9649 (including road commission check)
 - Cemetery Checks #1642 through #1645
 - Carolyn Towsley moved to approve Township and Cemetery payments, supported by Sandra Mayo. Motion carried.

- VII. Unfinished Business

- A. Assessor's and Supervisors Report
 - TinkerPete will mow the cemetery in 2020
 - There will not be a cemetery meeting until March 2020
- B. Treasurer's report
 - 82% paid 93% of summer tax bill.
 - Next years household waste collection will be moved to the Chippewa Hills High School.
- C. Newsletter needs to be to the printers by 11/1/19.
 - We will not accept the postmark date on the envelopes to avoid a penalty on taxes.
 - We discussed having office hours during the 2020 census to help fill out forms.
- D. Clerks Report
 - Discussed the importance of the 2020 Census. I also gave our new census contact Information. Contact info is kris.s.steinburg@census2020.gov
- E. Ford Drain
 - Aetna Township petitioned
- F. Painting the Hall
 - We received one bid back from Scott's Painting tabled until the November meeting to get the rest of the bids back.
- G. Hall rental agreement
 - We will discuss this during the November board meeting.

VIII. New Business

- A. Roger Cole presented us with the Morley Stanwood Bond Proposal information and explained what the millage would be used for. More information will be given to the public as they get it.
- B. New officials MTA webinars.
 - Webinars at ½ price during the month of November, Billie Jean will do the webinars if the classes will be beneficial.

Adjourned 10:05 p.m.

Billie Jean Barnes

Austin Township Clerk