



245 S. Canada Rd.
Casnovia, MI 49318

T: (616)-675-4064
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Casnovia Township Regular Board Meeting May 11th, 2026 at 7:00 PM

Regular 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, and Trustee Todd Willick

Members Absent: None

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of a cemetery insurance claim at S. Casnovia Township Cemetery and an All Around Excavating bill to Board Action Items # 4, made by Marlatt, supported by Willick. Voice Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. CARRIED.

Motion to Approve Minutes: Motion to approve March 23rd, 2026, Budget Public Hearing and Regular Board Meeting Minutes made by Marlatt, supported by Muma. Voice Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Absent. CARRIED.

REPORTS:

1. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Jones presented the Incident Run Log, reporting 17 calls from March 23rd, 2026, through May 11th, 2026. Items noted were the upcoming public breakfast, bid for 12 sets of turnout gear with the cost of approximately \$45,000.00, agreement to host the July senior dinner, radio maintenance to occur May 15th, steel markers placed at new property to identify boundaries and training facility quotes. Marlatt spoke on efforts by the Chief and herself in applying for a state fire equipment grant with a recent suspension in applications due to anticipated modifications to eligibility requirements.

2. SENIOR RESOURCES:

The April 9th dinner had 56 in attendance. Dinner was provided by Red Rock Grille. The next dinner is scheduled for May 14th, at the Casnovia Township Hall.

3. TREASURER:

Muma presented the treasurer's report. She spoke on the financial reports reflecting current balances with the extended length between current and last meeting.

4. CLERK:

Marlatt prepared bills and payroll for payment approval. Motion to approve made by Willick, supported by Jorgensen. Voice Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Absent. CARRIED. Marlatt expressed public concern of the township board following Roberts Rules of Order, creating a policy for a consent agenda to vote for reports including approval of check register outside of board action items, post audit bill pay, cemetery concerns, May 5th, 2026 Special Election results with voter turnout and upcoming dates for ballot proposals, specifically the fire department operating and equipment millage renewal, and upcoming absence.

5. ZONING REPORT:

Black presented the April 2026 Zoning Report, noting complaints and enforcement. Also noted change in zoning staff and attendance from AES Representative regarding special land use permit, board action item #1.



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6. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Black reported the Muskegon County Road Commission and gravel road assessments with quotes/recommendations to be prepared regarding portions of Behler, Newaygo and Hall roads for board consideration. Brining of gravel roads looking to begin after Memorial Day, with current M46 detour creating additional concerns for gravel roads with MCRC to fund additional brining. Three days of ditching will occur at no cost to township, roads affected determined per the County. Information was presented per an article authored by Mike Homier from Foster Swift Attorney Firm regarding township challenges. Bailey Sewer district reports were shared with the board. A brief summary of the attendance at the MTA Annual Meeting was given. Appreciation was expressed to those who assisted with the township dump day. Lastly, mention of a June series of meetings for the purpose of public concerns to take place Tuesdays 6:30pm-8pm, potential dates to follow. The board responded by voicing multiple concerns regarding sewer management, transparency, and purchasing authority.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS:

1. Special Land Use Permit Application from AES - Motion to approve made by Jorgensen, supported by Marlatt. Roll Call Vote: 5 Ayes Black, Marlatt, Jorgensen, Willick, Muma, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. CARRIED
2. Resolution 2026-08 Financial Policy - Motion to approve made by Marlatt, supported by Willick. Roll Call Vote: 5 Ayes Black, Marlatt, Jorgensen, Willick, Muma, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. CARRIED
3. Purchase of File Cabinets for additional storage of parcel files per quote provided – Motion to approve made by Willick, supported by Jorgensen. Voice Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. CARRIED
4. Bill Payment Approval (HEC (2), Foster Swift, TJH Mechanical, All Around Excavating) – Motion to approve with the exception that moving forward nothing solely goes to the Supervisor for approval made by Marlatt, supported by Willick. Roll Call Vote: 5 Ayes Muma, Jorgensen, Black, Willick, Marlatt, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. CARRIED
5. Metro Contract Renewal – Motion to approve made by Willick, supported by Jorgensen. Roll Call Vote: 5 Ayes Black, Marlatt, Jorgensen, Willick, Muma, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. CARRIED
6. Cemetery Exhumation; reburial including relocation of headstone and foundation (2021 burial) – Motion to approve with the cap of \$900.00 made by Marlatt, supported by Willick. Voice Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. CARRIED
7. S. Casnovia Cemetery insurance claim. Motion to move forward with claim made by Marlatt, supported by Jorgensen. Voice Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Board Comments: Marlatt spoke on her conversation with MTA regarding data centers and potential moratorium available to adopt, will send information to board members.
2. Next Board Meeting – June 8th, 2026, at 7 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Began at 8:30 PM 12 in attendance

John Behler spoke on gravel road conditions

George Rusco spoke on public comment

Ann Millett spoke on prejudice during public comment

Rachal Gort spoke on board meeting procedure, reports with department heads in attendance, special meeting policy and general fund balance

Amanda White spoke on sewer related items

Judy Behler spoke on sewer related items

Eldon Clough spoke on new Fire Department Property, post audit definition, and financial policy



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Caleb Sible spoke on a zoning matter
Nick Hill spoke on transparency and gravel road conditions.
Comment closed at 8:55 PM

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 8:55 PM by Marlatt, seconded by Willick. CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,
Carrie Marlatt, Clerk