

CASCO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
January 18, 2016 @ 7:00 PM

Approved 2/15/16

Call to order: Overhiser called meeting to order @ 7:05 pm and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Overhiser, Brenner, Winfrey, Jessup and 9 other interested people.

Absent: Graff

Public Comment: None

Reports

Parks:

Blough reported that the Parks & Recreation Committee didn't meet this month because of weather. Blough presented the completed drawings for both parking lots to the board for approval to send both plans out for bid.

Lu made motion to approve the completed drawings and send them out for bid.

Josiah seconded. All in favor. MC

Clerk: Cheri passed out the 12/21/15 minutes for approval.

Lu made motion to accept the 12/21/15 minutes.

Josiah seconded. All votes in favor. Motion Carried.

Treasurers Report:

Balances in all accounts are as follows:

General Fund	Balance	\$499,329.36
Parks Fund	Balance	\$ 13,733.67
Senior Services Fund	Balance	\$ 17,363.65
Fire Dept. Fund	Balance	\$ 369,793.70
Road Fund	Balance	\$ 84,338.68
Police Fund	Balance	\$ 29,298.42
Cemetery Care Fund	Balance	\$ 107,203.48
Collected Tax Acct	Balance	\$ 910,337.88
Lakeview Sewer	Balance	\$ 8,852.82
Lakeview Water	Balance	\$ 79.86
Pacific Sewer	Balance	\$ 12,157.27
Orchard Sewer	Balance	\$ 31,885.64
Lakeview Paving	Balance	\$ 12,585.63

Lu made motion to approve the following bills.

General Fund	Orders#23560-23598	in the amount of \$ 24,486.67
Parks Fund	Orders#716-723	in the amount of \$ 508.03
Seniors Fund	Orders# 527	in the amount of \$ 109.28
Collected Tax	Orders#3124-3136	in the amount of \$234,116.04
Police Fund	Orders#125-126	in the amount of \$ 6,450.00
Road Fund	Orders#1109	in the amount of \$ 31,899.75
Fire Fund	Orders#3935	in the amount of \$ 103,303.75

Josiah seconded. All votes in favor. MC

Planning Commission:

The PC meetings will be every other month starting with January 2016 meeting.

SHAES:

SHAES and the Firefighters Union Local 2658 completed negotiations for a new contract effective January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018. The annual wage increased to Two Percent (2%) for each year for the three years of this contract.

Old Business:

Water/Sewer: There will be a meeting 1/27/16. There will be presentations given by the City Attorney, Water/Sewer authorities Attorney, and the City's Engineer.

Mark Kolas handed out the 1994 water and sewer agreement. He stated that the Agreement is a good agreement and is still in effect. He has requested capacity data from the City of South Haven and is waiting to receive the city's calculations as it relates to usage. He questioned whether the township is out of capacity or not and that the real problem is illegal storm water entering the sanitary sewer.

Allan said that high rainfall events impact the townships' capacity but all infiltration is not illegal. We have other problems in the aging system that need attention also. The current Agreement, as written, is subject to interpretation. We didn't feel that we were in a contentious situation that would require us to take positions on the current agreement. Rather we felt in light of capital improvements being considered by the city that it would be a good opportunity to join with the city and create an authority whereby we could participate as a voting member to work on these problems and determine the needs together.

Kolas started to discuss language as it related to water capacity.

Overhiser stated that the water portion was replaced by a new Capacity Purchase Agreement when the water plant was built.

Osterman asked why the township attorney bills failed to show any activity associated with this issue.

Overhiser reminded everyone that Casco Township by itself has no capacity or agreement.

The current agreement is between Casco Township, South Haven Township, and the joint Water & Sewer Authority. The work done by our attorney was billed to the authority because we are all in this together.

Janis Greiffendorf asked about capacity and peak allowances and does it refer to the two townships together. Allan said yes.

Letter from South Haven Public Schools regarding summer taxes was presented and discussed.

Josiah made motion to collect summer taxes for the same fee and conditions as 2015.

Seconded by Winfrey. All in favor. Motion carried.

SAD for 2016-

Overhiser presented a map of a proposed 102nd water/sewer district. In addition, petitions were received representing ownership greater than 50% of the area outlined in the map.

Josiah made motion to initiate the special assessment district process upon verification of the appropriate ownership percentage. Winfrey seconded. Motion Carried in a 4 to 0 roll

call vote.

Members voting in the affirmative: Overhiser, Jessup, Winfrey, Brenner.

Absent: Graff All votes in favor. Motion Carried.

Cemetery Rates-

Allan stated that the township needs to increase the cemetery rates, our rates are low compared to other cemetery's.

New Rates effective March 1, 2016.

Burial Rights Certificate (Lot Purchase)

Resident was \$100 to \$200.00

Non Resident was \$550.00 to \$800.00

Grave Openings

Resident was \$300.00 to \$600.00

Non Resident was \$550.00 to \$850.00

Mausoleum Inspection \$150

Disinterment was \$550.00 to \$1000.00

Monument Foundations \$0.30 per square inch to \$0.35.

Cheri made motion to approve the increase in rates.

Josiah seconded. All votes in favor. Motion Carried.

Cheri will publish the new cemetery rates in the South Haven Tribune.

Appoint Board of Review Members:

Allan made motion to appoint David Campbell, Matt Hamlin, and Blanche Wilkinson to a two year term on the BOR.

Cheri seconded motion. All votes in favor. MC

Cheri mentioned at the 12/21/15 meeting that she heard someone from the crowd say, "So were going to get screwed by the Township again". Cheri said that remark was very disrespectful to the township board. The general public has no idea how hard their board works and what it takes to run a township. Cheri was very offended by this remark.

Lu made motion to adjourn.

Josiah seconded.

Adjourned at 8:40 pm

Respectively submitted by:

Cheryl Brenner, Clerk

