

19729 11 Mile Rd. Big Rapids, MI.

February 14, 2018/ approved minutes

Prepared by: Lois Brennan, Mecosta Township Clerk

1. Supervisor Michele Graham, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm
2. **Pledge to the Flag**
3. **Roll Call** – John Johnson, Mary Quinlan, Michele Graham, Lois Brennan. James Cain came into meeting at 6:20pm. All Present.
4. **Approval of the Agenda** – Motion made by Mary Quinlan to accept agenda with addition of E. under new business Village of Stanwood. John Johnson 2nd. All – aye. Motion carried.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – motion made by Mary Quinlan to accept minutes as written. John Johnson 2nd.
6. **Treasurers Report** – Treasurers report was accepted as presented and entered into official record.
7. **Approval to Pay Bills & Payroll** - Motion by Mary Quinlan to pay bills and payroll in the amount of \$22,378.21. Lois Brennan 2nd. Roll call – Quinlan – yes, Brennan – yes, Johnson – yes, Cain – yes, Graham – yes. Motion carried.
8. **Brief Public Comment** – Dr. David Frye approached the Board to object to his property taxes, Dr. Frye was directed that this was not the proper body to address this and he would have to attend the Board of Review meeting scheduled in March. Dr. Frye, ignored instruction from the Board to observe the time limit attached to the Public Comment section of the meeting. Dr. Frye continued to speak for many minutes after being told his time to speak had expired and made several disparaging remarks directed at Board Member Graham. Dr. Frye ultimately was told again that his tax issue would solely be heard during the March Board of Review, and he left the meeting.
9. **Reports** –
 - A. **County Commissioner Report** – Per Tom O’Neil, 8 counties in total have joined the Mecosta County Morgue Authority, and still have a couple of other counties interested. Tom also presented a letter

from Austin Township, that had already been emailed to all members of Mecosta Township regarding the impending separation of the two townships on the Fire Department.

- B. **Assessors/Supervisors Report** – Roll is balanced, Board of Review is set and ready for March. Scheduled meeting times are posted. Everything in township is going smoothly and still plugging along.
- C. **Fire Department** – nothing new.
- D. **Cemetery** – Nothing new. Next meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2018 7:00pm, meeting held at Mecosta Austin Fire Department located on 8 Mile Rd. in Stanwood.
- E. **Budget** – Budget looks good. In correction of a motion error made in November 101-000-698 budgeted use of fund balance we need to put back \$94,000.00 and increase the budget for streets 101-444-818. Motion made by Mary Quinlan to reverse motion made in November 8' 2017 meeting, retract the use of 101-000-698 to 101-444-818 in the amount of \$94,000.00 as that is not allowed. John Johnson 2nd. Roll Call Quinlan – yes, Johnson – yes, Cain - yes, Graham – yes, Brennan – yes. Motion carried.
- F. **Planning Commission** – Board was given a copy of the Planning Commission annual report. James asks what we progress we have made regarding the Master Plan, he explained he made more of a redirection to focus more to the rec. plan.

10. **Unfinished Business** –

- A. **Wages** – Motion in the form of Resolution 2018-001 to keep wages as they are from 2017. Made by John Johnson, James Cain 2nd. Roll call Johnson – yes, Cain – yes, Quinlan – yes, Graham – yes, Brennan – yes. Motion carried.
- B. **Budget** – Preliminary Budget was presented to the Board for review, will be discussed at our next meeting and further at the Final budget meeting.
- C. **Mecosta Austin Fire Department** – Fire department needs a new boat for water rescue, Austin Township has quoted as not putting any funds towards the boat. Motion made by John Johnson to buy

the fire department a boat not to exceed \$2665.00 as researched by Fire Chief Ron Palmer. Lois Brennan 2nd. Mary Quinlan brings up discussion on concerns of the payment for our internal records and which department we run the expense for the boat from. With Austin and Mecosta separating. Board agrees to contact the Townships accountant for direction. And will purchase the boat within the next month. Chief Ron Palmer was in attendance, his discussion with the Board was in references to the epinephrine drug that is now on board with the fire department and explained how it will work. He went on further to explain he had been invited to Austin Townships Board meeting the night prior to ours to discuss the possible separation of the two townships regarding the fire department. John Boyd President of the Fire Board also spoke regarding the separation. Discussion closed with deciding on a date to have a special joint meeting with Austin Township Board members.

11. **New Business** -

- A. ZBA** – Bonnie Palmer has resigned from the zoning board of appeals; her resignation letter was read by Michele Graham. We are looking for a person that would like to fill this open spot.
- B. Fire Boat** – center tube in boat is bad, cannot be repaired.
- C. DNR Grants** – Motion made in the form of Resolution 2018-002 by James Cain that Mecosta Township Board is willing to apply and accept DNR grants with possible matching funds. Mary Quinlan 2nd. Roll Call: Cain – yes, Quinlan – Yes, Johnson – yes, Graham – yes, Brennan – yes. Motion carried.
- D. Fairview Cemetery** – Fairview Cemetery Association is requesting the annual financial support of \$500.00 to be used for upkeep and maintenance of the cemetery. Motion made by John Johnson to fulfill our yearly support of \$500.00 to Fairview Cemetery Association for upkeep of the cemetery. Mary Quinlan 2nd. Roll call: Johnson – yes, Quinlan – yes, Cain – yes, Graham – yes, Brennan – yes. Motion carried.

E. Village of Stanwood – Motion in the form of Resolution 2018-003 to incorporate the Village of Stanwood into the Master and Recreation Plan of Mecosta Township made by Michele Graham, John Johnson 2nd. Roll Call: Graham – yes, Johnson – yes, Quinlan – yes, Cain – yes, Brennan – yes. Motion carried.

11. Brief Public Comment – none.

12. Announcements/Correspondences – letter from IT Right regarding extra protection services for the Townships computers and network. Will be added to the agenda next month. John Johnson is requesting new business cards for himself and James Cain and would like to include the website on them.

13. Adjournment - Motion by John Johnson to adjourn meeting at 7:15pm. Lois Brennan 2nd. Meeting was adjourned by Michele Graham at 7:15pm.