

**MINUTES OF THE
CASCADE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, October 7, 2015
7:00 P.M.

- Article 1.** Supervisor Beahan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Present: Supervisor Beahan, Clerk Goodyke, Treasurer Peirce, Trustee Lewis, Koessel, Goldberg and McDonald.
Absent: None
Also Present: Manager Swayze and DDA/ED Director Korhorn and those listed on Supplement #1.
- Article 2.** Supervisor Beahan led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- Article 3.** Motion was made by Trustee Lewis and supported by Trustee Koessel to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- Article 4. Presentations/Public Comments (limit comments to 3 minutes)**
- Jim Lareau, 2834 Thornapple River Dr.
- Questioned imminent domain
- Rebecca Sallgren, 2808 Thornapple River Dr.
- Why haven't homes been purchased that have been for sale the past 16 years.
- Karen Brechon, 2925 Cascade Springs
- Timeline for moving forward
 - Proposed park expansion plans
 - Who is pushing this project...public? Township?
- Ellen Waalkes, 7436 Ventura Dr.,
- Area of river has lots of rocks
 - Conditions change very radically
 - River is not so navigable
 - Safety concern...there is a lot of boat travel and it makes it difficult in narrow areas.
 - Should spend our tax dollars on developing the empty mall.
- Nancy Eardley, 1441 Sandy Point Ave.,
- disappointment in the transparency of this transaction.
 - Reviewed timeline of transaction
 - Township spent \$270,000 of tax dollars for a park that is difficult to understand why we need it.
 - Questioned FERC Flood Plain
 - What are your plans?
- Kirk Rottschafer, 2641 Cascade Springs,
- Who is going to patrol the river and enforce boating laws?
 - Who is going to control the public access to the islands?
 - Why not expand above the Cascade Dam?
 - Access to River a "morale right"? How is it right to have access to our backyards.
 - Our association owns the river bottom, cuts all the weeds, plants fish and does all the maintenance for that whole section of the river.
- Mr. Ron Young (no address given)
- A letter was read by Mr. Rottschafer...a copy was supplied to the Township.

Grace Miller, 2824 Thornapple River Dr.,

- concern about “imminent domain”.

Scott Barron, 2429 Cascade Springs Dr.,

- concern with people having access to “our waterfront”
- Items stolen from boats

Joel Harner, 7303 Grachen Dr., (president of the Thornapple River Assoc.)

- “stakeholder grouping” the Thornapple River Association was not mentioned.
- Problem with a boardwalk is the property is lower than Tassell Park.
- Concern with people launching kayaks and paddleboards...unsafe venture
- We are (Thornapple River Association Board) adamantly against any park expansion with the properties.

Doug Vickers, 2822 Thornapple River Dr.,

- concern about “boat launch” and the “park”
- but what are you going to do with me?

Roger Shammass, 2315 Cascade Springs Dr.,

- Thought this was a “private river”.
- Building another park seems to be a “waste of money”.
- The boat launch idea “blows me away” the water there is so shallow.
- Is there something we can do to submit a number of signatures that would persuade you from developing this potential park.

Brian Welch, 2809 Cascade Springs Dr.,

- what government organization “urged” the Township to buy the property in question.

Tom Ippel, 2861 Cascade Springs,

- was not aware this long term plan to develop the riverfront.
- Often very shallow...
- concerned about the number of people going down the river.

Jason Pater, 7314 Thornapple Park Dr.,

- echo the comments already made...
- lack of transparency.

Kim Shammass, 2315 Cascade Spring Dr.,

- never any concern about getting into Tassell Park...
- concern with boat ramp
- the water is incredibly shallow.

Manager Swayze stated he would get answers to all the questions/concerns brought to the Board.

Trustee McDonald and Goldberg offered comments regarding the residents concerns.

Mandy Morgan, 2808 Thornapple River Dr.,

- Will I get an offer on my property next spring?

Roger Hill, 2875 Cascade Springs,

- the public is aware of this now...potentially affecting home values.

Ellen Waalkes, 7436 Ventura Dr.,

- clarified comment about Burton Park.

Jan McFarland, 2826 Thornapple River Dr.,

- I don't plan on going anywhere...I live right where you are going to put the park.

Rebecca Sallgren, 2808 Thornapple River Dr.,

- questioned property being flooded.

Dorothy Tissue, 2680 Horizon Dr., S.E., (Teleperformance)

- requesting the expansion of the Bus Service for our employees.
- Maria Besta, employee of Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital,
- requesting consideration of approval of the expanded public transportation to Cascade.

Article 5. Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. Receive and File Various Meeting Minutes
 1. Regular Board Meeting Minutes for 09/23/15.
 - b. Receive and File Reports
 1. Treasurer’s Department Monthly Report for August, 2015.
 2. Building Department Monthly Report for September, 2015.
 - c. Receive and File Communications
 1. Letter from Charter Communications – re: Price Adjustments.
- Motion was made by Clerk Goodyke and supported by Trustee McDonald to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Article 6. Financial Actions

- a. **Consider Approval of Change Order #2 and Pay Draw #2 for the Village Improvements.**
 Motion was made by Trustee Koessel and supported by Trustee Goldberg to approve Change Order #2 and Pay Draw #2 in the amount of \$332,328.18. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. **Consider Approval of Pay Draw #1 for the Recreation Park Improvements.**
 Motion was made by Trustee Lewis and supported by Clerk Goodyke to approve Pay Draw #1 for the Recreation Park Improvements in the amount of \$233,281.05. Motion carried unanimously.

Article 7. Unfinished Business

Article 8. New Business

- 064-2015 Consider Approval of Appointment to Planning Commission.**
 Motion was made by Trustee Goldberg and supported by Trustee Koessel to approve the appointment of Brett J. Katsma to the Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.
- 065-2015 Consider Approval of Resolution to Amend Articles of Incorporation of GVMC. (Nelson Twp. And Village of Sparta) (roll call)**
 Motion was made by Trustee Goldberg and supported by Clerk Goodyke to approve the Resolution to Amend Article of Incorporation of GVMC (Nelson Twp. And Village of Sparta). Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.
- 066-2015 Consider Approval of Contract with Aquatic Consulting Services for Gypsy Moth Population Survey.**
 Motion was made by Trustee McDonald and supported by Trustee Goldberg to approve the Contract with Aquatic Consulting Services for Gypsy Moth Population Survey in the amount of \$8,600. Motion carried unanimously.

- 067-2015 Consider Approval of the METRO Act Right-Of-Way Bilateral Permit request from Fiber Technologies Networks LLC.**
 Motion was made by Trustee Goldberg and supported by Trustee Lewis to approve the METRO Act Right-Of-Way Bilateral Permit request from Fiber Technologies Networks LLC. Motion carried unanimously.
- 068-2015 Consider Approval of Interurban Transit Partnership Transportation Services Contract.**
 Motion was made by Trustee Koessel and supported by Trustee Lewis to approve the Interurban Transit Partnership Transportation Services Contract. Motion carried unanimously.
- 069-2015 Consider Approval of Expanded Public Transportation in Cascade Township.**
 DDA/ED Director Korhorn reviewed the request. Discussion followed.
 Kevin Wisselink, Senior Planner at The Rapid addressed the Board regarding the proposed service. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Treasurer Peirce and supported by Trustee Lewis to approve Proposal 1B for the expanded public transportation. Motion carried.
 Ayes – 6 Nays – 1 (Goldberg)

Article 9. Public Comments on any other matters. (limit comments to 3 minutes)
 Nancy Eardley, 1441 Sandy Point Ave., questioned the purchase of the property on Thornapple River Dr.
 John Murra, 4415 Heritage Ct., thanked the Board on the approval of the extension of public transportation in Cascade Township.

Article 10. Manager Comments

Article 11. Board Member Comments
 Trustee Koessel offered the following comments:

- We had a lot of comments tonight and we have talked a lot amongst ourselves...when you do a 2015 plan means you start a process it doesn't mean you start and complete it in that particular year. I think a lot has been taken out of context.

Trustee Lewis offered the following comments:

- Appreciate the participation of the residents of Cascade Township.
- NO Boat Launch!!!

Trustee McDonald offered the following comments:

- Thank you for the consideration of the expanded bus service.

Trustee Goldberg offered the following comments:

- Expanded thoughts on the bus service issue ...hours we need, we haven't seen a budget with these numbers plugged into it, we have other things out there that are "calls" on our money.

Supervisor Beahan offered the following comments:

- Welcomed Ben back from his manager seminar.

- Received a call from a cub scout den pack from Pineridge school who went down to Tassell Park looking for a service project. Cleaned up (2) bags of trash and helped out the B&G Dept.

Article 12. Adjournment

Motion was made by Treasurer Peirce and supported by Trustee Koessel to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise M. Biegalle
Deputy Clerk

Approved by:

Ron Goodyke, Clerk

Robert S. Beahan, Supervisor