

Casco Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
January 21, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Overhiser

All members were present except Brenner who was attending the MTA conference.

The minutes of the December 12, 2012 meeting were amended and approved.

The minutes of the December 17, 2012 meeting were approved.

Public Comment

Diana Ostermann of 7364 North Shore Dr. read a letter made part of these minutes expressing her concerns about noise from wind generators being detrimental to human health. Also, she requested the township find a qualified person to help guide the township with respect to noise.

Treasurer's Report

Winfrey reviewed the fund balances and moved approval of the following: General Fund orders 21845-21897 in the amount of \$44,874.08, orders Collected Tax orders 2781-2793 in the amount \$211,829.33, Parks Fund orders 331-336 in the amount of \$4,960.64, Seniors Fund orders 348-351 in the amount of \$2,088.22, seconded by Jessup – motion carried.

Senior service

Susan Kaat reported on various activities and programs. Also, the senior program will be fully moved to the Township Hall by January 25th. The board expressed their appreciation for church and their past support and willingness to house the program.

A letter by David Diny questioning the expenditures and the manner that the room was remodeled was discussed. Overhiser read a response explaining the reasons, process and funding source associated with the remodel. The board concurred and the letter will be sent to Mr. Diny.

Graff discussed the need to explore the possibility of a transportation service. The county is not meeting the needs and she felt other funding sources may be available to enable the township provide a service again. The board agreed to have the senior program pursue this idea.

Parks

Bruce Brandon reported on an upcoming stair meeting with a builder. A tree uprooted and damaged some of the pavement. The tree and stump will be removed and a base will be restored and pavement repaired when feasible.

The committee continues to work on developing a friends of group to aid in maintenance and operations. Bruce reported that Samuel Fleming has decided to not participate for another term and that a replacement was needed.

Overhiser expressed the board's appreciation for his service. Overhiser moved to appoint David Dobreff to the Parks Committee, seconded by Graff – motion carried.

Pam Blough discussed the need to complete the interpretive signs by May 1st and that we need to start that soon. It was agreed to form a committee and begin.

Planning Commission

Graff reported on the recent meeting where the 433 Drain text amendments were approved. Patrick Hudson had forwarded the language to the Drain Commissioner for approval. If approved the board could expect it for approval at our February meeting.

There will be a meeting of the various committees and the board on February 9th and a PC meeting on Wind Energy February 20th.

SHAES

Overhiser presented the monthly call data and also the capital replacement plan.

Water and Sewer

Overhiser reported that there will be a special joint meeting between Casco, South Haven Townships, Water and Sewer Authority and the Auditor. The meeting is scheduled for 7 pm March 27 at Casco Hall. There will be an update on financial performance and the future ability to meet debt service. Also, he presented a report on the status of the mandatory hook up.

Old Business

North Shore Drain – Problems with lines have been identified and repair work will be scheduled. A Hearing to combine the North Base Drain and the North Shore Drain should be scheduled soon.

Website – Overhiser reported on a meeting held with David Campbell, Cherie Brenner, Julie Cowie and himself. Everyone was updated on the status of current agreements and the process of maintenance. Everyone agreed that Cowie had gotten things in pretty good shape and that it was functional. She explained the complexity of the clerk's role in managing the information coming in from different secretaries and in differing forms. Also, there was a lot of discussion about posting accurate and approved information. The use of a drop box or like system appealed to the group as this would enable maintenance to be performed by a variety options in the future. The group encouraged the board to consider contracting with Cowie to maintain the Website at least on a short term basis given that we had a new clerk undergoing a learning curve. Cowie is to present a proposal for service next month.

New Business

Overhiser reported on the county primary projects for 2013 (paving 68th street from 114th north to Blue Star and chip seal and fog coat 102nd between 66th and 60th).

It was reported that there would be an estimated \$290,000 of local millage to spend on local roads this year. Overhiser discussed the age of the roads in Glenn Shores and that they would be a good choice for a chip seal and fog coat before things got worse. Also, the condition of 107th and 71st was discussed and it was agreed that further chip seals would be a waste of money. The board asked for estimates on the west end of 107th and the north end of 71st.

Mike Workema and Dan Way were present and requested that Lakeview west of Blue Star be considered for paving. The estimate for this project is \$237,924. The board discussed the amount of unpaved and undeveloped roads in the township and how do you spread limited resources. Way and Workema urged the board to consider a cost share where a portion of the cost could be specially assessed. Overhiser will check on how Geneva Twp. works with there cost share process.

Summer tax collection - South Haven Public Schools and Lake Michigan College letters were received stating that they would again collect summer taxes. Winfrey moved to agree to collect their summer taxes under the same terms and for the same fee as 2012, seconded by Graff – motion carried.

Other Business

Overhiser moved to appoint Judy Graff to the Planning Commission and Josiah Jessup to the Zoning Board of appeals for terms to coincide with their service as trustees, seconded by Winfrey – motion carried

The letter read during Public Comment from Diana Ostermann was discussed. Her request to replace Patrick Hudson was also discussed. Graff explained that there had been a lot of technical information submitted and that it was confusing and there may be a need for some additional help. The board concluded that the process was working and that there was no need to replace Patrick but Graff added that as applications are received the Planning Commission may need to hire a wind resource to evaluate the application on the township's behalf.

Public Comment

None

Winfrey moved to adjourn, seconded by Jessup – meeting adjourned 8:45pm

Allan Overhiser