

APPROVED 1-15-14

Regular Meeting of the Casco Township Planning Commission
December 4, 2013 - 7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bruce Barker, Daniel Fleming, David Campbell, Judy Graff, Lewis Adamson, Paul Macyauski, and Dian Liepe

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Susan West, Recording Secretary

1. **Call to Order and review of agenda.** Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. There were no changes to the agenda.
2. **Approval of minutes of 11/13/13 - Regular Monthly Meeting & 11/13/13 - Public Hearing on Zoning Ordinances Chapters 15 & 17 and Definitions.** Motion by Fleming, supported by Graff to approve the Minutes of the November 13, 2013 Regular Meeting as written. All in favor, MSC. Motion by Fleming, supported by Graff to approve the Minutes of the November 13, 2013 Continued Public Hearing as written. All in favor, MSC.
3. **Public Comment & Correspondence** - An e-mail dated November 20, 2013 from Cheri Brenner to Bruce Barker regarding the Minutes of the November 13, 2013 Regular Meeting was received and is attached hereto as attachment 1. This e-mail states that the cemetery software has been installed for several months and that Janet DeWitte has been diligently entering information.
4. **Report from the Township Board Representative** – Graff reported on the following from the November, 2013 Board Meeting:
 - a. An administrator from the South Haven Hospital presented updates and reported that they received a Hospital of the Year Award.
 - b. State Representative Bob Genetski gave an update on new legislature.
 - c. Discussion was had on the police proposal. A survey has been sent out to get public opinion.
 - d. An update on the park stairs: the stairs are being worked on and should be ready for use in the spring.
 - e. Requests for road improvements were discussed, which included 71st St., Mt. Pleasant, Lakeview, 60th St. (this cost would be split with Lee Township if approved), paving of Township Hall parking lot. Fleming stated that it would probably be cheaper to use seal coating on the parking lot.
 - f. Bids will be accepted with respect to maintenance of the transfer station
 - g. It was approved for Bill Sill to provide snow plowing for this winter.
 - h. Allan Overhiser and Graff will be checking into salaries for Board Members, staff, etc because it appears that Casco is very low compared to other townships.

- i. Allan Overhiser will be learning how to use the Public Address System so that it can be put into use.
- j. The Board hasn't received any information regarding the North Shore Drain System, so the same will probably not happen.
- k. Graff stated that at the last public meeting, she reported that the Parks Fund owes the General Fund \$235,000.00, but that actually the figure is \$115,000.00.

Graff also stated that Matt Super is now the 3rd representative for Casco Township on the Water & Sewer Board.

- 5. Report from the ZBA representative** – Macyauski reported that in November, a variance was granted to Gary Pines to build an addition to his home on the corner lot of C Street and B Avenue and that it did not exceed the 25% lot coverage provision.

Macyauski also stated that in October, 2013, a variance request from The Gail Halperin Trust was denied because it would have been well over the 25% lot coverage provision.

- 6. Report from Water/Sewer representative** - Adamson reported as follows:

- a. Matt Super is the new member of the Board and has already attended two meetings.
- b. Meijer has paid their bill and that the bond payment in the Spring will be able to be made.
- c. Regarding Mandatory Hook-Ups, Casco has done 2 and South Haven has done 11. Casco still needs to do 17 and South Haven needs to do 27. The attorney is being asked to send out another letter to those that still need to be done. Graff asked when this letter is expected to be sent and Adamson answered that they hope it will go out before the end of this year. Liens can be made once the attorney approves the same.
- d. Chairman Barker inquired about Miami Park and Adamson answered that the Attorney will be sending the Authority a letter expressing dissatisfaction.
- e. Graff asked if everything is being done to get the money with respect to mandatory hook-ups that still need to be done and Adamson answered yes.
- f. Several problems were found during the smoke test, but repairs will be made and that overall, things are looking up.

- 7. Old Business-** Chairman Barker reported that a complete update of the Zoning Book has been presented to the Board and that he would like to thank everyone who worked on same for all their hard work.

8. New Business: Future PC Meetings

- 1. Chairman Barker asked for suggestions on topics for the Special Joint Training Meeting scheduled for February 8, 2014. Graff stated that the police enforcement issue would be a

possible topic. Macyauski asked if there have been individuals identified in Minutes of past Township Board Meetings who are concerned about police protection. Chairman Barker indicated that a Survey is being sent out to township residents regarding this matter. Graff stated that she has heard the following remarks in opposition to the mileage: no more taxes, I have a gun in my house and can defend myself, the sheriff's response time is good (this came from a resident on 109th). Macyauski stated that the public needs to be better informed.

Graff stated that another possible topic would be an update on sewer & water. Chairman Barker indicated that water & sewer will be covered under the infrastructure section.

Chairman Barker stated that Alfred Ellingsen will be at the December 11, 2013 meeting regarding the proposed winery and that Ellingsen will be e-mailing his comments in preparation for this meeting in the next few days. Ellingsen doesn't expect any real controversy.

The 2014 Annual Calendar for the Planning Commission will be published in the South Haven Tribune next week.

Adamson stated that he will not be able to attend the January, 2014 Regular Meeting.

9. Public Comment: none

Next Meeting: Meeting on proposed 64th Street wholesale winery on December 11, 2013 at 6:00 pm

Motion to adjourn by Graff, 2nd by Macyauski. All in favor, MSC. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm

Minutes prepared by Susan West, Recording Secretary

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