

Mecosta Township

Regular meeting

19729 11 Mile Rd. Big Rapids, MI.

November 14, 2018/ un-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, James Cain, Michele Graham, Lois Brennan. All present.
4. **Approval of the Agenda** – Motion made by Mary Quinlan to accept agenda. James Cain 2nd. All – aye. Motion carried.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – Motion made by James Cain to accept minutes with changes. Mary Quinlan 2nd. All – aye. Motion carried.
6. **Treasurers Report** – Treasurers report was accepted as presented and entered into official record.
7. **Approval to Pay Bills & Payroll** - Motion made by John Johnson to pay bills and payroll in the amount of \$254,733.68. James Cain 2nd. Roll call: John Johnson – yes, James Cain – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, Michele Graham – yes, Lois Brennan – yes. Motion carried.
8. **Brief Public Comment** – Mr. Craig Huntey stood to ask why the prior months meeting minutes were not out. Lois Brennan – clerk, apologized for forgetting to put them out and immediately went to get the minutes.
9. **Reports** –
 - A. **County Commissioner Report** – per Tom O’Neil, 3 weeks ago was the budget meeting, the county is running on just under 13 million with a fund balance of just under 9 million.

The log haulers are trying to get the weight restrictions lifted, to be except from all restriction on all roads. It was brought up at the Big Rapids Township meeting. Just something for us to stay aware of. Michele will bring update information to the next meeting in December.

B. Assessors/Supervisors Report – Assessors report: busy season for assessing, waiting on equalization for ratios, to continue to balance which will take assessing through December. Periodically going in the field to update sales for assessing, we have an extraordinary amount of building permits, once those are done, they cannot be put into the system until assessing is balanced or it skews the numbers.

C. Cemetery – The well has been shut off/down for the winter. We have received several comments/ compliments through the season on the grounds keeping.

D. Budget – Motion made by John Johnson to transfer in \$220,000.00 to 101-000-699 and move to the \$220,000.00 to account 101-336-970, for payment on fire department. Mary Quinlan 2nd. Roll Call: John Johnson – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, James Cain – yes, Michele Graham – yes, Lois Brennan – yes. Motion carried.

E. Planning Commission – The planning commission is working diligently on the recreation plan, meetings are being scheduled to insure compliance to qualify for DNR Grants.

10. Unfinished Business –

A. Fire Department – Packet given to the Board included, fire run report, first responders report, current payroll totals and an update on patches for the shirts and turn out gear. Two different sign companies have been contacted for quotes for a new sign in front of the fire department. Quotes are to be ready for December meeting. Quotes for ready racks for turn out gear, and a boat motor. There was also discussion about training and computers for the training, for the firemen that will help drop the township iso ratings. Motion made by John Johnson to spend up to \$1,600.00 on yearly training. James Cain 2nd. Roll Call: John Johnson – yes, James Cain – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, Michele Graham – yes, Lois Brennan – yes. Motion carried. Consensus of the Board was to bring back the ready racks and boat motor discussion to the December meeting. There are also 5 physicals to be completed by January 1, 2019. Those are to be scheduled within the

next month. Going forward there will be 5 physicals completed each quarter to keep current. Millage money should start coming in December 15th. A brief overview of events the fire department took part in was given. Training report was given as to current training. Maintenance Report was given to include upcoming maintenance to be performed.

B. Property Transfer Affidavit – Motion in the form of Resolution 2018-007 to waive penalties for non-filing of property transfer affidavits (which was read into record), was made by John Johnson. Mary Quinlan 2nd. Roll Call: John Johnson – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, James Cain – yes, Michele Graham – yes, Lois Brennan – yes. Motion carried.

C. Recreation Plan - removed prior to agendas approval.

D. Board of Review – Michele is still searching for 2 Board of Review Members. One member would be an alternate. Training for Board of Review is February 5, 2019 and one the following Saturday. If anyone is interested, please contact Supervisor Michele Graham.

E. Reschedule Township Board Meetings – There is a need because of conflicting schedules to move the monthly Board meetings. Motion made by Mary Quinlan to move monthly Board meetings to the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm beginning January 8, 2019. John Johnson 2nd. Roll Call: Mary Quinlan – yes, John Johnson – yes, James Cain – yes, Michele Graham – yes, Lois Brennan – yes. Motion carried.

F. Recreational Marijuana – There are many concerns, discussion is tabled until next month, awaiting more information. Mecosta Township is leaning towards opting out of allowing a Marijuana facility within township boundaries.

11. New Business –

A. Stanwood Cemetery- Proposed \$1,000.00 for budget contributions, rather than the \$2,200.00 that has usually been done. The reason for the change is that the current budget is not being used in totality each year. The Board will discuss further in the spring.

B. Mecosta County Damage Assessment – There is a coordination/orientation meeting on November 28th. The meeting

will be held at the County Services Building at 6:00pm. Michele and Lois are planning on attending. Michele will email information to other board members.

C. Roads – New Paser rating was performed on our roadways, there are several roads that have a very low rating, within our township. Michele recommended that Board Members take a drive down some of the roads and to keep it in mind for Spring meetings.

D. Fire Runs – Mecosta Township Board would like to continue to bill non-residual persons needing fire/first responder assistance within Mecosta Township. An example of this would be out of town/state travelers on 131. To do so the original ordinance will need to be amended. Topic will be brought back to Decembers meeting for further discussion. Michele was asked to have the attorney amend the ordinance in the meantime.

E. Snow Plow - It is agreed that the township does need a new snow plow, discussion as to what kind of plow. Michele has called for two quotes so far regarding the plow, Quality Car and Truck quoted \$4,841.80 for an 8ft. Snowdog plow. Palmers Outdoor Power Equipment quoted \$5,621.00 for a commercial plow. Michele is to look for a few more quotes and the topic will be brought back to the December meeting.

12. Brief Public Comment – none heard.

13. Announcements/Correspondences – nothing this month.

14. Adjournment - Motion by Lois Brennan to adjourn meeting at 6:57pm.

James Cain 2nd. Meeting was adjourned by Michele Graham at 6:57pm.