

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP
Cass County, Michigan
24725 Jefferson Center Street
Cassopolis, MI 49031

Board of Trustees Minutes
October 13, 2022, 6:30 PM

Call to Order & Roll Call: Supervisor Hass called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
Present: Hass, Brunner, Bundle. Absent: Glaze, Gillam.

Additional attendees: Tammy Niemier – Edwardsburg School Board, Kevin and Rose Kelsheimer, Mike Grice - Commissioner, Aaron Mendenhall – Gemstone Solar, Bob and Nancy Wilson, Steve Allen, Wayne Hardin, Jeff Locke – Fire Chief, Merry Howie.

Pledge to the flag

Public Comments: Mr. Wilson – He wanted an update on his road repair request. Hass spoke with Cass County Road Commission; cannot repair private property on the turnaround but will maintain the road. Mike Grice – Cass County Land Bank, State of MI blight elimination program. \$200,000 per county available, may apply for more. Can apply to any type of building. Hass and Hardin have discussed possibilities. 84 inmates reported by Cass County Sheriff Office. Merry Howie – Candidate for Commissioner. Tammy Niemier – Presented Edwardsburg Public Schools new bond proposal for November 8th election.

Correspondence: None.

Approval of Minutes:

September 8, 2022, meeting minutes were presented. Motion by Hass, supported Brunner by to approved as presented. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Glaze absent. Reports not presented.

Payment of Bills:

Brunner presented payment of bills. Motion by Bundle, supported Hass by to approved as presented. Motion approved.

Old Business:

New Business:

Gemstone Solar – Approval of final site plans. Motion by Hass, supported by Brunner to approved. Motion approved.

Hire recording secretary for Planning & Zoning Commission – Susan Smith resigned. Tom Stephenson volunteered to replace her. Commission required to have Chairperson and Secretary. Township has had a

recording secretary in the past. Brunner submitted that we provide a recording secretary for other public hearings and mailings. Posting for position will be on township building and website. Commission required to meet four times a year. \$75 per meeting, mailings come out of Commission budget. Motion by Brunner, supported by Bundle to hire a recording secretary. Motion approved.

2022-2023 budget amendments –

1. Funds from Building and Grounds to cover 2nd Trustee position
2. Code Enforcement Steve Allen’s salary of \$2400. Zoning Administrator Wayne Hardin’s monthly payment of \$200 reduced to \$100 to help cover. May also come from Deputy Supervisor’s wage due to resignation of Harold Eltzroth.
3. Planning and Zoning Commission Recording Secretary may also be covered by Deputy Supervisor wage and Commission budget.

Motion by Hass, supported by Bundle to approved budget amendments. Motion approved.

Newsletter for winter tax mailing – Newsletter is ready. Township will print and provide to Cass County to prepare for mailing with tax bills.

Incoming Treasurer Mendenhall – Brunner spoke to Mendenhall in preparation for assuming the responsibilities. Rose Kelsheimer will stay on as Deputy Treasurer. Mendenhall will be sworn in on November 21st.

Donation of conference/other tables – Board agreed to donate to Jerrell Robertson’s company. They will pick up.

Inspectors Reports:

- **Zoning:** No permits submitted
- **Building:** Hardin had one permit.
- **Plumbing/Mechanical:** No permits submitted
- **Electrical:** Report submitted by Bellaire.
- **Blight Enforcement:** Allen provided reported to Brunner for inspections for September and October.

Emergency Services/Utilities:

- **Cass Ambulance:** Hass reported meeting held 9/8 at 6:30 PM. He will get a copy of the minutes.
- **Central Cass Fire Department:** Hass reported they meet quarterly. Chief Locke reported 176 calls to date.
- **Edwardsburg Fire Department:** Hass reported. Discussed pumper painted with proper lettering. Met with consultant for improvement. Eltzroth will provide written report.
- **CAUA:** Hass reported meeting is once a month on Monday. Last meeting it was determined that there will be no rate increases.

Planning & Zoning Commission:

Next meetings to complete zoning book revisions with Land Plan/Mark Eidelson and regular meeting:

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Brunner, Clerk

October 25th, 26th, November 16th (regular), 29th, 30th and December 7th, 2022.

Zoning Board of Appeals: No Business

Other Business: Brunner reported upcoming midterm election on November 8th. State of Michigan new pre-processing of absentee ballots change does not apply to Cass County, no townships in the county meet population requirements.

Next regular Board of Trustees meeting November 10, 2022

With no other business before the Board, meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM. Motion by Brunner, supported by Hass to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Brunner, Clerk