

**VILLAGE OF CASSOPOLIS
SPECIAL/WORKSHOP MEETING
May 24, 2021**

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

Roll Call:

Council Members Present: Luckey, Kelly, Conner, Johnson Williams, Danzy-Yeager and Pedersen
Council Members Absent:

The Pledge of Allegiance was given in unison.

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

New Business:

- A. Contract with Cass County for Fairgrounds Lane (See Attachment 1): Pedersen motioned, seconded by Kelly to approve the contract to repave Fairgrounds Lane for \$6,730.95 (Village portion). Since the Road Commission mainly uses this road, they have proposed to partner with us and pay 55% of this project.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Kelly, Conner, Johnson, Williams, Danzy-Yeager, Pedersen and Luckey

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

Motion Carried.

- A. Resolution supporting the submission of a Risk Reduction Grant Application to the Par Plan (See Attachment 2): Williams motioned, seconded by Conner to approve Resolution 2021-6 as presented. The request for this grant will be the \$5,000 max for rubber mulch at the parks. There is no match for this grant.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Conner, Johnson, Williams, Danzy-Yeager, Pedersen, Luckey and Kelly

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

Motion Carried.

- B. Resolution Authorizing the Village of Cassopolis to Apply to the Michigan Strategic Fund for the water-related infrastructure funding round for the Rowland Street Improvement Project (See Attachment 3): Williams motioned, seconded by Conner to approve Resolution 2021-7 as presented. This is the resolution connected to the public hearing we just had. This grant is for \$2 million with match funding of \$407,000 to repave Rowland Street and address all underground infrastructure along the way delineated in our asset management plans.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Johnson, Williams, Danzy-Yeager, Pedersen, Luckey, Kelly and Conner

Nays:
Absent:
Abstain:

Motion Carried.

- C. Resolution Authorizing the Village of Cassopolis to Partner with The Michigan State Housing and Development Authority and Apply for the MSHDA MOD Grant (See Attachment 4): Conner motioned, seconded by Pedersen to approve Resolution 2021-8 as presented. This is for a \$190,000 grant to build a house in the Village and address the housing need. The goal is to recover any Village costs through closing. The City of Dowagiac just did this and has their house listed for sale. MSHDA sometimes offers programs to help with financing for homeowners.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Williams, Danzy-Yeager, Pedersen, Luckey, Kelly, Conner and Johnson
Nays:
Absent:
Abstain:

Motion Carried.

- D. Resolution to establish a request for funding, designate an agent, attest to the existence of funds and commit to implementing a maintenance program for Stone Lake Drive and Forest Shores Drive improvements funded by the Transportation Economic Development Fund Category B Program (See Attachment 5): Danzy-Yeager motioned, seconded by Kelly to approve Resolution 2021-9 as presented. This is the same grant we were awarded for our Parkshore Drive project. We may have to wait for this since we currently have a grant in process, but we want to get on their list. There are five houses going up this year on that road and it definitely needs reconstruction. The match would be \$157,250 plus \$30,000 in engineering.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Danzy-Yeager, Luckey, Kelly, Conner, Johnson and Williams
Nays:
Absent:
Abstain: Pedersen

Motion Carried.

Old Business:

- A. Parking: Parking maps are being created for the Beach Bash to help people be aware of what is available. Council discussed an option of purchasing a house for sale on Disbrow next to Village owned property to create additional parking, in the mean time we could hold it and rent it out. Council expressed they would not want to tear down a house to create parking. Another option is to create some parking behind the Fifth Third parking lot and they were in favor of that option.
- B. Stone Lake Treatment Update: The review of Stone Lake happened last week and Ted Gogol gave an update on the survey. The chemical treatment is scheduled for this Wednesday to treat any milfoil which includes a 24-hour restriction from swimming. The rest of the budget will be used for the harvesting of whitestem pondweed. The algae were high this year because of the weather and that will also be addressed.

Miscellaneous Council Concerns/Items:

Johnson said parking is the most exciting problem we've ever had in Cassopolis and loves to see everyone walking around.

Public Comment:

Kari Lee asked about the open part of the pier; her son was pushed off and would like some signs to be posted there. She also expressed her concern for people drinking and smoking weed there and wants to know who will be there to clean up. She was informed a worker will be there to clean up soon. Village Manager Sarratore also explained that everything is not finished so we will have signs, life jackets and buoys coming to help with safety. Some additional garbage cans were ordered as well.

Carolyn Kelly asked about having a water feature that would starve the oxygen to the algae.

Felomina Patton said the improvements are extraordinary and is proud of what has been done. She had a question about the cleanliness of the water and the consumption of chemicals being sprayed in the lake. Village Manager Sarratore explained that the biologist evaluates the water and the companies are using proven, safe chemicals certified through the state of Michigan. Ted Gogol suggested we could consider water testing and report each month beach is open. Village Manager Sarratore expressed it was tested years ago and just had a bad reputation but the water was clean and the lake just had a weed problem.

JJ Smith asked about tentative location of the water park and offered to donate to cover some of the costs.

Adjournment:

President Johnson declared the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m. by unanimous agreement.

Respectfully submitted: _____
Tonia Betty, Village Clerk

Reviewed by: _____
David L. Johnson, Village President