

Casco Township
Minutes, Regular Meeting
February 15, 2021 @ 7:00pm

Approved 3/15/2021

Call to Order: Overhiser called meeting to order at 7:00pm and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Overhiser, Brenner, Macyauski, Fleming, Clevenger

Absent: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None+

Reports:

• **Clerk**

Minutes for the regular meeting January 18, 2021. Paul made motion to accept the minutes. Kenny supported. No questions or further discussion.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

Cheri announced there will be a May 4, 2021 election for the South Haven School District.

Cheri made a motion to amend the following accounts.

General Fund -Inspection Dept created three new accounts:

101-371-920.000 Inspections – Electricity

101-371-923.000 Inspections – Propane

101-371-850.000 Inspections - Internet

Changed description adding the word wages to acct.# 101-371-802.004

Corrected from 7/31/2020 to 1/31/2021 posting error in payroll – Robin Ashbrook – cleaning was expensed to

Acct.# 101-701-703.006 Planning \$3,481.60

To correct accts splitting 50/50

101-371-802.004 Inspections – cleaning -wages \$1,740.80

101-265-802.004 Bldg Dept – Cleaning \$1,740.80

Paul supported motion. No other discussion or questions.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

Cheri presented from the United States Department of Commerce thanking the township for supporting the Decennial Census. With our support the Region exceeded the National Self-Response Rate of 67% and had the highest self-response rate among all Regions of 69.8%. The **United States Census 2020** recognizes Allegan County-Casco Township as an invaluable member of the 2020 Census.

• **Treasurer**

Balances of the following accounts as of 1/31/2021:

General Fund	balance	in the amount of	\$595,551.68
Road Fund	balance	in the amount of	\$334,425.14
Fire Fund	balance	in the amount of	\$229,772.28
Police Fund	balance	in the amount of	\$102,468.77
Parks & Recreation	balance	in the amount of	\$88,784.37
Cemetery Fund	balance	in the amount of	\$102,389.94
Senior Services	balance	in the amount of	\$90,156.19
Lakeview Sewer	balance	in the amount of	\$6,110.62

Lakeview Water	balance	in the amount of	(\$453.78)
Pacific Sewer Fund	balance	in the amount of	\$8,168.20
Pacific Water Fund	balance	in the amount of	\$29,072.36
Orchard Sewer Fund	balance	in the amount of	\$22,523.10
Casco 102 nd Ave	balance	in the amount of	\$49,817.43
Casco Beach Drive	balance	in the amount of	\$48,465.71
Lakeview Paving	balance	in the amount of	\$51,992.16

Collected Tax Acct. balance in the amount of \$1,483,013.71

Kenny made a motion to approve the following orders from the General Fund :
26687 through 26732 including electronic transfer in the amount of \$236,564.53

Dan supported. No questions or discussion.

Roll Vote Call: 5-0

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

Kenny made a motion to approve the following disbursements from the Collected Tax Acct:
Disbursements total \$987,013.60.

Dan supported. No questions or discussion.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

Kenny thanked Kathy for working with him getting information on the website about the Treasurers office.

- **Parks & Recreation:**

The Parks committee asked the board to grant Pam permission to write a grant for the construction of the maple grove property which has an April 1st deadline, the decision would be made in December 2021.

Paul made a motion to give Pam Blough permission to write a grant to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund which is due April 1, 2021. Kenny supported.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

- **Planning**

No meeting in January. Moved discussion for planning commission to New Business.

- **ZBA**

- **Fennville District Library**

The library is now open.

- **SHAES**

They are going to start a cadet program to get younger people involved with the fire dept.

- **Blight – Lawsuit**

Overhiser reviewed blight issues and updated the board on current legal actions on property in violation on 68th and 103rd.

- **Short Term Rental Report**

Kathy Stanton reported that 7 properties have 2021 registrations turned in. The email is ready to send to any owner who was registered last year or in 2019 to remind them to register if they are going to rent this year. The requested changes were made to the Registration Form and it is on the website. Host Compliance is showing 89 properties that are currently advertising and that should be registering this year. Paul will be working to schedule inspections soon.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Casco Drain Update**

A contractor has been awarded the bid, after the drain is repaired then the road will be repaired.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Budget**

Overhiser presented a Year to Date Budget Report for the board to review, Overhiser and Brenner plan to have a budget together by next meeting.

- **Board of Review Alternate Appointment**

Allan explained that there is a need to have an alternate on the Board of Review in case someone is absent for some reason.

Overhiser made motion to appoint Adam Overhiser as an alternate on the Board of Review.

Paul supported. No questions or discussion.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

- **Communication to Residents**

We are going to start posting on the website notes from the Supervisor, such as things that are going on outside of the board, things happening in the community, things the supervisor is involved in, get this information out to the community as soon as possible without waiting for approval from the board. If you know something is going on and you think it should be communicated to the public let Overhiser know so he can get it on the website. He would also like to enhance our synopsis that goes in the paper, this would be communication from the board.

- **Truck Route Request**

Jeffrey Wilson and Dale Morgan whom both live on 72nd Street, between Baseline and North Shore, both sent emails to Overhisers attention stressing their concerns about the increase commercial truck traffic between the two roads mentioned. With Menard's here, and a gravel pit in the area, has created a lot of commercial traffic on this stretch off 72nd. In correspondence with the Allegan County Road Commission, Jeff Wilson was told that this stretch of 72nd St. was eligible to become a "No Truck Route" which is accomplished thru a joint effort between Casco Township and Allegan County Road Commission. Thru research Overhiser found out the Township would have to pass an Ordinance and that would empower the State Police or whomever to process tickets if trucks continue to use this road. A sign would be posted as to a "No Truck Route".

Van Buren County is okay with making their portion of this road area a "No Truck Route". Allan would propose to Van Buren County, starting with the stop sign on 71st ½ to 72nd Ave. between Baseline and North Shore.

- **Miami Park Property Purchase**

Overhiser was approached by a realtor, Nick Stegman, representing the property owner next to our parcel #008-00 wanting to purchase this parcel. This individual owns parcel 012-00 and parcel 001-00

which are on either side of our parcel. The township has owned this parcel since 2002. What we have done in the past is advertise the parcel for sale in the paper asking for bids, these parcels are on the east side of Miami Park. Allan made motion to put this parcel up for bids by advertising in the paper and also possibly on our website.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

- **Planning Commission Procedures and Process**

Overhiser mentioned that there has been some short comings between the Planning Commission and the Township Board, the education for us to work better together has been lax. To move forward with this Tasha Smalley, Zoning Administrator, set the agenda possibly with the chair and Overhiser.

Problems in the past the planning commission and the township board were going in two different directions, also, there is money involved and we want to use the budget the best way possible, Allan will be working more closely with the PC committee and the other Township board members will be up to date on the issues the PC is working on.

- **Allegan County Groundwater Supply**

Overhiser said the Allegan County Health Dept. did a study and you can find this on the Allegan County Website.

- **Allegan County Emergency Plan Process**

A year ago the township went to their meetings, they hired a consultant to come in, they didn't get very good participation, they are trying to get this plan going again. They are trying to get the townships interest again, Overhiser and Brandan Hinz, Fire Chief, sat thru a zoom meeting with a consultant trying to get a Emergency Plan for Allegan County.

- **Resolution to authorize an alternative start date for the BOR**

This resolution allows the township to start Board of Review on March 10, 2021.

Overhiser made motion to approve **Resolution #215-21-2** for Alternative Starting Date of Board of Review. Supported by Paul. No further discussion or questions.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

- **Resolution to allow Written Appeals Board of Review**

This Resolution allows to take Written Appeals.

Overhiser made motion to adopt **Resolution# 215-21-3** to allow Written Appeals to the Board of Review. Paul supported. No further discussion.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

- **Resolution to Approve Poverty Exemption Guidelines, Forms, and Asset Test for Board of Review**

At a Regular Meeting of the Casco Township Board of Trustees

Whereas; MCL 211.7u was updated by PA 253 of 2020

Whereas; State Tax Commission Bulletin 6 of 2017 is rescinded

Therefore be it Resolved; Casco Township Board approves the attached forms (5737, Casco Township Asset Test, 5739, and 4988)

Be it Further Resolved; Casco Board approves the attached 2021 Guidelines and authorizes the Board of Review to grant a Poverty Exemption to a property owner with an income of up to twice the stated amount if other circumstances are presented and if the Board of Review approves of the variance.

Overhiser moved to adopt Resolution#215-21-1 to Approve Poverty Exemption Guidelines, Forms, and Asset Test. Paul supported. No further discussion.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

Yahs: 5

Nays:0

- **Continuing Disclosure agreement renewal with Bendzinski**

Fleming made motion to approve continuing disclosure agreement renewal with Bendzinski.

Brenner supported. No further discussion.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

- **Insurance Quote:**

A Chris Arendshorst contacted Overhiser to give the township a quote on our coverage. The board thought it wouldn't hurt to get a quote from another insurance company.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

OTHER BUSINESS:

Meeting adjourned @ 8:55PM

Minutes Respectively Submitted by
Cheryl Brenner, Casco Township Clerk