

**VILLAGE OF CASSOPOLIS  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
June 10, 2019**

President Johnson called the Regular Meeting of the Cassopolis Village Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

Council Members Present: Yoder, Parsons, Conner, Johnson, Williams, Sims and Wagner  
Council Members Absent:

Pledge of Allegiance was given in unison.

**Consent Agenda:** Parsons motioned, seconded by Wagner to approve the following consent agenda as presented:

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes – May 13, 2019
- b. Approval of Invoices - \$217,564.26

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ayes: Parsons, Conner, Johnson, Williams, Sims, Wagner, Yoder

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent:

**Motion Carried.**

**Public Comment(s) on Agenda Items:**

None.

**Department Reports:**

Clerk: See report.

Treasurer: See report.

Police/Code Enforcement: See report.

Building Inspector: See report.

Electrical Inspector: See report.

Plumbing/Mechanical Inspector: See report.

DPW Superintendent: See report.

Manager: See report.

Reports accepted as presented.

Council and Staff discussed:

- Staffing of public works
- The MSHDA Grant and how the Council will be able to help
- Juvenile incidents, larcenies, and the reserve officer
- Progress of the Pokagon Band sewer contract
- Industrial park expansion by Midwest and a potential water/sewer regional authority

**New Business:**

- A. Approval of Demolition Bid: Parsons motioned, seconded by Sims to approve the contract with Cross Excavating in the amount of \$60,863 for the demolitions of Village owned properties and the two

condemned properties pending statutory waiting period. South Bend Specialty Systems will complete the asbestos removal in old Village Hall.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ayes: Conner, Johnson, Williams, Sims, Wagner, Yoder and Parsons

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent:

**Motion Carried.**

- B. Approval of Tree Removal (See Attachment 9): Williams motioned, seconded by Yoder to approve Grimes Tree Service in the amount of \$7,550 for the removal of the attached trees with proper insurance provided prior to start of service. There are four trees to be removed that are dangerous and tearing up the sidewalks.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ayes: Johnson, Williams, Sims, Wagner, Yoder, Parsons and Conner

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent:

**Motion Carried.**

- C. Approval of 2019/2020 Budget & Budget Resolution (See Attachment 10): Parsons motioned, seconded by Sims to approve Resolution 2019-8; Village of Cassopolis budget for the term of July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020. The Village Clerk provided an overview of new things that were different from the normal operating procedural items. Sidewalk maintenance in Major Streets fund was increased to \$10,000. Discussion ensued regarding a few items including equipment purchases, sidewalks and downtown decorations.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ayes: Williams, Sims, Wagner, Yoder, Parsons, Conner and Johnson

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent:

**Motion Carried.**

**Miscellaneous Council Concerns/Items:**

Yoder asked about her offer to sell her property to the Village. Village Manager Sarratore informed her that the discussion will be placed on the Workshop agenda. Obtaining that property will decrease the cost of the retaining wall and fill dirt needed for the Municipal Complex.

Wagner thanked Village Manager Sarratore for getting the CAUA agreement finalized; it wasn't an easy process to get everything addressed and fixed. It was an excellent agreement and there is something that is a win for everyone.

Williams asked about the final decision on medical marijuana. Village Manager Sarratore stated the Council has the final decision after the Planning Commission makes their recommendation. Williams also wanted to know what is happening with the weeds behind the Twirl. Village Manager Sarratore explained those are wetlands and we will be working with DEQ to remove those for the beach area.

**Public Comments- Non-Agenda Items:**

Village Manager Sarratore informed everyone we have been awarded \$1,066,597 in grant money this year. We are waiting on another grant for \$300 thousand and she thanked everyone for their hard work to get that money.

Deborah Conley who owns the Artisan Shoppe, who is renting space in the old Lawrence Law Office building, thanked the Village for the support that she received. She wanted to express a concern regarding the marijuana smoke and noise coming from the Hideout next door and the legality of the public smoking in an establishment that holds a liquor license. Village Manager Sarratore explained the legality of what is happening. Johnson recommended that Deborah Conley should have the landlord call the police regarding the noise.

Ted Gogol provided an update and a handout on the treatment of Stone Lake. The harvesting is scheduled to happen the 24th to the 26<sup>th</sup> of June on 33 acres. The whitestem pondweed is the main problem right now, the Eurasian milfoil is under control now; less than one acre was treated this year. He also spoke on a potential grant for the lake. Village Manager Sarratore stated Paul Hausler is looking into more information about the grant and will get back with us. Wagner believes the harvesting is happening at the right time, in the future years the weeds should not continue to come back. Wagner also asked what people will do with the whitestem pondweed. Gogol stated it can be used for fertilizer. Conner expressed he's noticed a difference in the amount of recreational activities happening on the lake and it is nice.

**Announcements:** None.

**Adjournment:**

President Johnson declared the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. by unanimous agreement.

---

David L. Johnson, Village President

---

Tonia Betty, Village Clerk