

CASCO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, 7/16/18 @ 7:00PM

Approved 8/20/18

Call to Order: Allan called meeting to order @ 7:00 pm he also led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Overhiser, Winfrey, Brenner, Graff, Macyauski, Don Doggenoorf, candidate.

for Allegan County Commissioner District 5, and 19 other interested people.

Absent: None

Don Doggenoorf, candidate for Allegan County Commissioner, District #5, introduced himself and gave some of his back ground and experiences.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Dennis Mead explained that he had an agreement with the Township to rent the Old Fire Hall, his plan is to get it useful, so he can work on some old cars that he has. He mentioned that him and Cheri have been talking about getting the grass cut etc. and she invited me to come to the meeting and give an update. He is working on the roof, the well, cleaning the interior, etc.

Reports:

**Police:** Kurt reported that for the month of June there were 75 calls, he handled 16 of those, 38 stops, 17 tickets, overall it was a very busy month.

**For rentals-** The month of May 62 calls, 3 were because of rentals, one was a parking issue, firework issue, and a parking issue.

June, there were 3, 1 parties going on, and 1 for fireworks.

Around the county there have been a lot of fatal accidents, because of speeding and not paying attention.

He mentioned that scams are going on. He received a call last night that the IRS was going to come and arrest him, the IRS will never call you, so don't fall into their call, just hangup.

A local one is going on, someone going door to door asking for some gas money because she ran out of gas, she has stolen about 3 vehicles.

Kurt mentioned that the political signs, vote yes, vote no, are being stolen. He has had 7 complaints about them being stolen, both yes and no signs.

Kurt mentioned that the new car has been ordered.

**Clerk:**

Cheri presented May 21, 2017 Regular Meeting minutes and June 27, 2018 Special Meeting minutes for approval.

Lu made motion to approve the May 21, 2017 minutes. Paul supported. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Judy made motion to approve the June 27, 2018 Special Meeting minutes. Lu supported.

All votes in favor. Motion carried.

Cheri gave everyone a copy of the letter with attachments that she sent to Allegan County Resource Recovery request for Casco Townships Recycling Surcharge funds, for reimbursement, for the months of January 2018 through May 2018 in the amount of \$6,264.50. The township has already received this refund back.

Also, the letter to Allegan County Clerk, with documents, for reimbursement of expenses for the May 8, 2018 election in the amount of \$1,712.26, which we haven't received yet.

Cheri presented accounts to be amended for June 30, 2018.

**Casco General**

**Expenses**

101.100.71200	Trustee Wages	\$375.00
101.171.7200	Supervisor – FICA	53.68
101.191.71200	Election wages	278.03
101.191.79900	Election-Misc. supplies	937.86
101,209.85200	Assessor – Postage	105.30
101.215.70301	Clerk-website co-ordinator	36.00
101.215.70300	Deputy Clerk wages	945.83
101.215.72000	Clerk – FICA	329.47
101.253.72000	Treasurer – FICA	119.60
101.253.79900	Treasurer – Misc. supplies	1,293.55
101.253.81600	Treasurer – Aflac	100.00
101.265.70300	Bldg Dept. -clerical	931.96
101.265.79900	Bldg Dept. -Misc. supplies	3,948.39
101.265.81000	Bldg Dept. -Cleaning	430.00
101.265.82000	Bldg. Dept. -Snow Removal	515.00
101.265.93000	Bldg Dept -Internet – Web	1,714.13
101.265.93800	Bldg Dept. Equip Maint	2,637.45
101.265.97109	Bldg Dept. Alarm System	53.80
101.276.71200	Cemetery Wages	2,062.44
101.400.70300	Zoning ADM Wages	1,695.48
101.400.79800	Zoning – Misc. expenses	386.19
101.400.79900	Zoning –Supplies	248.02
101.400.80200	Zoning – Legal Fees	10,946.00
101.400.80400	Zoning – Consultant	4,639.00
101.400.90100	Zoning – Legal advertising	5,832.65
101.528.81100	Transfer Station – caretaker	3,475.00
101.528.81200	Transfer Station – Portable Serv	70.00
101.528.82000	Transfer Station – Refuse Hauling	19,859.00
101.528.83000	Transfer Station – Recycling	8,164.00
101.850.91500	Other Activities-Ins. & Bonds	4,061.00
101.850.95800	Other Activities-Drains/Large	5,029.71
101.850.96000	Other Activities -Assoc. Dues	211.84
101.850.96900	Other Activities- Misc.	340.06

**Fire Dept. Expenses**

206.651.80500	Ambulance expenses	58,104.75
---------------	--------------------	-----------

**Parks & Recreation expenses**

208.750.70200	Recreation Wages	147.50
208.750.72000	Recreation-Payroll taxes	33.24
208.750.76000	Recreation-consultant	1,298.75
208.750.80300	Recreation-supplies&maintenance	17,289.44
208.750.80600	Recreation-snowplowing	515.00

**Senior Services expenses**

290.850.79900	Senior Services-supplies & equipment	82.32
290.850.85700	Senior Services-phone/internet	20.00

**Police Dept expenses**

207.301.79900	Police Dept. Fund – contract	8,633.54
207.301.93001	Police Dept. Fund – fuel credit card	397.21

**Closed Unused Accounts**

101.000.40900	Pacific Sewer Special Assessment
101.000.67200	Recycling Service Charge
101.000.81500	Trustees-subscriptions
101.171.85200	Supervisor Postage
101.208.80300	Recreation-supplies & maint
101.850.96700	Other Activities-Pacific Sewer

Paul supported.

Roll call vote: Paul, yes, Cheri , yes, Allan, yes, Lu, yes, Judy, yes.

All votes in favor. Motion Carried.

**Treasurers Report**

The balances for all accounts are as follows:

General Fund	Balance	\$587,255.44
Parks Fund	Balance	\$ 50,056.04
Senior Services Fund	Balance	\$ 65,318.31
Fire Dept. Fund	Balance	\$669,588.17
Road Fund	Balance	\$549,397.40
Police Fund	Balance	\$142,482.70
Cemetery Fund	Balance	\$105,528.80
Collected Tax Acct.	Balance	\$ 626.68
Lakeview Paving	Balance	\$ 43,190.45
Lakeview Sewer	Balance	\$ 7,205.74
Lakeview Water	Balance	\$ 503.69
Pacific Sewer	Balance	\$ 6,851.28
Pacific Water	Balance	\$ 23,148.67
Orchard Sewer	Balance	\$ 24,010.66
102 <sup>nd</sup> Ave. SAD	Balance	\$ 41,147.47
Beach Drive	Balance	\$ 383,908.15

Lu made a motion to approve the following,

General Fund	Orders #25048-25101	in the amount of	\$ 72,657.98
Parks Fund	Orders #1051-1065	in the amount of	\$ 26,417.09
Seniors Fund	Orders # 688 to 691	in the amount of	\$ 3,109.14
Police Fund	Orders # 221 – 223	in the amount of	\$ 13,120.73
Cemetery Fund	Orders #1044	in the amount of	\$. 7,000.00
Fire Fund	Orders#3957	in the amount of	\$112,738.75
102 <sup>nd</sup> Ave	Orders#3957	in the amount of	\$ 38,721.47
Beach	Orders#201-202	in the amount of	\$ 26,673.03
Lakeview Paving	Orders#1206	in the amount of	\$21,755.05
Lakeview Sewer	Orders#1013-1014	in the amount of	\$15,269.06
Lakeview Water	Orders#1013-1014	in the amount of	\$ 7,277.08

Orchard Sewer	Orders#1211-1212	in the amount of	\$15,269.06
Pacific Sewer	Orders#1015-1017	in the amount of	\$17,564.30
Pacific Water	Orders#106-107	in the amount of	\$21,451.42

Cheri supported. All votes in favor. Motion Carried.

**Parks**

Paul read the report with discussion, Bruce wasn't able to be at the meeting.

1. The committee addressed concerns from a resident concerning unauthorized cutting of vegetation of township Miami park property. Prior to the township obtaining the property, adjacent owners would mow, prune and cut vegetation as the State of Michigan basically had no interest in the maintenance of the property. While adjacent owners have mostly good stewards of the bluff it has become apparent that the township needs to take the lead in maintaining the bluff property. The committee recommends that the board send letters to adjacent property owners explaining that the property belongs to the township and that no cutting of vegetation is allowed and that the township will maintain the property. There is a movement among the adjacent owners to start a "friends of the Miami bluff" to work with the township in managing the park property.
2. The committee feels that the installation of the basketball hoop has been ignored to long. The committee strongly recommends to the board that the installation be done within the next 30 days or find a contractor that can get it done.
3. A resident reported to the committee that there needs to be more vegetation maintenance at 1<sup>st</sup> street stairs. Many residents use the stairway lookout in the evening to view the lake.
4. It is recommended that temporary signs be placed along the bottom of the bluff at the beach to prevent people from digging into the bluff. Allegan County Parks recently did this at West Side Park to prevent further erosion.
5. The committee was disappointed that trash at the preserve was not take care of in a timely fashion after the holiday weekend.
6. Some committee members have noticed that there are several ash trees in the preserve that may be in danger to park users and should be taken out.

Paul mentioned that there was a lot of trash at the Preserve, Allan said he picked it up on Saturday. Paul asked him where he got the trash bags, and Allan said he brought them from home.

Paul also reported that the committee would like to be able to have a budget of a certain amount, so they didn't have to go to the township board every time they needed something. Allan thought that was a good idea, an amount would have to be approved.

**Planning Commission**

Judy reported that there were several items on their agenda at the July 11, 2018 meeting.

1. Discussion on the building height draft changes recommended to the board to have the PC look at it again. The decision the PC made was the building heights must be 35 ft. maximum, they eliminated the 2 ½ stories. The PC's reasoning was to support the Master Plan. Judy wasn't sure if eliminating the 2 ½ stories, if we needed a public hearing, Allan said he would talk to Ron about that.
2. Discussed the rational for proposed amendment for Historically Platted Subdivisions.
3. The planning commission doesn't understand why the Zoning Administrator isn't enforcing our zoning ordinance and he uses his judgement and not the zoning ordinance.

~~Judy asked if Allan has experienced any of these problems with him.~~ **Judy gave update from the planning commission to the board.** Allan said that Alfred has been a very good Zoning Administrator for years, there might be some situations where the interpretations are in conflict with the building code or whatever. Allan also said that if the PC has questions about decisions then the correct thing to do is to

question why. Allan said that Alfred has done an excellent job for the township as a Zoning Administrator.

Allan said that Diane wasn't able to be at the last Planning Commission meeting because she was out of town, her brother John was very ill.

### **Senior Services**

Rachel Brenner reported that

- Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup> Senior Services will be hosting a pizza lunch and speaker State Representative, Mary Whiteford. Please RSVP to Rachel and feel free to bring a friend.
- They are working with Evergreen Commons to host a 6-week program called Powerful Tools for Caregivers. Dates and times have not been decided yet, but the classes will start sometime in August.
- Mondays and Thursday are exercise class followed by coffee from 10am – 11am.
- Tuesdays is the card social, from 1pm to 3pm. (Usually starting at 12:30pm)
- Wednesdays we are offering a new class – Breathing with Barry – a yoga and breath class from 11:30am to 12:30pm.
- Also, on Wednesdays is the knit and crochet group which meets from 12:30pm to 2:30pm. Everyone is welcome. No experience necessary.

Rachel also mentioned that the millage renewal is up for the Casco Senior Service Program which is on the August 7, 2018 ballot.

### **ZBA**

There will be a ZBA meeting Thursday, July 19, 2018.

### **County**

Allan reported that Bob Kaarlie, Chairman of the Road Commission, passed away suddenly.

### **SHAES**

The Lucas that was purchased for the Dept., they have already saved a life with it.

### **SHAWSA**

Allan reported that there were 24 full connections, 40 in all last year. As of right now the cash is good, hope for growth to continue. They are looking at the rate structure and possibly payment back to the township.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Update on the Preserve Beach Stairs.

The stairs have been repaired and in for 4<sup>th</sup> of July, we have received some good comments about them. Allan said that John Brush did a great job, he dropped everything that he was doing on some other projects, to get our stairs done for the Township. We owe John a lot for doing this for us. He is also going to look at the 1<sup>st</sup> street stairs, to give us a quote for those repairs.

Judy had a request from the Planning Commission Board on how the rentals are listed on the web-site, is there a way to group them by address. She asked if when this all settles down is there a plan to organize them in a certain way? Judy also asked if there is anything on the registration information if the property is homesteaded or not?

- Short-Term Rental Report

**Registrations:**

- 104 registered properties
- The last 3 will be on the website list this Thursday
- All known rental properties are either registered, or we are moving forward with issuing violations and fines (4 that we are aware of are not registered).
- South Haven Area Emergency Services is still catching up on the green signs.

**Violations:**

Violations have been signed and more will be signed tomorrow related to not registering, advertising for too many people, and for failure to respond when emergency contact was called by Host Compliance.

**Complaints:**

There have been 17 calls to the hotline in the past 30 days, 39 calls total, 5 of which were actually inquiries for information, not complaints. 7 of the calls were from anonymous sources.

Most of the calls were related to noise. Other issues have been cars parked on people's property and in the street trash, and

Some issues have been resolved through the hotline, as they should.

One call came in regarding noise/party and 9 vehicles at the rental parked in the road and on the complainant's property. The caller acknowledged that things improved after the call.

Another situation involved a party and things calmed down after the emergency contact was called.

Another situation improved after a noise and party complaint came in and the emergency contact got involved and things improved but it turned out to be the owners.

There has been one other trespassing complaint – a group that was loud came from Highfield Beach through the complainant's yard in Miami Park.

John Barkley said that he missed the township's budget meeting, Paul gave him a copy of the paper work, he asked about the 401 accounts that capture the rental costs, he wondered if this was correct net in the amount of \$27,000. Allan said he would look at it. John wondered if he would have time to look at before the next meeting.

Chris Barczyk asked if there was a law against having political signs on township property. Paul said there is a yes sign just past the garage. Allan responded that all that he knows is they have to be 100ft from the polling door. Chris said it was his understanding that you had to have permission to place signs on township property.

Judy asked how soon she could get a copy of the township budget? Cheri said she'll do it right now.

Chris Barczyk asked about homesteading when you rent property for two weeks, that you can't homestead. Who do you report this information to? Allan said to Alfred and he turns it over to the State of Michigan.

Judy made motion to adjourn. Lu supported.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Minutes Respectively submitted by  
Cheryl Brenner, Township Clerk