

**Caseville Township Board Meeting
September 3, 2024**

Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Ben Willenberg.

Present: Ben Willenberg, Michelle Stirrett, Chelsey Dufty, Laurie Marrocco, Steve Watkins.

A moment of silence was held for Fire Captain Dan McIlhargie.

Motion by Stirrett second by Marrocco to approve the agenda, the August 5, 2024 Board minutes, Treasurer's report and invoices. **Motion carried.**

Public Hearing opened at 4:05 p.m.

Purpose of Hearing: To take comments on the proposed inlet dredging special assessment district for the Sandy Isles dredging project.

Diana Kessler: Stated that Bob Drury was the developer of her property, and she bought the property from him, so she is the dominant tenement, She uses their canals as access to the bay but does not pay any association dues. She has contributed to projects in the past. Properties will devalue if not improved. The deal is a joint project with Beadle Bay which is a maritime marina. She reserves approval until she sees the process.

Beth Briesmeister: Cost of the project?

William Paquette: Costs per parcel?

Correspondence: George Girvan wrote that the dredging needs to be done but the \$4,000 is excessive,

Nor further comments, the hearing was closed at 4:10 p.m.

The regular meeting was opened with the same members present.

Public Comments on agenda items: None.

Committee Reports:

Capital Improvement - August 28, 2024

Fire Association - August 7, 2024

Water Board - August 23, 2024

Harbor Commission - August 21, 2024

Planning Commission - August 13, 2024

Planning Commission - September 4, 2024

Sandy Isles Dredging

Resolution #3 by Stirrett second by Dufty approving the Sandy Isles Inlet Dredging project. Aye: Stirrett, Dufty, Marrocco, Willenberg, Watkins. Nay: None. Absent: None. **Resolution adopted.**

Resolution #4 by Stirrett secondly Marrocco setting a public hearing for the distribution of costs for the Sandy Isles Inlet Dredging project for October 7, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. Aye: Stirrett, Marrocco, Watkins, Dufty, Willenberg. Nay: None. Absent: None. **Resolution adopted.**

2023-24 Audit

Motion by Willenberg second by Watkins to approve the 2023-24 audit. **Motion carried.**

Delinquent Garbage to the Tax Roll

Motion by Willenberg second by Stirrett to turn delinquent garbage charges over to the 2024 tax roll for collection in the amount of \$88,713.79 and \$8,000 in fees. **Motion carried.**

Building Inspector Report given.

Zoning Administrator Report given.

Fire Report given.

Supervisor Update: Willenberg stated that the Road Commission did a speed counter study on August 20 & 21 and found no significant evidence of excessive speed on Crescent Beach Road.

Public Comments;

Gary Horkey: Met with members of the Sheriff Department who stated that they found people drove over 65 mph consistently on Crescent Beach Road.

Laura Horkey: Where was the box located? The study is incorrect.

Dave Columbo: Any update on the water?

Tammy Wurst: The whole box is still up on Crescent Beach Road.

Diana Kessler: Speed has always been a problem on Crescent Beach Road. It is visitors not residents and a fatality is coming.

Andy Nowak: The County has an agreement for recycling - will it be county wide?

Beth Briesmeister: Box is not picking upon accurate reading on speeders. Is there a camera that will take pictures of license plates of speeders?

Tom Vick: How many and which days was this box in place? What is the Sand Point Trail?

Jerry Wroblewski: Harbor is closing next month.

Matt Esch: Spoke in favor of the widening of Crescent Beat Road. It is needed for personal safety as it is a heavily travelled road. Sand Point deserves more, and it would be a great addition. They have petitions with 23% in favor. He proposes widening the south side only with a cross walk on the north side, narrower travel lanes and benches along the trail, posts to mark the path and speed limit signs. He doesn't want to wait for an injury and feels the Township should support the project. The Township could fund 40% of the project and seek grants for the other 60%.

Blaine Buchholz: A small group of people have spent a lot of time on the project and not a lot are against the project. If it is only on Crescent Beach Road, who is going to pay? The Road Commission suggested that the Township pay \$400,000 and they can apply for grants.

David Clabuesch: If a sidewalk is put in who pays? It is a public safety issue and encourages the Board to assess the entire township as it is a benefit to everyone.

Laura Horkey: Against the walking/bike trail. Feels the speeding issue should be the primary concern. Meetings on the trail are held in secret and violating the Open Meetings Act. If the trail is open to the public, parking is an issue.

Board Comments;

Watkins: Vandalism is an issue at the park, and they are looking at ways to monitor the park.

Stirrett: Stated a meeting was held with the DEQ, EGLE, and City, Township and Pigeon regarding the water quality. Further investigation will be done to address the problem, and an engineering study will be conducted. She further explained the special assessment process, the inability of the Township to secure grants because of the tax base and questioned the benefit of the trail to the entire township.

Marrocco: Felt it necessary to squelch the concerns about the water by sending a letter to users about the status to date to make people knowledgeable about the situation. She stated her concerns about the trail and questioned why not all of Sand Point was included in the petition process. Felt that the trail has limited benefits and greater liabilities. Wider roads don't address speed or safety, and costs are not being disclosed as far as maintenance is concerned.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Michelle Stirrett
Caseville Township Clerk

Ben Willenberg
Caseville Township Supervisor