

Accepted

Casco Township Board of Trustee
Regular Meeting of, February 18, 2013, at 7:00 p.m.
At the Casco Township Hall, 7104 107th Ave.

DRAFT

Present: Allan Overhiser, Judy Graff, Lu Winfrey, Josiah Jessup; there were 10 people present.

Allan called the meeting to order @ 7:05 pm and led in the pledge of allegiance.

Allan commented that there wasn't a lot on the agenda. He then welcomed public comment.

Public Comment:

Diane Ostermann commented on the email she had sent to the township officials, regarding the risks of having wind turbines. (Made part of the minutes.)

Carleen Jones asked where are you proposing to put these turbines? Allan reported that there will be a public hearing Wed. 2/20/13 at 6:00 pm. and that the turbines would be located east of 96. Allan's personal opinion is that the county needs to be energy independent and one way to do that is to allow the expansion of alternatives. Tom Jessup asked if there has been any wind studies done? Allan said there has not been any test towers in Casco.

Mr Ostermann mentioned his concerns that the wind turbines would cause problems to the environment and the farmers.

Minutes:

Minutes of Jan. 21, 2013 were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Lu Winfrey reported that the

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|-----------------------|---------|--------------|
| General Fund | Balance | \$411,033.95 |
| Parks Fund | " | \$ 17,978.92 |
| Senior Services | " | \$ 492.69 |
| Fire Dept | " | \$426,420.39 |
| Road Fund | " | \$ 26,538.32 |
| Cemetery Care Fund" | | \$133,178.20 |
| Collected Tax Acct. " | | \$624,015.53 |

Lu made the motion to approve the following

- General Fund Orders#21891-21948 in the amount of \$ 24,704.44
- Collected Tax Orders#2794-2811 in the amount of \$519.893.86
- Fire Fund Orders#3905 in the amount of \$ 94,330.25
- Parks Fund Orders#337-343 in the amount of \$ 17,978.92
- Seniors Fund Orders#353-357 in the amount of \$ 4,240.23

Cheri Brenner seconded Lu's motion. Motion carried. All in favor.

Seniors Report:

Rachel Brenner reported that Casco Seniors has completely moved into their new office at the township hall. She also mentioned about a Health Fair that will be at the Casco Church on Thursday, 2/21/2013 at 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Parks and Recreation:

Pam Blough reported that this Wed. 2/20/13 at 9:00am at the LCC Campus West in Lansing that her and Julie Cowie are attending. Julie is planning to do a slide show and to thank them for funding the park. The actual trust fund board will be there to see what casco has accomplished.

Pam also stated that the committee is looking for a special event policy for the Preserve.

Pam also stated that the interpretive signing will be installed by May 1, 2013. Then at that point we

will be able to receive our final reimbursement.

Mr. Ostermann mentioned that he is concerned about the trees and urged the parks committee to look at areas where new trees can be established.

Library Report:

Robert Sherwood reported that this the time of year to send a report to the State.

He also mentioned that anything overdue over 90 days will be sent to Unique Management to collect at a charge of \$8.95 each.

County Report:

Tom Jessup reported that the new jail should be completed by Oct. or Nov. There will be some tours arranged for the public etc. and a special tour for township officials.

He also reported that the Allegan County Treasurer is taking applications from eligible property owners for help to pay past due property taxes with the Step Forward Michigan Campaign.

Hospital Report:

Judy Graff reported that the hospital will be opening, in May, an Urgent Care Hospital and the hours will be from 11:00 am to 9:00 pm. The hospital has an electronic record systems now.

Al van:

Lu was unable to attend because of tax collection.

Water and Sewer:

There will be a joint meeting with South Haven March 27, 2013 at 7:00pm. here at Casco Township Hall.

Judy Graff asked if we will have info on mandatory hookups? Allan said there will be information on that at the March 27th meeting and other information.

SHAES

SHAES annual reports were received.

Old Business:

There is no drain update due to the drain commission left for a week for a conference and we haven't been able to hear from them because of that.

Resolution to Change Board of Review Dates was presented.

Allan read the resolution Brenner made motion to support and Lu Winfrey seconded. Motion carried.

Resolution to Allow Written Appeals

Allan read the resolution. Judy Graff made motion to support the resolution and Lu Winfrey seconded. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Allan to approve the Appointments to the Board of Review; Joe Tubilewicz, Blanche Wilkinson, Richard D. Barden, and Ken Dewitte as an alternate.

Seconded by Lu Winfrey.

Allan read letter from Fairmont Minerals they stated that there had not been any activity in Casco for 2012. Allan said that we entered into a consent judgement for 10 years and that ten years is up and their permit has expired.

Bill Sill asked if there was anything that we need to be doing?

Allan said people were having problems digging irrigation ponds and a special permit was required. Current regulations allow for a pond to be dug and 100,000 yards of sand to be moved off site.

Blue Star Trail

Judy Graff stated that clearly we do support the trail but the township does not want to own it.

Allan stated that we got a request to be the entity to seek a grant from the DNR fund and we requested to be the entity to do that. Pam Blough said if the township applies for a grant we

cannot be in the position to apply for a development grant for the nature preserve expansion. Judy said a lot of things can be done by the county and we have decided that this trail can not be our priority at this time.

Roads

Allan stated that the board will have to consider repaving and resealing requests in addition to the standard road improvements.

In response to David Diny we will be able to spot treat areas that are in need of dust control. The county will supply mowing and the township will pay for additional mowing.

Mr. Ostermann asked what is in the dust layer treatment that is used? Overhiser stated that it is a sodium chloride and that it is state regulated. Allan then passed around a map of roads that need to be regradeled. There are some roads that need to be resealed or repaved. Glenn Shores, 107th and 71st need to be repaved. Sixty Eighth is going to be resealed starting in Ganges into Casco. Overhiser also stated that we are waiting for estimates to come back from the Road Commission before we can finalize the road budget.

John Geisler asked what is going to be done in Glenn Shores and Allan said that we are waiting for the estimate to come back. Judy Graff asked what it would cost to pave the parking lot at the hall? She also asked if we could add this to the list for our road budget?

Website

Allan passed out Julie Cowie's proposal to maintain the website.

Judy Graff made a motion to approve the proposal and Josiah Jessup seconded. Motion Carried.

Motion made to adjourn by Judy Graff and Josiah Jessup seconded. Adjourned at 9:24 pm.

Minutes prepared by Cheri Brenner, Casco Township Clerk