

Austin Township Board Meeting

April 11th, 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, Carolyn Towsley, Billie Jean Barnes, John Brockway and Sandra Mayo.

Guests Present: One guest present: Tom O'neil

7:36 p.m. Call to order - Pledge of allegiance

I. Public Comment

1. Discussed the recent Gotion meetings.

III. Approval of minutes

- Carolyn Towsley moves to approve the March 14th board meeting minutes and Budget meeting minutes, supported by Sandra Mayo, motion carried.

IV. Approval of Treasurer's Township and Cemetery Reports

- All accounts balance
- Received funds from Charter Communications, Revenue Share, Property Taxes, Local Community Stabilization and hall rental
- Gave a copy of the bank statement
- Cemetery account balances
- Carolyn dispersed all of the tax money and left a small amount in the account.
- subject to audit. Motion Carried.

V. Payment of Township and Cemetery Bills,

- Carolyn Towsley moves to approve Township checks 10520 through 10533, 10551 and 10552, five direct deposits and cemetery check 1708 supported by Sandra Mayo. Motion carried.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Assessor's and Supervisors Report

- Board of Review, had nine total people come in.
- Deb Hanson wanted to know if they could use the hall for a quilting group on the 2nd and 4th Thursday each month free of charge? The board has decided against this at this time.
- Should we take further action against the junk complaint in Canadian Lakes? Kenn will reach out and see what needs to be done to get things moving.
- Carolyn asked what was being done with a property on Pierce Rd and 8 Mile across from Ice Mountain? Kenn said they were clearing some property on Pierce Rd and there is a Semi Repair being put on 8 Mile.

B. Treasurer's Report

- Our monthly CD is maturing on 4/12/2023, we will be letting this roll over for another year and adding the property taxes into this account with an interest of 4%.

- Isabella FDIC coverage, umbrellas all of our accounts, general fund, CDs, cemetery fund, and property tax account.
- Jill sent an email to Carolyn about a new savings account that earns 4.41% or 4.5% annually for municipalities. Carolyn and Billie will go to the bank and transfer our current savings account to a new savings account.
- Carolyn received a compliance letter for liquor licenses, Carolyn sent it back saying we do not have any at this time.
- Carolyn received a call from Isabella bank, someone was trying to hack our credit card machine. They had to shut down our machine, now the machine has to be reset. Carolyn will be in touch with the company to get that taken care of.
- Where are the firewalls on that machine? Elavon was monitoring the machine. Carolyn will look into this more.
- Carolyn would like to establish a resolution that allows the Treasurer to refund anything more than \$5.00 and keep anything less than \$5.00 in the Property Tax account.
- Carolyn moves to make a motion for resolution 2023-12 that allows the Treasurer to refund anything more than \$5.00 and keep anything less than \$5.00 in the Property Tax account, supported by Sandra Mayo.

Roll Call

Sandra Mayo- yes Billie Barnes- Yes
 John Brockway- Yes Kenn Vredenburg- Yes
 Carolyn Towsley- Yes

- A taxpayer made a complaint that every person that mails in a tax payment should be mailed a receipt at the township's expense, and the taxpayer should not have to send a self addressed/stamped envelope. The township board has decided we will not change the way we are currently sending receipts.
- Discussed the summer newsletter and revenue sharing graph.

C. Clerk's Report

- Cemetery clean up date is being worked on possibly May 5th.
- GLE Franchise agreement is all set and will be filed.
- Billie Jean has sworn Abbie Andrews in as her new Deputy Clerk.

VII. New Business

D. Township Hall parking lot

- Discussed the two bids that we received for re-doing the parking lot.
- Carolyn Towsley moves to accept the bid from Rieth-Riley for \$126,650.00, supported by Sandra Mayo. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Billie Jean Barn