

**VILLAGE OF CASSOPOLIS  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
May 22, 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:** Wagner motioned, seconded by Sims to approve the agenda with the addition of Item F. Word of Life Block Party.

**Motion Carried.**

**Public Comment(s) on Agenda Items:** None.

**Updates:** None.

**New Action Items:**

- A. **Draft Budget (See Attachment 1):** This budget is very conservative but also includes some specific projects such as blight demolitions, an updated master plan and site plans for a new building. The cash balances in each fund were presented; it was discussed that even though the budget is tight we are not planning on pulling from our cash reserves to complete any of the projects set forth in the draft budget.
- B. **Draft Budget Amendments (See Attachment 2):** These budget amendments are in preparation for the end of the fiscal year. While we may not spend the additional money requested, we need to make sure there is enough in the budget to cover any costs that may come up to avoid an audit finding.
- C. **Tax Reverted Properties (See Attachment 3):** These properties have reverted to the County due to unpaid property taxes and are available for sale. The Council would like more information on the parcels on S. O'Keefe and what they can or cannot do with it.
- D. **Building Permit Fee Schedule (See Attachment 4):** Rich Drews provided this schedule that is similar to the one he uses at other municipalities and would like to streamline the fee schedule to supplement what is in our ordinance. There are some changes that would need to be made to make this clearer and specific to the eligible permits in the Village.
- E. **Water Rate Change:** During this budget process we tried to come up with a solution to not increase the water rates above the annual 5% and not have to pull money from savings to cover the expenditures for the year. One solution is to decrease the water scale from 4,000 to 3,000 gallons per month this year and then decrease to 2,000 the following year. We can do it for two years and then re-visit the numbers to determine if it this change will still be necessary. Council will be presented with some examples to see exactly how this will work.
- F. **Word of Life Block Party:** The Word of Life Church is planning a Block Party on Harding St. July 30<sup>th</sup> from 5-9pm and wanted to make sure that the Council was not opposed to this.

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**Miscellaneous: Council Concerns/Items:**

Jackson-Ash asked for an update on the bricks.

Williams would like for the council to consider doing away with the Workshop or maybe taking a break for the summer and if necessary then call a Workshop.

Jackson-Ash and Parsons and Sims all expressed that they get something beneficial out of the Workshops and appreciate the discussion.

**Public Comments-Non Agenda Items:**

Manager Sarratore informed everyone that the plan is to have the bricks in the ground in about 2 weeks. She gave a reminder that Cheri is retiring at the end of June and asked for suggestions of what we can do for her. She also advised that after workshop questions should be asked and discussed before the Council meeting and will help it to go faster.

Ben announced the flag placing at the Cemetery will be this Saturday at 10 a.m.

**Announcements:** None

**Adjournment:**

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

Respectfully submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tonia Betty, Village Clerk

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
David L. Johnson, Village President