

19729 11 Mile Rd. Big Rapids, MI.

March 14, 2018/ unapproved 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 6:05pm. All Present.
4. **Approval of the Agenda** – Motion made by Mary Quinlan to accept agenda John Johnson 2nd. All – aye. Motion carried.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – motion made by John Johnson to accept minutes as written. Mary Quinlan 2nd.
6. **Treasurers Report** – Treasurers report was accepted as presented and entered into official record.
7. **Approval to Pay Bills & Payroll** - Motion by John Johnson to pay bills and payroll in the amount of \$26,250.15. Mary Quinlan 2nd. Roll call – Quinlan – yes, Brennan – yes, Johnson – yes, Cain – yes, Graham – yes. Motion carried.
8. **Brief Public Comment** – none heard.
9. **Reports** –
 - A. **County Commissioner Report** – Per Tom O’Neil, the morgue authority is back down to 7 counties, Osceola County has withdrawn interest. John Johnson asks Tom to find out when and how much Mecosta Township will be receiving for roads. MCRC has a meeting scheduled for April 26th.
 - B. **Assessors/Supervisors Report** – tax roll is officially \$113,104,357.00 for Mecosta Township. Board of Review is over we had a total of 22 petitions. As for all other business, we are steadily plugging along.
 - C. **Fire Department** – Fire Board meeting scheduled for March 21, at 7:00pm.

- 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. Monies will need to be moved from contingency, this will be done at the March 28th budget meeting.
- F. **Planning Commission** – James Cain reports they are working steadily on grants relating to the recreation plan. Grants must be written and turned in timely.

10. **New Business** –

- A. **Library Service Contract** – Motion made by John Johnson, 2nd by James Cain to renew service contract in the amount of \$2500.00. Roll Call John Johnson – yes, James Cain – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, Michele Graham – yes, Lois Brennan – yes. Motion carried.
- B. **Mecosta county Historical Contract** – Motion made by John Johnson to renew contract in the amount of \$100.00, Mary Quinlan 2nd. Roll Call John Johnson – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, James Cain – yes, Michele Graham – yes, Lois Brennan – yes. Motion carried.
- C. **Hall Refund** – Shawny Winter, has written a letter wishing to cancel her reservation for renting the Township Hall and asked for her deposit back. Motion made by Mary Quinlan to cancel reservation and refund deposit in the amount of \$100.00, John Johnson 2nd. Motion carried.
- D. **Zoning Board of Appeals member** – 2 applicants, Tami Lepley and James J Nostrant. Recommended that James go on as ZBA member with Tami as an alternate. Motion made by John Johnson to support new ZBA members, Mary Quinlan 2nd. All in favor motion carried. Welcome new members.
- E. **MCRC (Mecosta County Road Commission)** – Mecosta County Road Commission is having a meeting on April 26, at 6:30pm. All members of Mecosta Township Board are planning to attend.

11. **Unfinished Business** -

A. 2018-2019 Budget - Michele presented the Board with a summarized budget to review in preparation for the March 28th budget meeting.

B. Mecosta Austin Fire Department Agreement – John Boyd and Tom O’Neil both spoke regarding Austin Townships Board meeting on Tuesday March 13th, and concerns about the Contract between the two townships on the fire department. It was conveyed and expressed that Austin Township Board has no intent of contracting with Mecosta Township for fire service, if we do not continue with a 20-year renewal of contract with a 65/35 split of expenses for the now jointly owned fire department. The Board heard all concerns and comments related to the fire department contract.

Motion made by James Cain to enter closed session to further discuss purchasing of the Mecosta Austin Fire Department property and equipment from Austin Township, Lois Brennan^{2nd}. Mecosta Township Board entered closed session at 6:36pm. Mecosta Township Board came back to open session at 7:06pm.

Motion by John Johnson to pursue an agreement to purchase Mecosta Austin Fire department and offer contracted services agreement to Austin Township for fire services which would be \$35,000.00 for the first year to increase by \$5,000.00 each year after for Ten (10) years. With a purchase price for the building and grounds of \$150,000.00 payable on April 1, 2018. Purchasing price of contents pursuant to current contract to be determined upon appraisal and payable by December 31, 2018. Lois Brennan ^{2nd} Roll Call John Johnson – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, James Cain – yes, Michele Graham – yes.

11. Brief Public Comment – Alan Brennan, Assistant Chief of Mecosta Austin Fire Department, spoke as to concerns of expenses for the fire department in the future if funded solely by one Township. Mecosta Township Board

reassured Asst. Chief Brennan that the Board is willing and capable to do what is needed to preserve the Fire Department and lead it into the direction it is needed to go for our expanding community. Including coverage to Austin Township residents.

12. Announcements/Correspondences – none

13. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:27pm