

Mecosta Township

Regular meeting

19729 11 Mile Rd. Big Rapids, MI.

July 12, 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, James Cain, Mary Quinlan, Michele Graham, Lois Brennan- present.**
- 4. Approval of the Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda with changes, change the date and move transfer from under Reports: E. Budget to Treasurers report made by James Cain, Lois Brennan 2nd. All ayes. Motion carried.**
- 5. Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve minutes from June 14 regular meeting, with one correction on page 4 under 1. SCBA line 3, add a letter “d”. made by Mary Quinlan, James Cain 2nd. All aye, motion carried.**
- 6. Treasurers Report: Per Treasurer Mary Quinlan- reporting for the month of June 2022, fund balances are as follows: General fund checking \$559,190.39, First Responders: \$-3,077.38, Fire-Equipment/Building (mileage account) \$134,734.68, Fire Fund-Operations \$-60,615.10. Total funds \$630,232.59.**

With discussing with the auditor during our annual audit, regarding why reports to appear to be in a deficit, it was stated that we are not in a deficit we share a common fund. There is nothing wrong with the budget. However, it was recommended to transfer funds on paper from the 101 General fund to the 206 Responders & 208 Fire fund.

Motion to move funds from general fund 101 to Fire Fund 208 and Rescue Fund 206 in the total amount of 118,000.00 with \$100,000.00 being moved into 208 Fire Fund Operations and \$18,000.00 being moved into 206 First Responders to quell the issue of the negative balances being reported. This will cure a defecate in these accounts as denoted by the audit, made by John Johnson, James Cain 2nd. Roll Call: John Johnson – yes, James Cain – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.

Treasurer Quinlan also provided a report to the Board regarding adjustments to pension deposits due to raises. Treasurer Quinlan deposits pension disbursements quarterly, however the quarters set by the financial institution do not coincide with the quarters of the Townships financial budget, this caused a mis calculation in pension disbursements for one quarter.

7. Approval to Pay Bills & Payroll: Report provided by Clerk Lois Brennan, motion to pay the bills and payroll in the amount of \$177,513.92 made by James Cain, John Johnson 2nd. Roll Call: James Cain, John Johnson – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.

8. Brief Public Comment: Mrs. Cynthia (Cindy) Hayward – 196th Ave., spoke to the Board regarding paving 200th Ave. Mrs. Hayward has made this request before and inquired on where the township was on the decision. Mrs. Hayward concerns stem from her son purchasing a home in that area. Mrs. Hayward inquired about submitting a petition and was instructed to speak with the Clerk on Wednesday during business hours regarding petition processes.

9. Reports –

A. County Commissioner Report: Per Commissioner Tom O’Neil- Mr. O’Neil, addressing complaint regarding the brining company that the county road commission had hired. Supervisor Graham informed Commissioner O’Neil that to her knowledge that the County Road Commission had already severed business relations with said

company and is now re doing the brining on the dirt roads of Mecosta County.

- B. Assessors/Supervisors Report:** Per Supervisor/Assessor Michele Graham- Just plugging along. \$7,900.00 was taken in from the building department.

Our Governor has released new homestead guidelines, which mean if there is a mistake made, the Assessors now have the capability to rectify the mistake.

Getting ready for a hearing for the Planning Commission.

Building Department is going smoothly.

John Fribley provided a monthly report for the Board members to review. Seven of the Eight previously contacted property owners have resolved their issues. Mr. Fribley had also contacted five more property owners, and all have cleaned their properties up. Mr. Fribley is currently working on 11 more properties; he states that he is seeing progress with them as well.

Most property owners Mr. Fribley has worked with agree that 30 days is enough time to clean up their properties, all have been accommodating and easy to work with thus far.

- C. Clerk:** Per Clerk Lois Brennan- Its election time. That has taken precedence over everything in the office.
- D. Cemetery:** The new kiosk sign is in for the Ladner's Cemetery. Michele will work on getting that installed.

- E. **Budget:** Per Supervisor Michele Graham- just a note that our State shared revenue is still holding in the higher area. Everything is in line.

- F. **Planning Commission:** Per Trustee James Cain- there was not a scheduled meeting because of the Fourth of July Holiday. However, a S.W.O.T meeting for information working towards the Master Plan. There were about 20 persons in attendance. Trustee Cain did touch on a few points of what was discussed. The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for August 3rd.

- G. **Fire Department:** Per Chief Ron Palmer, there were 41 calls in the past month, 21 fire/20 medical.

There are no injuries of staff to report, everyone is doing fine.

Ordered 6 new VHF Motorola XPR3500 portables, still a 3–4-month backorder. Possibly up to 8 months.

The Spartan Armor Systems protective vests were ordered and have arrived and are in use. Recommended by the Sheriff to attend and participate in Tactical Response Training. There is a need now for helmets.

The new station antenna is installed.

5 new sections of hose replaced that failed hose testing, awaiting invoicing.

Training Report: Rope Rescue Training, continues.

Nozzle and Pump Operation training scheduled for July 13.

Tactical training is being scheduled.

Rescue: Everything is operating smoothly; Samantha Luce is doing an amazing job 1st female officer for our department and has almost completed Firefighter 1.

1.) SCBA: A quote from West Shore Fire was provided to the board. The quote came in at \$126,713.00. SCBA's are 6-8 weeks out for delivery once ordered. There are 6 bottles that will be coming off the truck once they are emptied, they cannot be refilled. SCBA's are required for every department and expire every 15 years. Motion to accept West Shore Fire Inc. quote in the amount of \$126,713.00 made by Mary Quinlan, Lois Brennan 2nd. Roll Call: Mary Quinlan – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, John Johnson – yes, James Cain – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.

Questions were also posed to another attendee of the meeting Mr. Paul Griffith, regarding information on the Dragon Trail. Discussion did continue, regarding communication issues with Newaygo County. Mr. Griffith said he would help aid in the issues.

10. New Business –

A. No Wake: Shawn Overkleeft, addressed the board regarding extending the no wake zone that is currently at the Davis Bridge/River Ridge area known as Hill Top Circle, south of River Ridge on 8-Mile rd. Mr. Overkleeft sighted concern of high-speed boating that is causing several issues of erosion of property. The current ordinance is for 1750 feet from the bridge. The request is to add an addition 550 feet to include their properties. Discussion continued to include also extending the ordinance to include the north section of the river beyond the public access as well.

Supervisor Graham will be contacting the local DNR to address this topic, as no wake zone on the river would include their department.

B. Recycling Mecosta: Mr. Paul Griffith of Recycle of Mecosta County was in attendance requesting a contract between Recycle of Mecosta County and Mecosta Township. Mr. Griffith provided a

great amount of information breaking down the usage of the Recycle Center.

11. Unfinished Business –

A. Roads: Supervisor Michele Graham, the board needs to resign their contract with the Mecosta County Road Commission, resigning the contract allows for sure of ARPA funds.

B. Cemetery Sign: A quote was provided by WoodGraphics signs which is the same company that did the Township Halls sign as well as the Fire Departments sign. The quote would be for a 60'x80' sandblasted sign 1.5" thick with reflective lettering black outline and brackets included in the amount of \$1,015.00. Motion made to accept the quote from WoodGraphics and spend up to \$1,050.00 to purchase the sign and have it installed at the Ladner's Cemetery, by John Johnson, Mary Quinlan 2nd. Roll Call: John Johnson -yes, Mary Quinlan -yes, James Cain – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.

12. Brief Public Comment: a brief question was posed regarding homestead and exemptions. Supervisor/Assessor Michele Graham.

13. Announcements/Correspondences: nothing to share.

14. Adjournment: Motion made to adjourn meeting by Mary Quinlan, James Cain 2nd. Supervisor Graham adjourned meeting at 7:13pm.

Lois Brennan
Clerk