

Austin Township Board Meeting

Tuesday March, 3rd 2020

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, John Brockway, and Sandra Mayo. We had one guest present Brad Russ.

- I. 8:09 P.M. Call to order - Pledge of allegiance (Done Prior at our Annual Budget Meeting)
- II. Public Comment
 - Brad Russ came to the meeting to share his concerns about the state of the Township Roads. He asked if we had/knew of any road projects that were planned for this Summer (2020) or if any other roads would be turned back to gravel. Kenn told him we do not have a definite answer from the county as to what their plans are for the roads this year, however Austin Township wants to keep the primary roads blacktop and we would like to get more gravel on the roads. Brad was also told he could attend any Road Commission meetings and the next one would be held on March 17th, 2020 at 9:00 A.M.
- III. Approval of minutes
 - Sandra Mayo moved to approve February 11th board meeting and February 11 Election Committee minutes as presented. Supported by Carolyn Towsley. Motion carried.
- IV. Approval of Treasurer's Township and Cemetery Reports
 - Clerk and Treasurer's Township and Cemetery reports match.
 - Received Swampland Tax, Delinquent taxes.
 - The Local Stabilization was deposited into the savings account and then was transferred into the general fund.
 - Property tax account you will see several checks were written and several deposited.
 - Hall Account, shows a deposit and the money that was refunded for the deposits. We also received transit and service charge refunds.
 - Accepted Treasurers Reports, subject to Audit.
- V. Payment of Township and Cemetery Bills
 - Township Checks #9738 through # 9752, and Cemetery Check # 1652.
 - Carolyn Towsley moved to approve Township and Cemetery payments, Supported by Sandra Mayo. Motion carried.
- VI. Unfinished Business
 - A. Assessor's and Supervisors Report
 - The Board of Review meetings will be Monday, March 9 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Wednesday, March 11 2020 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

- We also received a Brine Contract and a special use request. (Will be discussed later this evening as new business)

VII. Treasurer's Report

- Everything is balanced and sent to the County Treasurer.
- There was a correction made for Morley Stanwood, we cannot send the school the number until after December because of the SET reports.
- We will have Delinquent Taxes coming back. There could be corrections on that
- 89% of the Summer Taxpayers paid 95%
- 85% Winter Taxpayers paid 93%
- We will have money that will need to be invested. How would we like to do that? Should we invest it into one of our current CD's, does that decision need to be made now, or can we wait? We can wait, and leave it in the tax account until we have reached a decision. Kenn has recommended that we put it in CDAR 5240 because we can pull money from that monthly if needed for any projects.
- There will also be a little bit of money left in the tax account to cover unexpected expenses.

VIII. Clerks Report

- Everything has been going good for the upcoming March election.

IX. BS&A

- Carolyn gave us a proposal from BS&A, the price of BS&A is hard to justify for what we would be using it for.

X. Proposal to purchase a laptop

- Carolyn has proposed to the board that we purchase a laptop that is portable and a docking station for the Township Clerk. The Township already has all of the programs we would need for the laptop, so it would just be the cost of the laptop and the docking station.
- Moved by Carolyn Towsley to purchase a new laptop and docking station up to \$1,500 for the Township Clerk, supported by Sandra Mayo. Motion carried.

XI. New Business

- We received a Brine contract from the Mecosta County Road Commission. The Road Commission will apply dust control free of charge for the first round of the 2020 season. They are offering to do additional rounds (up to three total). The extra rounds are not free; they will cost \$100/mile. The Austin Township Board agreed that one round of dust control would be sufficient.
- Mr. Schlabach at 13372 6 Mile Road, has submitted a Special Use Request to the Mecosta County Planning Commission. Discuss about the concerns to have this approved were discussed. Kenn will be putting a letter together to forward to the Planning Commission detailing our concerns and Billie and Carolyn will try to attend the meeting on March 5, 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm



Billie Jean Barnes