

## Austin Township Board Meeting

February 14th, 2023

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

Board members present: Kenneth Vredenburg, Billie Jean Barnes, Amber Schneider and Sandra Mayo.

Guests Present: One guest present: Tom O'neil, and Tom Frieberg.

7:42 p.m. Call to order - Pledge of allegiance

### I. Public Comment

1. Discussed the salaries and job openings with building and zoning and the pros and cons of the battery plant.

### III. Approval of minutes

- Sandy Mayo moves to approve the January 10th board meeting minutes supported by Kenn Vredenburg, motion carried.

### IV. Approval of Treasurer's Township and Cemetery Reports

- All accounts match.
- Nothing new with CDS
- Cemetery account match
- Property tax checks going through.
- subject to audit. Motion Carried.

### V. Payment of Township and Cemetery Bills,

- Kenn Vredenburg moves to approve Township checks 10481 through 10494 and Direct deposits supported by Sandra Mayo. Motion carried.

### VI. Unfinished Business

#### A. Assessor's and Supervisors Report

- The tax bills are in the mail and there was a 5% increase.
- We need to appoint a new BOR member
- Received a letter from the attorney informing us that their rates are increasing.
- A&R pipeline usually pays their property taxes there is a program that they could apply for. If they do file for it, it will affect our income.

#### B. Treasurer's Report

- 93% of the taxpayers have paid 96% of summer taxes, 83% of the taxpayers have paid 92% of winter taxes.
- We were given a revenue share chart.
- We need to make sure we put the tax collection hours on the tax bill.

#### C. Clerk's Report

- MOTA did not put in language for a May election
- Discussed elections
- Discussed getting a new deputy clerk and the duties that they would be responsible for doing.

#### D. Morton Township proposal

- Discussed the pros and cons of going with Morton Township building and zoning proposal.  
Kenn Vredenburg made a motion to deny the building and Zoning proposal from Morton Township, supported by Sandra Mayo. Motion carried.

#### E. Budget

- Discussed the proposed budget for the new fiscal year.
- Need to make an amendment  
Kenn Vredenburg makes a motion to move money from Highway streets and Bridges number 440-446 and put it into Contract Services 336-810. Supported by John Brockway.

#### Roll Call

Sandra Mayo-Yes      John Brockway-Yes  
Billie Jean Barnes-Yes      Kenn Vredenburg-Yes  
Motion Carried

#### VII. New Business

##### A. Household Hazardous Waste Program

- The program is asking us to increase our donation this year.

Kenn Vredenburg made a motion to increase the donation to \$500.00. Supported by John Brockway.

#### Roll Call

Sandra Mayo- Yes      Billie Jean Barnes- Yes  
John Brockway- Yes      Kenn Vredenburg- Yes  
Motion Carried

##### B. Great Lakes Energy request for grant of franchise

- Discussed the information that was sent to us.

Kenn Vredenburg makes a motion to approve ordinance 2023-01 from Great Lakes Energy, supported by Sandra Mayo.

#### Roll Call

Sandra Mayo- Yes      John Brockway- Yes  
Billie Jean Barnes- Yes      Kenn Vredenburg- Yes  
Motion Carried

##### D. Approval of new Board of Review member

- Kenn Vredenburg made a motion to appoint Scott Davidson for BOR, supported by John Brockway. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Billie Jean Barnes

