

SPECIAL MEETING

MECOSTA TOWNSHIP BOARD

19729 11 MILE RD. BIG RAPIDS, MI 49307

MARCH 30,2020/UNAPPROVED MINUTES

PREPARED BY CLERK, LOIS BRENNAN

1. **CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:** Supervisor Michele Graham called the meeting to order at 5:45pm.
2. **PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**
3. **ROLL CALL:** John Johnson, Mary Quinlan, James Cain via facetime, Michele Graham, Lois Brennan. All present.
4. **Approval OF THE AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda as presented, made by Mary Quinlan, Lois Brennan 2nd. Motion carried.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** none heard.
6. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. **FIRE DEPARTMENT:**
 1. **Credit Card** - discussion from the Board regarding current COVID19 situation and deeming it essential to raise the credit card limit on Chief Palmers credit card for purchases of supplies and emergency equipment as he needs. Motion made to increase Chief Palmers credit card ending number of 6141 to \$5000.00 effective immediately upon approval from the credit card company by John Johnson, Lois Brennan 2nd. Roll Call: John Johnson – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, James Cain – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried. Clerk Brennan is to request the increase and notify Chief Palmer once the limit is increased.
 - B. **BUILDING & ZONING DEPARTMENT:** Gladys Lenard is formally retired from our building and zoning department; she has been out of work the past two weeks due to quarantine. Laura Bosworth, who was hired and trained to replace Mrs. Lenard, has quit her position with the Township effective March 18, 2020. Laura was instructed to return her keys, all passwords and present a letter of resignation to the township via the outside drop box because of her safety concerns

regarding COVID19, and her resignation would be accepted and her last two weeks of pay would be processed at that time per her employment agreement. Laura has failed to comply with this request as of today's date and has failed to report to work since March 12, 2020. Payroll has been withheld pending return of the Mecosta Township property as outlined above. Supervisor Michele Graham and Treasurer Mary Quinlan are currently conducting limited business for building and zoning department. The Board discussed the future of building and zoning and agreed the department is fine at this time and to address hiring a new employee or employees after quarantine from COVID19 has been lifted.

- C. **BUFFALO PARK:** A letter from Aaron Pieri President of the Village of Stanwood, was read into record regarding a request for a one-time contractual contribution from the Mecosta Township Board for Buffalo Park located in Stanwood for maintenance and upkeep. The Village is to match whatever contribution we agree upon, Mr. Pieri has also contacted Austin Township requesting the same contribution as the location of Buffalo Park is split between the two townships. Motion made to enter into a one-time contractual contribution in the amount of \$2,70000 to the Village of Stanwood for the maintenance and upkeep of Buffalo Park by Mary Quinlan, John Johnson 2nd. Roll Call: Mary Quinlan – yes, John Johnson – yes, James Cain – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.
- D. **FUTURE MEETINGS:** Zoom is not working because too many people on the site. Michele is to research programs with James Cain to help accommodate the new state mandates regarding future board meetings. Meetings throughout the local and state level are being asked to be held via virtual means. The public will have access to the meetings that are held virtually as permitted by the State Government, this is a temporary situation as due to COVID19 quarantine and CDC Guidelines.
- E. **HANES EXTERMINATING:** Supervisor Michele Graham tried to contact the exterminating company recommended by Board Member John Johnson to do some price comparing, however the

calls were never returned, and no contact was able to be achieved. The Board agreed to renew with Hanes Exterminating for the next year.

- F. **SPRING CLEANUP:** Motion made to cancel (postpone) our scheduled spring cleanup at this time, and to reschedule once Supervisor Michele Graham contacts Granger Refuse. Motion is to include postings to website and to Facebook as well as having post cards made and mailed to the residents and an ad in the local Pioneer newspaper, by Michele Graham. Lois Brennan 2nd. All aye, motion carried.
7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** nothing currently.
8. **CORRESPONDENCE:** none
9. **ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm.

**Lois Brennan, Clerk
Mecosta Township**