

**VILLAGE OF CASSOPOLIS
WORKSHOP MEETING
February 27, 2017**

President Johnson called the Workshop Meeting of the Cassopolis Village Council to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Council Members Present: Yoder, Parsons, Jackson-Ash, Johnson, Williams, Sims and Wagner
Council Members Absent:

Pledge of Allegiance was given in unison.

Approval of Agenda: Yoder motioned, seconded by Wagner to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion Carried.

Public Comment(s) on Agenda Items: None.

Updates:

- A. Old Fire Station: There has been some interest in the potential purchase of the building. A mason will come do an evaluation on the exterior bricks in the next 2 weeks. A realtor will also be doing a valuation on the property as well.
- B. Evacuation Signs/plans: The Village should have a more detailed evacuation plan and we are working on that project.
- C. Tree Removal: Grimes was able to provide a certificate of liability insurance but there are some additional concerns regarding it. We will still go out for two additional quotes according to our policy.
- D. Stone Lake Board: The first board meeting was held where Ted Gogol was appointed the chairman and a fifth member was appointed. Progressive worked on updating maps and McGrew Assessing will be asked to complete the tax roll for the special assessment district. The public hearing for the improvements will be on March 28th.
- E. Schwintek/Postle Close Out (See Attachment 1): The close out public hearing for both grants was held before this meeting which summarized the two projects. MEDC provided the Village a close out letter stating there were no compliance problems.
- F. Drawing Courses (See Attachment 2): The Cass Area Artists meeting will be having free drawing classes on Monday's at the Library for grades 1-12 and adults are \$12 per class beginning March 6, 2017.
- G. Cass Area Artists Art Show (See Attachment 3): They will be having a summer show and art sale on July 15th. The Manager would like to see the Village support and work with surrounding organizations.

New Action Items:

- A. Sale of old dump site (See Attachment 4): Our attorney provided us with a memo that gave some of the ramifications of selling the property. The contract with the seller should include an indemnification/hold harmless clause. While it was a dump site there were rules of what could and could not be dumped. We will have to disclose if we have knowledge if the rules were broken.
- B. Pier: Main Street has been approached about a donation of a pier at Stone Lake. There is a minimal additional fee to add this to our insurance policy. There was some discussion about whether the DPW or the Main Street should be responsible for the maintenance of it. Council would like more information on this before a final decision is made.
- C. Ice Grant/Capital Improvement Plan (See Attachment 5): The preliminary assessment from the engineers that were brought in and Wightman is pipe fatigue on the force main. The meeting with DEQ went well; they appreciate the communication we have had with them and do not intend to fine us. At this time, they also agree with the assessment of pipe fatigue. MEDC put out a round of ICE (Infrastructure Capacity Enhancement) Funding for \$500K and match of 10%; we would like to apply for this grant funding to replace a section of the force main. In order to qualify for this funding, an application will have to be put in by April 7th and the Village must have an approved CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) in place. DEQ will also write us a letter of support for this project. Once this is complete we can begin to work on the master plan and make sure it is in line with the CIP.
- D. Weather Siren (See Attachment 6): There is a weather siren at the old fire station that is not functioning since the electricity to the building was turned off. The maintenance contract for the siren will be \$425 per year. Options and suggestions of what to do with the siren and building were discussed.

Miscellaneous: Council Concerns/Items:

Johnson spoke about the boat yard behind Squires and he would like to see this cleaned up.

Jackson-Ash asked about the seating area and stairs at Stone Lake.

Manager Sarratore informed the Council that the Clerk was featured in the Horizons magazine. She gave an update on the demolition of the old bowling alley and informed Jackson-Ash that the stairs for the seating area at Stone Lake are phase 2 of the project.

Yoder commented that 306 E. State St is looking better since the demolition has begun.

Willams asked about sending a letter asking the owner of Park Shore golf course to re-open the business.

Public Comments-Non Agenda Items: None

Announcements: None

Adjournment:

President Johnson declared the meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m. by unanimous agreement.

Respectfully submitted: _____
Tonia Betty, Village Clerk

Reviewed by: _____
David L. Johnson, Village President