

UNAPPROVED

Mecosta Township

Regular meeting

19729 11 Mile Rd. Big Rapids, MI.

March 14, 2023

1. Supervisor Michele Graham, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

2. Pledge to the Flag

3. Roll Call: – James Cain, Tyler Huntley, Mary Quinlan, Michele Graham - Present Lois Brennan- Absent

4. Approval of the Agenda: Motion made to approve the agenda by James Cain, Mary Quinlan 2nd. All ayes, motion carried.

5. Approval of minutes from February 14, 2023, and special meeting on February 17th, 2023. Motion to approve by Cain, supported by Quinlan with one correction from February 14th meeting - Assessor's Report stated the assessment change notices were mailed on 3/27/23. Minutes should have read 2/27/23. All ayes, motion approved.

6. Treasurer's Report - Quinlan stated that the 2022 taxes were finalized and balanced with the Mecosta County Treasurer. 3,699 payments were receipted in for a total of 4,020,706.17 Township collections - 149,792.47, Fire Operations 59,921.28, Fire Equipment 89,862.64. Treasurer's Report accepted and placed on file.

7. Bills and Payroll – Motion to pay bills and payroll in the amount of \$83,832.74 was made by Quinlan, supported by Cain. Roll Call: Quinlan, yes, Cain, yes, Huntley, yes, Graham, yes, Brennan, absent. Motion Approved

8. Brief Public Comment: None heard

9. Reports:

A. County Commissioner's Report - Tom O'Neil, County Commissioner presented a document that broke down Gotion High-Tech Co., Ltd. Top Ten Shareholders. Graham asked if we could add it to the township's bulletin board in the office area. O'Neil said, "Yes."

B. Assessor's Report- Board of Review was completed with 12 petitions to come before the Board of review members. Mecosta Townships final Taxable Value is \$136,369,450, Assessed Value - 167,550,000, New Construction Value was \$2,531,757.

Graham also brought to the board's attention that she has been the interim Zoning Administrator for the past year and unless the board has other plans to find someone for the position, she requested that she be made Zoning Administrator as is presents as more official to the public. A short discussion was ensued and board members to think about and discuss at April's meeting.

C. Clerk's Report- none heard.

D. Cemetery - Cain made arrangements for the Boy Scouts to replace all flags at Ladner Cemetery before Memorial Day as a service project. Graham to order flags.

E. Budget – State Shared Revenue will be increased which lowered the budgeted use of Fund Balance. Budget Hearing is March 27, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

F. Planning Commission – Consumers has not decided on dam removal yet and therefore, the Planning Commission cannot finalize decisions on the Future Use Map or Rezone until they decide. An economic study is being conducted and will not be completed at least until fall of 2023. Howard Bowersox, chair of the Planning Commission suggested the board hold off until that time.

G. Fire Department:

Maintenance proposal from Kuzins Equipment for \$500 per month to include:

Inspections on trucks, boat motor, chainsaw, etc. Includes general maintenance that all apparatuses are compliant and includes a maintenance log. Discussion ensued about maintenance needs and ask about a bi-monthly service of \$500 to be offered to Kuzins Equipment to start and modify hours as needed for the department's specific needs. If equipment requires anything other than general maintenance, the board will be notified. Motion by Huntey that we offer Kuzins Equipment a bi-monthly contract for \$500.00, supported by Cain Roll Call, Huntey, yes, Cain, yes, Quinlan, yes, Graham, yes, Brennan, Absent. 4 yes, 1 absent. Motion approved.

Pest control discussion to move from Awesome Lawn and Pest to Hanes Exterminating that also services the township hall. Motion by Cain, supported by Huntey for a yearly fee of \$630.00. Roll Call, Cain, yes, Huntey, yes, Quinlan, yes, Graham, yes, Brennan, Absent- 4 – yes, 1-absent. Motion approved.

Fire Chief's Report –

Front door lock reviewed from last month. The door lock does not always work, and fire fighters may potentially wait to get in the back door by an officer. A concern arose about who is entering the department and the potential need for a surveillance camera. Further discussion on both options and motion to spend \$575.00 for a keyless entry lock made by Quinlan, supported by Cain. Roll Call Vote: Quinlan, yes, Cain, yes, Huntey, yes, Graham, yes. 4 yes, Brennan absent. Motion passed.

A total of 27 runs (18 Medical, 9 Fire)

An appreciation dinner for local fire departments and EMS was put on by the Stanwood Eagles was given by the Eagles recognizing their efforts. Multiple local businesses donated door prizes. Mecosta Township Personnel were recognized, and the dinner was appreciated.

All New Scott packs are in service and on the apparatus. Each member has been issued their own mask. New mask bags and identifying stickers have been purchased and issued.

Old SCBA's in storage and Chief inquired about either selling them or giving them away. Discussion on supporting our local MOISD was followed and agreed to give to the Career Center.

Assistant Chief, Vredenburg and Probationary Firefighter, Cubitt attended and made presentations to the students at the Career Day presentations at Morley Stanwood School about fire safety.

DAJ performed a check on the generator and is now set up for a weekly check.

Rescue- The bi-monthly run report was submitted to the EMS director. Rescue training was held during the last monthly meeting.

Training Report-

Training on medical and trauma assessments, and ice/water rescue. Members participated in the PEPP class offered by Mecosta County EMS. A second PEPP class is being held later this month.

Tim Brennan has successfully completed his Paramedic class and all testing. He is now a State of Michigan Licensed Paramedic. Congratulations to Tim and his hard work.

10. New Business:

A. Walt Erickson Public Library contract reviewed with discussion and a motion to enter a contract with Walt Ericson Library for \$2,700 that provide services to our residents. Quinlan, yes, Cain, yes, Huntey, yes, Graham, yes. 4 yes, Brennan- Absent, motion passed.

B. Township Emails – Email prices are going up as of April 1, 2023, and we are running on one Microsoft 360 License which has become limiting for all users. Motion to upgrade to the Cloud Version of Microsoft Office by Huntey, supported by Cain. Roll Call: Huntey, yes, Cain, yes, Quinlan, yes, Graham, yes. 4 yes, Brennan Absent. Motion carried.

C. Wage Resolution

Motion in the form of a resolution 2023-002 to accept 2023-2024 wages by Cain, support by Huntey. Roll Call: Cain, yes, Huntey, yes, Quinlan, yes, Graham, yes, Brennan, Absent. 4 yes, 1 absent, motion carried.

2023-2024 Budget

D. Building Fees:

Discussion on raising building fees. In comparison to Mecosta Township fees that are currently \$75 per square foot, Morton Township is \$102, and Mecosta County is \$95.34. The overall discussion was to consider the base fee to match Mecosta County to cover wage increases and/or have the permit holder cover the increase of the inspection fees due to inspector raises. This could be incorporated into the trades permits. No decision was made at this time.

E. **August Rental** from Brian Galloup was brought back from last month with consideration to rent for a lesser fee than \$100 per day because the actual rental time will be approximately 1.5 hours each day. Motion by Quinlan, supported by Cain to charge \$200 for four days plus cleaning fees. Roll call - Quinlan, yes, Cain, yes, Huntley, yes, Graham, yes, Brennan, absent. 4 – yes, 1 absent. Motion carried.

F. Fire Chief Review –

Chief, Anthony Peacock requested to go into closed session. Motion to go into closed session by Cain, supported by Huntley. 4 ayes, Brennan absent. Motion carried to go into closed session at 7:16 p.m.

Motion to return to an open meeting by Huntley at 7:41 pm, support by Cain. 4 ayes, 1 absent. Motion carried.

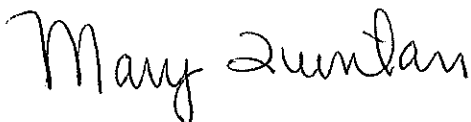
Motion made by Cain, supported by Graham to revoke driving privileges of Chief Peacock until further notice and driving classes are completed. Roll Call: Cain, yes, Graham, yes, Huntley, yes, Quinlan, yes. 4- yes, Brennan, Absent. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None heard.

Announcements/Correspondence: A resident on Pierce Rd/200 Rd. complained about Weeks Trucking driving too fast creating potholes. A call was made to the Mecosta County Road Commission, but they have not responded yet.

Motion to Adjourn by Cain, support by Huntley. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Quinlan,

Mecosta Township Treasurer