

**VILLAGE OF CASSOPOLIS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
July 13, 2020**

President Pro-tem Williams called the Regular Meeting of the Cassopolis Village Council to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Council Members Present: Luckey, Parsons, Conner, Williams, Danzy-Yeager and Wagner

Council Members Absent: Johnson

Pledge of Allegiance was given in unison.

Consent Agenda: Wagner motioned, seconded by Parsons to approve the following consent agenda as presented with the addition of a Lake Board update from Ted Gogol prior to the Managers Update:

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes – June 8, 2020
- b. Special/Workshop Meeting Minutes – June 22, 2020
- c. Approval of Invoices - \$315,902.93
- d. Ordinance 263 (2nd Reading)
- e. Ordinance 264 (2nd Reading)
- f. Administrative Rules
- g. Business Permit Application
- h. Resolution 2020-11

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Parsons, Conner, Williams, Danzy-Yeager, Wagner and Luckey

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent: Johnson

Motion Carried.

Public Comment on Agenda or Non-Agenda Items:

None.

Lake Board Update

Ted Gogol provided an update from the Lake Board with the treatment maps and total acres treated. The lake was reviewed before and after the treatment and harvesting. 15 acres were chemically treated and 38 acres were harvested.

Managers Update

Village Manager Sarratore gave an update on the Village social media pages, new utility billing format on paper instead of postcards to better communicate with the residents, and a news article in the July issue of On and Around the Water.

New Business

- A. Property Tax Issues (See Attachment 2): Wagner motioned, seconded by Parsons to approve the removal of the \$100 lawn cutting fee on property 14-041-125-045-00, and to remove Parcel Id's 14-041-136-064-00 and 14-041-119-005-00 from the property tax roll for the Village of Cassopolis and LaGrange Township as they are now Village owned properties.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Conner, Williams, Danzy-Yeager, Wagner, Luckey and Parsons

Council Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2020

1 | Page

Nays:
Abstain:
Absent: Johnson

Motion Carried.

- B. Foreclosure Properties (See Attachment 3): Wagner motioned, seconded by Conner to approve Resolution 2020-12 to purchase property 14-041-103-015-00 and 14-041-110-003-00 from the County in the amount of \$10,308.68.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Conner, Williams, Danzy-Yeager, Wagner, Luckey and Parsons
Nays:
Abstain:
Absent: Johnson

Motion Carried.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Bob Fiala believes that the residents on the lake are not getting the proper harvesting and the tax money is not being used properly because he has to rake the weeds in front of his property regularly.

Fran McCann said the harvester bypassed his property and the residents are not getting the proper service.

Cathy McCann asked about getting information about the lake and treatment. She is also concerned about the amount of people on the lake. Village Manager stated the information was provided when the Lake Board was created and meetings are twice a year.

Dave Strefling agrees with the sentiment of the other homeowners on the lake and believes that the treatment is only happening in front of one homeowners property.

Jan Strefling stated she should not be paying the special assessment if they are not getting the service.

Village Manager Sarratore responded to the complaints, informing the residents that Ted Gogol is the president of the Lake Board and this issue is handled by them. She has been called by several homeowners about the treatment and harvesting and addressed those concerns with the biologist Paul Hausler and was present for the review of the lake before and after treatment and harvesting. Mike Grice confirmed that the issues were addressed with Paul Hausler.

Williams suggested going to the Lake Board meetings and the Village Manager will make sure they get notice of the meetings. If there are issues with the cars and traffic on the lake they should contact the police department.

JJ Smith asked about the ordinance. Village Manager Sarratore stated that it passed.

- C. Chief LaValle's Employment Status (See Attachment 4): Wagner motioned, seconded by Luckey to go into closed at 7:17 pm to discuss personnel matters as requested by Chief Brian LaValle.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Williams, Danzy-Yeager, Wagner, Luckey, Parsons and Conner
Nays:
Abstain:
Absent: Johnson

Motion Carried.

Wagner motioned, seconded by Parsons to come out of closed session at 7:40 p.m.

Motion Carried.

Conner motioned, seconded by Parsons to approve Chief LaValle to be a direct hire of the Village, no longer under contract and to be governed by the Employee Handbook with annual reviews and raises given by the Village Manager.

Motion Carried.

Miscellaneous Council Concerns/Items

None.

Adjournment:

President Pro-tem Williams declared the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m. by unanimous agreement.

Frank Williams, Jr., President Pro-tem

Tonia Betty, Village Clerk