

Casnovia Township Regular Board Meeting
May 12th, 2025 at 7:00 PM

“This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”

Budget Public Hearing: called to order with Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Paul Black

Members Present: Supervisor Paul Black, Clerk Carrie Marlatt, Treasurer Penny Muma, Trustee Jason Jorgensen, Fire Chief David Jones

Members Absent: Trustee Todd Willick

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve agenda made by Marlatt, supported by Muma, Voice Vote 4 Ayes, 0 Nays; CARRIED

Approval of Minutes of Budget Public Hearing and Regular Board Meeting March 24th, 2025: Motion made by Marlatt, supported by Jorgensen; Roll Call Vote 4 Ayes, 0 Nays; CARRIED

Public Comment: Opened at 7:02 PM

Rob Norris spoke on zoning enforcement related to junk on Newaygo Rd.

Eldon Clough spoke on zoning enforcement related to junk on Newaygo Rd.

Ann Millett spoke of concern with the Township Hall office being closed during open business hours due to Senior Dinner scheduling.

Public Comment: Closed at 7:07 PM

Convention of States Presentation: Non-partisan group presentation defining their role in asking local governments to participate by the form of a resolution regarding Article V, addressing amendments to our Constitution. The Board will take the information under advisement.

REPORTS:

- 1. Fire Department:** Chief Jones presented the Incident Run Log, noting 20 calls from April 1st, 2025, to May 12th, 2025. A couple of members, including himself, attended a conference in Traverse City on administrative skills in the fire service. He spoke on the upcoming Pancake Breakfast, Sunday, May 18, from 8 AM to 11 AM. Updated the board on the status of the new brush truck’s modifications, a recent 3-acre residential field burn, and June’s senior dinner to be catered by the fire department.



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2. **Senior Resources:** Dinners on April 14th and May 8th, 2025, were catered by Red Rock, averaging 65 residents in attendance. The next dinner will be catered by the Fire Department and will take place on June 12th at the Bailey Christian Church. Black spoke on the challenges of dinner set-up, causing a temporary closing of the Township Hall for the period needed for such involvement.
3. **Treasurer Report:** Treasurer Muma reported April balances, CD renewals, and the negotiation with our credit card merchant to drop the monthly fee owed by the township and reduce processing fees to 2.8% for the next 3 years.
4. **Clerk Report:** Clerk Marlatt presented bills and payroll for payment approval. Motion to approve made by Jorgensen, supported by Muma; Voice Vote 4 Ayes, Nays 0; CARRIED.
5. **Zoning Administrator Report:** Supervisor Black announced the new Zoning Administrator through Fresh Coast Planning, Andrea Goodell. He also addressed two properties in litigation and spoke on the timely and costly process to enforce ordinance violations. The Newaygo Rd property judge's recommendation was not acted on within the time frame given; therefore, the Township will proceed with appropriate action defined by law. Also, he brought attention to the Board's commitment to support our ordinances, not limited to, but including unlicensed vehicles on properties and items that should be housed in structures. An ordinance officer was a possible recommendation.
6. **Supervisor Report:** Supervisor Black conveyed the completion of the township Dump Day and appreciated the efforts put forth by those who volunteered their time in assisting. Noted cemetery actions, including seeding, contacting Alpine Tree Service regarding remaining stumps after clearing. Advised that the township is seeking quotes to repair or replace the well pump at Seaman Cemetery. Gravel roads are scheduled to be brined on May 23rd. Working with Huron Environmental on maintenance-related issues, including broken risers and underground piping, may need to be addressed due to hydraulic overload. Looking at filing a report with the State to improve and increase the sewer district operation. An outfit from Muskegon will be used to do an assessment of accuracy in flows. Finally, Mr. Black commended the board as the 2024 fiscal year audit occurred with positive remarks given. Reports will be released next meeting.

Board Action Items

1. Resignation of the Planning Commission Chairman, Rick Sible; Motion to approve resignation made by Muma, supported by Jorgensen; Roll Call Vote 4 Ayes, 0 Nays; CARRIED



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Discussion Items

1. Board Comments: Supervisor Black relayed Trustee Willick's absence was due to a funeral
2. Next Regular Board Meeting –June 9th, 2025 at 7:00

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 7:56 PM made by Marlatt, seconded by Jorgensen;
CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,
Carrie Marlatt, Clerk