

Approved 7/16/12

Casco Township Board of Trustees

Regular meeting of June 18, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Overhiser led in the pledge of allegiance after calling the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Present: Overhiser, Graff, Winfrey, Cowie, and Ridley, with approximately 7 interested persons.

Guest Judge Baillargeon showed a video about drunk driving and answered questions about the drug court program and the need to prevent people from driving under the influence. Judge Baillargeon was thanked for his outreach and advocacy in this area.

The supervisor invited public comment; there was none.

Minutes were distributed for the May 21 regular meeting and the May 29 special meeting. Action will be taken on these minutes at the next meeting.

Treasurer's report:

Winfrey presented the following balances:

General Fund	\$1,082,100.03
Parks Fund	\$ 30,774.15
Senior Services	\$ 36,581.10
Fire Department	\$ 671,785.11
Road Fund	\$ 264,833.83
Cemetery Care	\$ 29,501.06 (corrected from <u>129,501.06</u>)
Collected Tax Account	\$ 4,115.64

Winfrey moved payment of the following bills: General Fund orders #21492-21535 in the amount of \$195,206.20; Collected Tax orders #2745-2746 in the amount of \$25,431.30; Road Fund order #1073 in the amount of \$14,500; Parks Fund orders #267-272, in the amount of \$11,137.68; and Senior Fund orders #312-315 in the amount of \$4,667.46, supported by Ridley; MSC.

\$6200 has been received from the logging at the Transfer Station. More revenue on this project is expected.

The Maple Grove parcel has been acquired. Mr. Hanenburg pre-purchased the Lakeview Avenue parcel for \$498,085 (selling price: \$500,000) due to some closing fees. There was also a transfer in from Chemical Bank, of \$162,000, for the sewer project on Lakeview Avenue.

Cowie proposed that a resolution of thanks be offered for Ed Hanenburg's donation of land value and his patience involved in the Maple Grove acquisition.

Supervisor Overhiser invited candidates present to introduce themselves: Joseph Jessup is a Republican candidate for Casco Township Clerk. He described himself as a self-employed general contractor who knows how to pay attention to detail.

Josiah Jessup is running for Township Trustee; he has worked on his dad's campaign and would like to further his knowledge into the political field.

Parks & Recreation committee: given the closing of Maple Grove, Ed Hanenburg has 30 days to decide if he wants to move the yellow house. The MNRTF reimbursement of the 10% is contingent on the yellow house being moved. If Mr. Hanenburg doesn't want it, a bid process would probably be in order. Graff moved to put up for bid the moving of the yellow house, supported by Winfrey; MSC.

Operations and maintenance is the next priority pertaining to the Nature Preserve. Development of the "Friends of" group is another next step. The restroom building is set and installed, and permit is in place. Furnishings have been delivered and installed. The gate powerbox is in place. The rough grading is done, and the fine grading will be done on Friday (weather permitting). The compaction of the aggregate base will be tested by an engineering firm prior to paving.

The committee also asks the Board for some direction about priorities. Overhiser proposed that a friends group would be a top priority. Also, some direction is needed about all the small things that can occur with the opening of the Nature Preserve, and the need for a process to address them (i.e., a bottle broken on the pathway).

Discussion also ensued about how to manage a beach emergency, the lack of a cell phone signal, and how to handle that. It is also important to understand who is calling 9-1-1.

No parking signs are needed on Blue Star Highway near the Nature Preserve. New signs have been put up at First Street regarding beach use/rules.

Casco Senior Care Program: Rachel Brenner will be present for the meeting of Allegan County Commission on Aging at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday June 19.

Allegan County Commissioner, Tom Jessup: Allegan County is fortunate to have Judges Buck, Baillargeon, and Skocelas, all who enjoy good reputations. Last week, the Board set tax rates for the County.

Regarding the change in the transportation vendor, Jessup reported that "First time" riders need to talk with the County Senior care program; any time after that, residents can go through the ACRDC.

Pay raises are under discussion. County employees have had to take unpaid furlough days for the past several years. Jessup felt that raises were justified.

ZBA: Eldon Ridley reported that the May 24 meeting was cancelled because the request was withdrawn.

Planning commission: Zoning ordinance text amendments are being discussed. Residents to the west of the proposed apartment complex are concerned about drainage issues.

Water/Sewer: The Authority is fairly on track with growth numbers; there have been 13 full connections, and the goal was 15. The water rate increase is triggered by the lack of growth; the increase is needed to service the debt on the new water plant.

Old Business:

Maple Grove (already discussed)

Hunter Prell: Construction is completed on the new Lakeview Special Assessment district.

New business:

July BOR resolution: Overhiser moved and Winfrey supported the following:

RESOLUTION 120618, JULY Board of Review Date

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan authorized the governing body of a Township to have an alternate date for the July Board of Review; and

WHEREAS, Brousseau Appraisal Services requests that the July Board of Review meeting to be held on Monday, July 16, 2 pm,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Casco Township July Board of Review meeting shall take place at the Casco Township Hall on Monday, July 16 at 2 pm, to address the correction of clerical errors and mutual mistakes of fact; in a roll call vote, Ridley, Graff, Winfrey, Overhiser and Cowie all voted yes.

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

Audit letter: Overhiser moved to contract with Siegfried Crandall for our audit according to terms presented (not to exceed \$7,700), supported by Winfrey; MSC.

Bike Trail: **Scott Post, engineer with Prein Newhof**, provided a bid to provide a comprehensive engineering bid for the construction of the Blue Star Bike Trail. His estimate is for completing a detailed cost analysis for a separate facility along Blue Star Highway, to meet MDOT standards, with a 14' wide clear zone. The trail estimate would cover 6.5 miles, from Baseline Rd. to Creekwood Dr. Supervisor Overhiser read Scott Post's proposal.

Graff expressed concerns about the bid being comprehensive enough. Blough explained ways Scott could embellish the bid and clarify what he could deliver, based on maps, spreadsheets, etc. We would want to include administrative costs if we were to contract this out to a firm. Graff proposed that Pam Blough could flesh out all of the costs in addition to the Prein Newhof scope of services. A project manager will be needed for this project. Prein Newhof has the experience to bid this project. While Prein Newhof will provide construction costs, we can then add legal and project management fees to the estimated project costs. Graff requested a comparison bid for a paved shoulder in contrast to a

separate facility bid. Such a project would involve moving ditches; it was acknowledged what we currently have--shoulders-- is inadequate for bike traffic.

Cowie moved to contract with Prein Newhof to get the cost estimate work done, amending his bid to include project management given the Township's limited resources, supported by Graff; MSC.

Computer work: Cowie proposed contracting with DBApp.com to address network needs of the building, not to exceed \$1000, supported by Winfrey; MSC.

Budget: This year's airport funding is set at .1 of the Taxable Value.

Announcement: Allan, Pam, and Julie will meet with Steven DeBrabander (the DNR's head of grants) on Wednesday afternoon in Lansing, with Deb Apostol. The goal is to discuss the shortfall in reimbursement received from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund regarding the Stefan acquisition.

Other business: None

Motion to adjourn: moved by Graff, supported by Winfrey, at 8:59 p.m.

Adjourned.

Respectfully,

Julie M. Cowie, Clerk

Casco Township Board of Trustees