

**MECOSTA TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
**19729 11 MILE RD. BIG RAPIDS, MI 49307**  
**October 11, 2022/UNAPPROVED MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**PREPARED BY CLERK, LOIS BRENNAN**

1. **CALL Meeting to Order:** Supervisor, Michele Graham called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**
3. **Roll Call:** James Cain, Mary Quinlan, Lois Brennan, Michele Graham – present, John Johnson – absent.
4. **Approval of the Agenda:** Motion made to approve the agenda as presented by Mary Quinlan, James Cain 2<sup>nd</sup>. All aye, motion carried.
5. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion made to accept the minutes from September 13<sup>th</sup> with correction under 12. Brief Public Comment, James Cain, Mary Quinlan 2<sup>nd</sup>. All aye, motion carried.
6. **Treasurers Report:** Per Treasurer Mary Quinlan reporting for the month of September 2022, fund balances are as follows: General fund checking \$576,922.61, First Responders: \$4,412.07, Fire-Equipment/Building (mileage account) \$134,734.68, Fire Fund -Operations \$22,157.58, Total funds \$738,226.94. Supervisor Graham accepted the Treasurer's report as presented and admitted it to the official record.
7. **Approval to Pay Bills & Payroll:** Motion to pay bills and payroll in the amount of \$64,328.86 by Mary Quinlan, James Cain 2<sup>nd</sup>. Roll Call: Mary Quinlan – yes, James Cain – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.
8. **Public Comment:** none heard.

## 9. Reports:

- A. **County Commissioner Report:** Per County Commissioner Tom O'Neil- absent from the meeting.
  
- B. **Assessor/Supervisor Report:** Per Supervisor Michele Graham –  
**Assessors Report:** 12 good sales in the township, values will be going up. **Supervisors Report:** working on measurements of the river's edge for the proposed no wake zone. Building and Zoning dept is very busy. Economic Development met with Governor Whitmer in Lansing for the official signing of the battery plant.
  
- C. **Clerk:** Per Clerk Lois Brennan- some election changes have taken place regarding security requirements for elections. All other business is going smooth in the office.
  
- D. **Cemetery:** Nothing to report, we are still not receiving information from the Stanwood Cemetery. This will be discussed at the annual meeting with Austin Township.
  
- E. **Budget:** all looks in order. No current issues.
  
- F. **Planning Commission:** Per Trustee James Cain – Still working on changes for the master plan and setting goals. Suggesting of re-write on some ordinances to make them a little clearer to understand. A hot topic is principal use per parcel. The Planning Commission is hoping to have a completed list put together for the Township Board at their next meeting.
  
- G. **Fire Department:** A report was provided by Chief Ron Palmer and was read into record by Supervisor Graham. Supervisor Graham also read into a record a letter from Chief Palmer officially stepping down from

his position as Chief effective as of September 19, 2022. Ron will stay on the department as an advisor/consultant to Assistant Chief Kyle Vredenburg. Ron plans to stay with the department as a fire fighter/ 1<sup>st</sup> responder.

Lieutenant Anthony Peacock was in attendance of the meeting. He stated for the record that he is interested in and has intent to apply for the Chief's position with the department. He would appreciate the consideration of the Board.

Lieutenant of First Responders Samantha Luce was also in attendance.

#### **10. New Business:**

- A. Township Trustee:** A letter from Trustee John Johnson dated September 13, was read into record. John Johnson will be stepping down from his position as Trustee with the Mecosta Township Board due to personal reasons effective October 1, 2022. It is thought that the Board would like to have a small get together for John before or after the November meeting.
- B. Building Department Training:** Request to have a member of Morton Township Building department come to Mecosta Township and train personnel in a few areas of the BS&A programs. The Morton Township employee would be willing to come on Saturdays. Motion to spend up to \$500.00 to hire for training of BS&A, made by James Cain, Mary Quinlan 2<sup>nd</sup>. Roll Call: James Cain – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.
- C. Chair Cart:** A new chair cart is needed to hold the chairs in the hall. The old cart is hard to move and to load and we have discovered renters are having more and more trouble using it. Motion to purchase a new chair cart in the amount of up to \$500.00 made by Mary Quinlan, Lois Brennan 2<sup>nd</sup>. Roll Call: Mary Quinlan – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, James Cain – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.

**D. Camera Security:** Michigan State Law requiring security cameras be located at absentee voter drop boxes passed on Friday October 7<sup>th</sup>. There has been discussion before by the Township Board for a need for security cameras to be implemented within the building and the hall where elections take place. A quote was provided by the Townships current security company for cameras and labor in the amount of \$4,806.00. Motion to accept the bid and have 6 cameras installed at the Township offices and hall made by James Cain, Mary Quinlan 2<sup>nd</sup>. Roll Call: James Cain – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.

**11.Unfinished Business:** nothing currently.

**12.Brief Public Comment:** none heard.

**13.Announcements/correspondence:** Code Enforcement Officers report was provided to the Board.

**14.Adjournment:** Motion made to adjourn at 6:31pm by Lois Brennan, Mary Quinlan 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned by Supervisor Graham.

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**Lois Brennan, Clerk  
Mecosta Township**