

approved as amended, 4/16/12

Casco Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting of March 19, 2012

Supervisor Overhiser called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm and led in the pledge of allegiance.

Present: Overhiser, Winfrey, Cowie, and Ridley; Graff was absent. Also present: Pam Blough, for Parks & Recreation; Rachel Brenner, for Casco Senior Care Program; and Tom Jessup, County Commissioner, and one interested public member.

Supervisor Overhiser called the **Public Hearing for the Lakeview Special Assessment District** to order at 7:06 p.m. The purpose of this public hearing is to review and hear any objections to the proposed special assessment roll for Sewer Special Assessment District No. 2012-01.

The Supervisor noted that public notice of the hearing had been given by complying with the provisions of Michigan Act 162 of 1962, as amended ("Act 162"), Michigan Act 188 of 1954, as amended ("Act 188") and Michigan Act 64 of 1989, as amended ("Act 64"). Specifically, the Supervisor noted that proper publication had taken place in the *South Haven Tribune* as evidenced by copies of the newspaper publication on file with the Township Clerk. The Supervisor further noted that proper notice by mailing had been given pursuant to Act 162, Act 188 and Act 64, as shown by the Affidavit of mailing on file with the Township Clerk. The Supervisor then opened the public hearing with regard to the proposed special assessment roll for Sewer Special Assessment District No. 2012-01. No comments regarding the assessment roll were made by persons present. The Supervisor then asked if there were any written objections and the Clerk reported that no written objections had been received. Informational questions about the location of the proposed district were asked and answered. The Board then closed the hearing on the special assessment roll for Sewer Special Assessment District No. 2012-01.

Discussion followed with respect to the comments made at the public hearing and the special assessment roll for said special assessment district. After completion of this discussion, the following resolution was offered by Cowie and supported by Winfrey:

Resolution 120319A, (#5)

To Establish Sewer Special Assessment District No. 2012-01 (Lakeview Avenue)

WHEREAS, by resolution passed on February 20, 2012, it was determined that the Supervisor should prepare a special assessment roll covering and including the parcels of land described in said resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Supervisor submitted a special assessment roll, report and certificate in accordance with the instructions specified by this Township Board; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board did, on the receipt of such items, by resolution adopted February 20, 2012, set March 19, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., local time, at the Casco Township Hall, located at 7104 - 107th Avenue, South Haven, Allegan County, Michigan, as the time and place for a public hearing to review and hear any objections to the special assessment roll; and

WHEREAS, proper notice of said hearing was given by publication and mailing, all in accordance with the terms and provisions of Act 188, Act 162 and Act 64; and

WHEREAS, the Board did meet at the time and place of said public hearing to review the special assessment roll and hear any objections and other matters related to the special assessment roll;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the special assessment roll prepared and submitted by the Casco Township Supervisor, with amendments or corrections made, if any, by this Board, for Sewer Special Assessment District No. 2012-01, including the lands described in the Notice of Hearing for this special assessment roll, in the amount of \$241,261.25, plus the Township's costs of establishing the special assessment district, for the purpose of defraying a portion of the cost of constructing sanitary sewer improvements as are described in the Notice of Hearing on this special assessment roll, be and the same is hereby ratified, confirmed, and adopted. The total additional costs for publication expenses, mailing expenses, and legal expenses is \$6,731.19, for a total to be assessed of \$247,992.44. The Township Clerk is hereby directed to endorse on the assessment roll the fact the roll has been confirmed as of the date of this meeting.

2. That the special assessments contained in said special assessment roll shall be payable in 15 or less equal principal and interest installments, or in full at any time with interest accrued through the month in which the final installment is paid.

3. That the first principal and interest payment shall be billed on December 1, 2012 and payable on or before February 14, 2013. The remaining 14 installments shall be billed on December 1 in each and every year after 2012, through 2026; they shall be payable on or before February 14 in each and every year after 2013, through 2027.

4. That all unpaid installments, prior to their transfer to the Township tax roll as is provided in Act 188, shall bear interest, payable annually on each installment due date, at a rate of 4.5 percent per annum from May 1, 2012, plus a one percent administration fee. The 4.5 percent is an estimate; the actual rate of interest shall be determined at the closing with Chemical Bank.

5. That all resolutions in conflict herewith in whole or in part are hereby revoked to the extent of such conflict.

Aye: Ridley, Winfrey, Overhiser, and Cowie

Nays: none

Absent: Graff

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Dated: March 19, 2012.

Minutes: Winfrey moved approval of the February 20, 2012 Regular Meeting minutes, supported by Ridley; MSC. Winfrey moved approval of the February 27, 2012 Special Meeting minutes, supported by Ridley; MSC.

Pam Blough reported that Sandra Warren made a good presentation to the Parks & Recreation Committee about the tree harvesting approved at the special meeting of 2/27/2012, a project which has begun on the Transfer station property.

Cowie reported that the new computer is working very well and Microsoft Office software will need to be purchased. She also reported that there will be a May Election for Fennville schools only.

Treasurer's report:

General Fund	\$ 323,855.47
Parks Fund	\$ 5,079.43
Senior Services	\$ 6,534.80
Fire Department	\$ 327,731.24
Cemetery Care Fund	\$ 129,253.36
Collected Tax Account	\$1,083,098.93

Winfrey moved payment of the following: General Fund Orders #21324-21380 in the amount of \$32,078.00; Collected Tax orders #2709-2734 in the amount of \$911,410.91; Parks Fund orders #235-240 in the amount of \$5,004.48; and Seniors Fund orders #281-292 in the amount of \$5,159.10, supported by Ridley; MSC.

Casco Senior Care Program: Rachel Brenner reported that the newsletter has been distributed. Transportation is still an issue, with the transition to the ACRDC as vendor. The USDA is another source of grants for transportation, and Rachel is exploring this. The Clerk offered assistance.

Parks & Recreation: Pam Blough reported that the committee met last Tuesday. The Community Parks & Recreation plan was submitted on time to the State. Public comments received during the hearing were distributed to the committee. New initiatives the committee is exploring include a beach cleanup day, developing Friends of the Preserve, the opening & operation of Preserve; and a topographic survey on the Miami Beach lots. (Action was tabled on these matters due to low attendance).

Maple Grove: Tom Sobel and Pam Blough have been working with the DNR about the closing of this project. We had thought that Casco had to put money into the escrow before closing; now it seems funds can be in place just a week in advance. This means the Township can move ahead with the Lakeview lot sale while working toward the Maple Grove acquisition.

No news from Debra Apostol regarding our differences regarding reimbursement of the Stefan acquisition.

ZBA: Met on Feb 9 with all members present, to hear 3 matters: Lyle White, J&L Orchard supply; North of Baseline on 67th Street. A dimensional variance was approved.

Craig Stevens, of the North Shore Garden Center, wished to replace a sign with a freestanding sign in a c-2 zone. He desires to construct 2 signs on 1 pole, a total of 64' of signage, 5' from road ROW, approximately where sign is now. He needed a 12' variance from road ROW and a 4' variance regarding the size of sign. These were granted.

A courtyard & covered porch request on a lot measuring 60 x 200', 1188 Cherry Street, in Glenn Shores. Applicant wishes to construct these items and a storage shed. Variances were for two additions and porch, located 4'4" from North lot line and 3'6" for courtyard. Variances of 6'8" for shed, and 12'1" road ROW were granted.

The ZBA met on March 8 to hear 1 request, from Timothy Hybels, for a new front entrance addition at 98 Bluff Street. A variance of 25' was granted, for Lots 39 & 40 in Eaton Park. ZBA meets again this Thursday night.

Tom Jessup, County Commissioner: Jail groundbreaking occurred two weeks ago. The jail project has gone from \$17 mil to \$19+ million, funded by favorable rates on bonds. Beds were also increased (225 beds to over 300 beds). The County wants to go to a smoke-free campus but this poses issues for jury members. The Budget will likely be off due to sagging property revenues, with an expected shortfall of \$600,000 to \$700,000. Road patrols and the court system will probably experience cutbacks.

In the elections this year, District 8 will become District 5, with the district for our County Commissioner expanding. Tom reported that at the most recent ACRDC meeting, there was some talk about Vicky Lull getting out to Townships to talk about services available to the Townships. She is also interested in coming to a Board meeting.

Cowie asked if the Allegan County Health department could focus on domestic violence and child poverty if they are looking for things to do.

Old Business

Maple Grove update: Tom Sobel is nailing things down with the DNR and will hopefully have the process expected of us confirmed in writing.

A Coastal Management Zone grant could be pursued for stairs at the Nature Preserve. In addition to the stairway (the construction details which are still conceptual at this point), a walkway leading to the stairs, and a deck area for ADA accessible viewing would also be built with this grant.

Resolution #120319, Approving submission of Coastal Grant Application For Nature Preserve Beach Access (Stairway)

WHEREAS, Access to Lake Michigan is stated as the top priority for Township residents; and

WHEREAS the Casco Township Nature Preserve is sited on Lake Michigan, and

WHEREAS funding is available from the U.S. Department of Commerce through the Coastal Management Program; and

WHEREAS, the total project cost shall not exceed \$100,000, 50% of which would be funded through the Coastal Program and 50% would be local match;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Casco Township approves the submission of the grant application to the Michigan Coastal Management Program in the amount of UP TO \$50,000 to construct a pathway, a viewing deck, and beach stairs providing access to Lake Michigan, and commits to providing the local match if the project is funded.

Moved by Winfrey, supported by Ridley;

Ayes: Winfrey, Overhiser, Cowie, and Ridley

Nays: None

Absent: Graff

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted on March 19, 2012.

Roads 2012 Plan: When the Board approved the budget last month, resealing was not addressed. The proposal is to reseal Baseline Rd (at an estimated cost of \$48,000) from 60th to 64th, and 111th (at an estimated cost of \$24,000) from 64th to 66th; these are newer roads with surface cracking. If they are sealed up, the surface life will be extended. Cowie moved to approve this resealing plan, supported by Winfrey; MSC.

Mrs. Servatius had asked about fixing 71st St. This road is too far gone and probably needs to be rebuilt. Discussion ensued about addressing 71st around the curve to Hawkshead—from 107th to 103rd-- through rebuilding or resurfacing (asphalt layering) in a coming year.

Public comment: David Campbell, resident of Glenn Shores, said to keep up the good work.

Winfrey moved to adjourn at 8:25 pm, supported by Ridley. Adjourned.



Julie M. Cowie, Clerk

Casco Township