

Mecosta Township

Regular meeting

19729 11 Mile Rd. Big Rapids, MI.

May 10, 2022/ 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, Michele Graham, Lois Brennan-present. James Cain – absent.
- 4. Approval of the Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda as presented made by Mary Quinlan, John Johnson 2nd. All ayes. Motion carried.
- 5. Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes from April 12th regular meeting, as presented, made by Mary Quinlan, John Johnson 2nd. All aye, motion carried.
- 6. Treasurers Report:** Per Treasurer Mary Quinlan- reporting for the month of April 2022, fund balances are as follows: General fund checking \$639,997.40, First Responders: \$-1,039.01, Fire-Equipment/Building (mileage account) \$134,699.94, Fire Fund-Operations \$-42,923.83. Total funds \$730,734.50. ***special note: Treasurer Quinlan would like to discuss Fire-Fund Operations with the Auditor; the fund should not read in a negative amount all the time. It does so by how information is credited/deposited through the general account. She is hoping to have this rectified. Supervisor Michele Graham accepted the report as presented and entered it into the official record.
- 7. Approval to Pay Bills & Payroll:** Report provided by Clerk Lois Brennan, motion to pay the bills and payroll in the amount of \$47,487.58 made by

Mary Quinlan, John Johnson 2nd. Roll Call: Mary Quinlan – yes, John Johnson – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.

8. Brief Public Comment: None heard.

9. Reports –

A. County Commissioner Report: Per Commissioner Tom O’Neil- County Commissioners went on a “drain tour” throughout the county today with Karla Miller the Drain Commissioner, there are 35 drains in Mecosta County. The Commissioners were given an overview on the drain’s conditions, repairs, and planned projects.

The Board asked Mr. O’Neil if he had received any further calls regarding roads from residents as he had stated in the month prior. Mr. O’Neil did say that he had one fella call and when Mr. O’Neil told him to call the township, the fella hung up. Mr. O’Neil now wonders if the prior calls were just some trying to start trouble.

B. Assessors/Supervisors Report: Per Supervisor/Assessor Michele Graham- 1st round response on AMAR was for informative purposes. AMAR meeting May 24th.

The new Code Enforcement Officer is doing a great job. John Fribley provided a monthly report for the Board members to review. Mr. Fribley has made contact with several different residents in an attempt to cure blight issues within the township.

C. Clerk: Per Clerk Lois Brennan- preparing for the 2022 election cycle. Roll out will happen the second week of June. Clerk Brennan has ordered supplies for both the August and November elections.

D. Cemetery: Per Clerk Lois Brennan- nothing new to report.

E. Budget: Per Supervisor Michele Graham- all is well. The building department brought in \$4092.00 this past month.

F. Planning Commission: Interim Zoning Administrator Michele Graham in the absence of Trustee James Cain- there was not a quorum so a meeting could not be held. There is a special use permit on Riverview Dr. for a large pole barn. A hearing will be held.

G. Fire Department:

1. SCBA: Still waiting on word from the Grant that was applied for. In the meantime, 4 area Chief's are working together to form a plan on making sure the departments have SCBA's that are within expiration dates for each department. SCBA's are a total of 3-4 months out from order date.

Per Chief Ron Palmer-

- There were 25 runs for the month
- No injuries to report
- Assistant Chief Vredenburg will be on medical leave until further notice due to shoulder surgery, unrelated to the department.
- New wildland boots are assigned and in service.
- Hot water on-demand heater and water softener are installed.
- Air conditioning in offices/meeting room is installed.
- There is a need to upgrade radios 6 new VHF Motorola XPR3500 quoted at \$700.00 each. Total of \$4,200.00 includes shipping. The last time radios were purchased was 2006-2007.
- Radio service found a few issues with the current VHF system and has performed some repairs and they are waiting for a duplexer and filter which is helping the VHF system perform better.
- The Board was also informed about a problem with the external antenna on top of the fire station. Signal is

decreased. Crouch Communications provided a quote just before the meeting started which Chief Palmer emailed to board members and discussed. The quote to repair/replace antenna and corresponding equipment is \$2,485.00.

Motion made to accept quotes provided for radios and antenna maintenance up to \$7,000.00 by John Johnson, Lois Brennan 2nd. Roll Call John Johnson – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Mary Quinlan -yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.

Training Report

- Rope Rescue Training continues.
- 5 firefighters attended school bus extrication in Gaylord last week. All passed.
- Flushed dry hydrants.
- State required Foam Training for PFAS.
- Two firefighters are signed up for Firefighter 1 &2 classes

Rescue

- Everything is operating smoothly.
- Training on new I-Gel airway device.
- Samantha continues to do a great job in her new position.

10. New Business –

- A. Great Lakes Energy:** A letter was received from Dykema Gossett PLLC on behalf of Great Lakes Energy asking permission to conduct business in the Township, providing broadband high-speed fiber internet services. Request to extend current contract. Motion in the form of Ordinance No. 2022-1 allowing franchise authority to conduct local electric, broadband, and communication business, made by Lois Brennan, Mary Quinlan 2nd. Roll Call: Lois Brennan – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, John Johnson – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Ordinance passed.

- B. Awnings:** Supervisor Michele Graham is to gather quotes and bring back to the June meeting. There had been one quote provided for repair of the awnings, however the Board agreed it was too high.

- C. Restrooms:** Routley's septic pumped the vault toilet at Ulrich Park, upon inspecting it was discovered that the tank has a seem that appears to be leaking, which causes the tank to fill up frequently. Ulrich Park does tend to be wet and hold water during heavy rain. Routley's provided a quote of \$225.00 monthly for a handicap portable toilet. The quote would include cleaning. Motion to accept Routley's septic quote and have a handicap portable toilet placed at Ulrich Park made by John Johnson, Mary Quinlan 2nd. Roll Call: John Johnson -yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.

11. Unfinished Business –

- A. Residential Building Fees:** Residential base building permit fees were again presented to the Board for review, discussion on increasing the permit fees continued from April's meeting. Motion made to increase residential base building permit fee to \$75.00 and to become effective as of June 1, 2022. Made by Mary Quinlan, Lois Brennan 2nd. All aye, motion carried.

- B. Roads:** Supervisor Michele Graham is to check with Tim Nestle to see how the offered \$62,500. Is to truly work and to get a quote on a few area roads. Mr. O'Neil was asked by Board Members if the callers he referenced last month in April had any suggestions as to roads they would like to see be done. Mr. O'Neil did not have a suggestion from residents but did mention Filmore from 190th Ave. to 200th Ave. None of the Township Board Officers have received phone calls, emails, or any correspondence from anyone regarding roads that they would like to see be repaired.

12. Brief Public Comment – none heard.

13. Announcements/Correspondences – nothing.

14. Adjournment – Supervisor Michele Graham motioned for adjournment at 6:52pm, Lois Brennan 2nd. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned.

Lois Brennan
Clerk