

Mecosta Township

19729 11 Mile Rd. Big Rapids, MI.

November 8, 2017/approved minutes

1. Supervisor Michele Graham, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm
2. **Pledge to the Flag**
3. **Roll Call** – John Johnson, Mary Quinlan, Michele Graham, Lois Brennan. James Cain. All Present.
4. **Approval of the Agenda** – Motion made by James Cain to accept agenda as presented. Mary Quinlan 2nd. Motion carried.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – Motion made by John Johnson to accept the October 11th minutes with changes. James Cain 2nd. Motion carried.
6. **Treasurers Report** - Michele Graham accepted Treasurers report as given and entered into it into the official record.
7. **Approval to pay bills and payroll** – Motion made by James Cain to approve bills and payroll in the amount of \$109,206.23. John Johnson 2nd. Roll call: Mary Quinlan – yes, John Johnson – yes, Michele Graham – yes, Lois Brennan – yes. James Cain-yes, Motion carried.
8. **Brief Public Comment** – none heard
9. **Reports** –
 - A. **County Commissioner Report** – nothing new to report, continued interest by a couple of other counties to use the county morgue, per Tom O’Neil.
 - B. **Assessors/Supervisors Report** – Checked our state shared revenue it is going up to \$194,730 between August and October 2018. It’s an additional 15k. Michele has been working on Ice Mountain, and is going to equalization to make sure all agree on new assessing. There was quiet a lot of real property missing from their assessments. Also, Michele just reviewed all building permits for assessing changes.
 - C. **Fire Department** – Meeting scheduled for next week November 15, 7:00pm.
 - D. **Cemetery** – Michele attended cemetery meeting October 19th. Lois was absent. Cemetery budget has \$5000.00, Michele proposes to

not have Austin and Mecosta Townships put the usual \$2,200.00 each, into next year's fund. This is to be discussed in January's joint township meeting.

- E. **Budget** – Motion made by Michele Graham to move \$94,000.00 from Budgeted Use of Fund Balance 101-000-698 to Streets 101-444-818 to pay final bill for road repairs this summer. Mary Quinlan 2nd. Roll Call: Michele Graham – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, John Johnson – yes, James Cain – yes, Lois Brennan – yes. Motion carried.
- F. **Planning Commission** – Everyone received a copy of the consensus of the work shop. It will be addressed again in the future.

10. Unfinished Business –

- A. **Assessing Computer** - Michele is to gather more pricing for a 16g or more computer, and return to Decembers meeting with the figures.
- B. **Outdoor Lighting** – The Board was presented with a quote from Bob McClellan, the quote was \$198.00 each light, there are 4 lights that need to be replaced and upgraded to L.E.D. Motion made by John Johnson to accept Mr. McClelland's quote and spend \$1000.00 to have lights upgraded. Lois Brennan 2nd. Roll call, John Johnson – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, James Cain – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.
- C. **Medical Marihuana** – The Board is addressing this as an informative period. Each member recognizes that this is the direction more and more townships in the State of Michigan are being directed with the evolving laws and acceptance, and financial opportunities for their communities. It was agreed upon by all Board members that ultimately it will come to a vote of our residence once we have been able to gather and review all information regarding the laws and regulations. The Board does recognize the potential of financial benefits to our community but reserve the right to approach the subject with great caution and open minds. Anyone wanting to address The Board regarding this matter, should direct their desire to do so to Michele Graham or

Gladys Lenard, so that they may be added to future agendas to address and educate the board. It is agreed, that the laws are constantly evolving and there is just too much grey area.

11. New Business -

A. Building permit fees – It is noted that Mecosta County recently raised their building permit fees to match that of the State of Michigan, Michele proposes that Mecosta Township should indeed follow suit to generate the same potential revenue for our community. It has been 8 years (March 1, 2009) since the last increase of the building permits in the township. Michele is to gather more information and create a spread sheet of a 25% to 50% increase on an accrual scale to accommodate cost of living and other increases over the next few years. It will be presented in Decembers meeting.

B. Holidays – It was a thought to close Mecosta Township Hall on the same holiday schedule as Mecosta County, the schedule is to remain the same as we already have.

C. Roads – The quote presented by the Mecosta County Road Commission for the roads repaired in Mecosta Township was \$231,520.34, actual billing came in as a total of \$212,056.93. Which means we had a \$19,463.41 savings. Thank you again to the MCRC, job well done. MCRC, would also like each township to enter into a 2-year commitment projecting which roads will be done in the upcoming 2 years. The Board finds this a difficult request, as we spent next year's budget to repair roads this year and no way of projecting what monies will be available to us 2 years in the future. Michele is to attend the MCRC meeting scheduled for November 21st 9:30am. More information to follow.

D. Meeting Times – It was proposed by Michele Graham that we change the board meeting times to accommodate a better schedule for members of the board and community members as well. Motion made by John Johnson to change meeting times to 6:00pm effective January 1st. Lois Brennan 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

12. Brief Public Comment – none.

13. Announcements/Correspondences – The Mecosta County Chamber of Commerce Holiday Gala is scheduled for December 1st 5:30p-10:30p please contact the Chamber for further information.

14. Adjournment - Motion by John Johnson to adjourn meeting at 7:45pm.
Lois Brennan 2nd. Meeting was adjourned by Michele Graham at 7:45pm.