

**VILLAGE OF CASSOPOLIS
SPECIAL/WORKSHOP MEETING
June 28, 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: Danzy Yeager motioned, seconded by Williams, to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda:

A. Budget Amendments (See Attachment 1): Pedersen motioned, seconded by Williams to approve the budget amendments as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

Motion Carried.

Zoom Discussion regarding Stone Lake:

Matt Diana from the DNR attended the meeting via Zoom to discuss the concerns regarding the treatment of Stone Lake. He expressed that the fish that died in Stone Lake should not be a matter of concern because it was not over a hundred fish. The fish that died could have been due to multiple reasons and not necessarily connected to the chemical treatment that was used. The DNR works with EGLE and are no longer allowing copper sulfate to be used during the spawning season. Kelly asked some follow up questions regarding the items he addressed.

Business for Discussion:

A. SMART Park Covenants (See Attachment 2): We've been working with Abonmarche who MEC hired to work on the land use, zoning and planning for the park. Council discussed the train there blocking traffic, water tower and maintenance of it, storm drains and roads, and future sewer upgrades.

B. Old Fire Station Property (See Attachment 3): We no longer need this property; it was used temporarily by DPW and the contractors. Everyone is done and out of the building now. Council must declare this property no longer needed for public purpose. The notice will be posted and the Council can vote on the resolution at the next regular meeting. There were some property splits so the parcels being sold are the old fire station and the parcel next to it that used to be the location of the old Village Hall.

Public Comment:

Justin asked is the public can get copies of the agenda and he can get an email copy of the agenda. He was provided a copy of the agenda and it can be emailed if he provides an email address. He asked what improvements will the village need to take on the extra load at the SMART park. He also asked about the

boundaries for the old fire station. Village Manager Sarratore responded with the boundaries of the old fire station and that infrastructure upgrades are all accounted for in the SMART Park budget and anything in the future will be Village responsibility.

Karee Krouse introduced herself; she is the new County Veterans Affairs Director and is glad to be back in the community.

Mike Grice asked about advertising on the electric billboards and what the fees would be. Karee Krouse would like to advertise with the Village on the digital banners as well. Village Manager Sarratore stated we are not sure of the cost for that yet, but we would want to offset the maintenance costs and work with MDOT to follow their regulations for it. The goal is to help the businesses and inform the community of what's going on.

Fran McCann was confused about the lake board approving the potential water park. Johnson said that his comment was a mistake and apologized for the error, the State approves the potential water park and has nothing to do with the lake board.

Ted Gogol provided an update on the final survey of the lake, which happened today. There were three small spots of milfoil and looks good after the treatment and harvesting. The lake board will have a meeting to discuss the final survey after boating season most likely in the fall. Pedersen commented about the pondweed is in front of his house and his struggles to fish there and asked for some clarification on the Stone Lake Board.

Robin First wanted to discuss any new progress for another park on the south side. She suggested some properties and that we work with the school. Johnson said there were a few properties discussed and she wanted to know what properties were discussed by the board.

Kimberly asked if the community was notified of the concerns regarding the park. Johnson replied it was discussed at a meeting, there was also drain water issues and the cost to fix did not make sense. There was some additional discussion regarding placement of equipment, purchasing new equipment and a budget for that.

Manager Update:

Park Shore Dr. is still moving, the Beach and Streetscape are substantially complete with some things being tweaked and finalized. Stefon and his crew has the snack shack open 7 days a week and is going well. The Rock the Block concert series is about to begin with the next one being July 17th. The old train depot should be open that day as well. The NEP grant is available and we will be accepting applications through July 9th. Village Manager Sarratore informed council she will be out of the office the rest of the week but will be available by phone and email.

Miscellaneous Council Concerns:

Danzy-Yeager asked about signs for no trucks on O'Keefe and there is still a problem with cars and trucks speeding. She asked about signs and crosswalks and suggested a canopy to provide some shaded area at the beach. Village Manager Sarratore said she will let police know of those issues and will look into getting a portable umbrella.

Williams asked about more signs. Village Manager Sarratore said we are waiting for more.

Luckey expressed some issues with kids at the beach and parents are not saying anything to their kids; he suggested getting a megaphone. Village Manager Sarratore said the hope is with the snack shack being open and staffed with 2 people in village shirts it should keep the kids more accountable.

Adjournment:

President Johnson declared the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. by unanimous agreement.

Respectfully submitted: _____
Tonia Betty, Village Clerk

Reviewed by: _____
David L. Johnson, Village President