

CASCO TOWNSHIP  
MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 19, 2020 @ 7:00PM

Approved 12/21/2020

Call to Order: Overhiser called meeting to order @ 7:00pm.

Present: Overhiser, Brenner, Winfrey, Graff, & Macyauski.

Absent: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

**Reports:**

Police: Deputy Katje reported that there were 73 calls for service he handled 34% of those.

The cruiser is ready for winter now with the new tires on the cruiser.

For the people on Blue Star Highway, the Road Commission says the road construction should be done in another week, weather providing.

Clerk:

Cheri presented minutes from the August 17, 2020 Regular Meeting I do not have the minutes for the September meeting, ( Election work, sickness, etc.)

Paul made motion to approve the August 17, 2020 minutes. Lu supported. No questions for discussion or corrections. All in favor. For zoom meetings we need a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote: Overhiser, Winfrey, Brenner, Graff, & Macyauski, all yes.

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

Information from Resource Recovery Recycling Event on October 24, 2020 @ 9:00am to 12:00pm  
At Hardings Market in Wayland-take your HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE.

Report on the November 3, 2020 election Kathy and I have sent out so far 900 absentee ballots and as of today 530 have been returned. Also, as of October 5<sup>th</sup> we have had 62 new people register.

The township received a check in the amount of \$5,485.20 reimbursement for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter recycling.

Treasurer:

Balances in the accounts are as follow:

|                            |         |              |
|----------------------------|---------|--------------|
| General Fund               | Balance | \$653,941.70 |
| Parks Fund                 | Balance | \$100,246.17 |
| Senior Services Fund       | Balance | \$99,448.35  |
| Fire Dept. Fund            | Balance | \$475,664.68 |
| Road Fund                  | Balance | \$692,853.61 |
| Police Fund                | Balance | \$136,994.64 |
| Cemetery Care Fund         | Balance | \$115,735.63 |
| Collected Tax Acct         | Balance | \$190,265.90 |
| 102 <sup>nd</sup> Ave. SAD | Balance | \$49,816.09  |
| Beach Drive                | Balance | \$48,464.41  |
| Lakeview Paving            | Balance | \$51,990.76  |
| Lakeview Sewer             | Balance | \$6,110.52   |
| Lakeview Water             | Balance | \$(453.85)   |
| Pacific Sewer              | Balance | \$8,167.80   |

|  |                  |                           |
|--|------------------|---------------------------|
| Pacific Water  | Balance          | \$29,071.58               |
| Orchard Sewer  | Balance          | \$22,522.49               |
| Lu made motion to approve the following order numbers 26429 – 26484 in the amount of \$78,250.98 not including Collected Tax account in the amount of \$4,708,175.26. (orders 3689-3700) |                  |                           |
| General Fund   | in the amount of | \$45,404.59               |
| Seniors Fund   | in the amount of | \$2,844.01                |
| Parks Fund   | in the amount of | \$2,160.14                |
| Police Fund  | in the amount of | \$1,494.02                |
| Fire Fund  | in the amount of | \$25,266.30               |
| Road Fund  | in the amount of | <u>\$1,081.92</u>         |
|  | Total            | <b><u>\$78,250.98</u></b> |
| Collected Tax Acct   | in the amount of | \$4,708,175.26            |

Cheri supported. No questions or discussion.

Roll Call Vote: Overhiser, Graff, Brenner, Winfrey, & Macyauski all yes.

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

Lu reported that 92% was collected of summer taxes, she thought it is one of the best summer seasons of tax collection so far.

Parks & Recreation:

Written report from Bruce Brandon, Chairperson.

1. All members of the committee were present and township **co-vid-19 protocols** were followed.
2. Debbie Weaver reported that sloughing continues to occur on the Miami Park properties, especially between Orchard and Miami.
3. Davis' Landscaping will not be able to complete the power washing at the Nature {reserve this fall, they have had an equipment failure. The committee will look into alternative solutions.
4. The main discussion of the meeting was about the development of the Male Grove property. Per board approval, Pam Blough was there to hear our thoughts about the property and how to improve it for community use. Many ideas were shared in the discussion.
  - A. Pam would review the Parks five- year plan and offer an "update amendment" that would carry the plan through 2022 which would allow application for grants by April 2021.
  - B. A draft of an "action plan" would be presented for discussion and review.
  - C. Pam will lead a presentation of the "Maple Grove site plan" so that committee members can have full input on the placement of recreation facilities on the property.

The outcomes of this include feasibility, costs and phasing of efforts especially in the area of utilities.

5. The parks committee would welcome and encourage board input concerning development of the Maple Grove property.

Planning Commission:

Dave Campbell, chairperson, reported that they received a request from Lighthouse Estates, on Blue Star, rezone from Current – RR-Rural Residential District to LDR- Low Density Residential District. After the Public Hearing and discussion the seven members on the board accepted their request.

SHAES:

Allan announced that Ron Ridley was named Fire Fighter of the Year, at the last SHAES meeting there was a small ceremony, achievements that had gone through during the year were addressed, Ron Wise

retiring and Brandon Hinz the new Fire-Chief. Jacob Clemons is a new volunteer fireman on SHAES and there is a fulltime fireman that lives here in Casco also.

SHAWSA:

There will be a rate increase but that hasn't been totally decided on yet, the rate is driven by our capital plan and is heavily influenced by the Clean Water Act.

ZBA: No

OLD BUSINESS:

- Marihuana Regulation Ordinance

At our last meeting we were going to have Lisa Santora be here and talk to us thru zoom tonight, unfortunately she is on a plane on her way to Colorado.

We had some questions as to what exactly we wanted to do, we have an ordinance of inside growing of Medical Marihuana also we talked about, this is only in the Agriculture area, the need for the language for the operator being able to transport their own products to where they need to go. Allan stated that he isn't sure how much more we need to learn if we go forward with this proposition. As a board we have said we don't want to be a township that has retail establishments, or a township that has outdoor growers, and we don't want to be a township that has processing facilities. Agriculture is in important to our community and our master plan preserving farmland. Right now our farmers are at a disadvantage from other farmers in other communities. The board agreed for Allan to contact Ron Bultje to put together a draft to have for our next meeting.

- Zoning Text Amendment Ordinance.

\*Allan suggested to start with the re-zoning of Lighthouse Estates, Nathan Stafford was present by zoom.

Lighthouse Estates requested a re-zoning from RR- Rural Residential to LDR- Low Density Residential. PC had a Public Hearing and with further discussion the PC board ( all 7 members) approved the request. They made a motion to recommend to the Board of Trustees to approve this request.

Nate Stafford explained the need for the re-zoning the survey of the property shows a ravine splits the development from front to back. It is a challenge to build the framework of RR. Also, because there is public water and sewer, it fits the description of LDR closer than RR.

Cheri made motion to re-zone Lighthouse Estates from RR-Rural Residential to LDR- Low Density Residential recommended by the PC. Lu supported. No further discussion.

Roll Call Vote: Allan, Paul, Judy, Lu, & Cheri. All yes.

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

This will have to be publicized and the property is re-zoned.

Zoning Text Amendments next-

Allan explained that we have four amendments to discuss.

\*Judy started with the first item to add to definitions to chapter 2 one is glare and the other is Nuisance:

Judy mentioned that Dave went thru the ordinance and found that "glare" was mentioned in 9 places and "nuisance" was mentioned 7 places with no definition for either word.

Tasha thought that it would be a disservice not to define the words.

Judy said that on July 15, 2020 all four of these amendments there were no public input on any of them.

For the definitions of glare and nuisance the PC passed it 4 to 2.

Judy made a motion to approve the definitions in this text for the words' nuisance and glare. Lu supported. Paul said he doesn't support this motion at all.

Judy amended her motion to approve the definition of the word glare. Lu supported amendment motion.

Roll Call Vote: Overhiser, Brenner, Macyauski, no, Judy, yes, Lu, yes.

Yahs: 4

Nays: 1

Motion to approve the word nuisance as a definition.

Motion dies for lack of support.

\*Allan made motion to send this back to the PC needing context is appropriate with a definition.

Paul supported. Discussion. Paul suggested to maybe go back and change the word.

Roll Call Vote: Paul, Lu, Allan, Cheri, yes and Judy voted no.

Yahs: 4

Nays: 1

\*Amendment to fire-pits. That the Zoning Ordinance have a 25ft set-back to the property line, this is from the rental ordinance for family home dwellings. The vote on the PC was unanimous. It was recommended that the set back of 15ft should pertain to all homes, not just rentals.

Paul made motion to go back to the PC for approval to the recommended change from 25ft set-back to 15ft set-back for fire-pits for all single-family dwellings. This will probably have to be reprinted and have a hearing again. Judy supported.

Roll Call Vote: Judy, Paul, Lu, Allan and Cheri. All yes.

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

\*Excavation of water erosion to protect neighbor from getting water drainage from being prevented.

We amended to adding section a and b was there to begin with. Cheri supported.

Judy made motion to table this.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Surcharge Contract for 2021

Paul made motion to accept the contract with our surcharge staying a \$20.00.

Roll Call Vote: Paul, Allan, Judy, & Lu

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

- COVID-19 TESTING

Cheri reported that Allegan County Is having Free Community Testing in Allegan on **Saturdays from 10:00am to 1:00pm at the Allegan County Transportation Building located at 750 Airway Dr., Allegan.**

Saturday      October 24

Saturday      November 7

Saturday      November 21

Saturday      December 5

Saturday      December 19

Lu made motion to adjourn. Paul supported.

Roll Call Vote: Lu, Paul, Allan, Judy, & Cheri

Yahs: 5

Nays: 0

Meeting adjourned at 8:54pm.