

CITY OF CASEVILLE COUNCIL MEETING
September 9, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

The September 9, 2024 Meeting of the Caseville City Council was called to order by Mayor Christopher Stahl at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held in the Caseville City Hall, 6767 Main St., in Caseville Michigan. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL:

Roll Call – MEMBERS PRESENT: Kenneth Rathje, Jerald Ignash, Darin Sprague, John Tait, Jeffrey Herver, Jacob Kretschmer and Christopher Stahl (Mayor). Others Present: Jamie Learman, City Manager, Troy Hartz, D.P.W. Supervisor and Deborah Hopkins, Police Chief.

SET AGENDA:

MOTION Carried, by Sprague second by Tait to set the agenda as presented. **6-0 Approved.**

RESOLUTION #2024-54, PROCEDURAL, ROLL CALL, by Sprague second by Tait to set the first “Public Comment” section to discussion of agenda items only and continue with both “Public Comment” sections limited to a maximum of three minutes per person, for this and all future meetings, until changed again by Council. **Roll Call Vote Approved 6-0.**

MINUTES APPROVAL:

MOTION Carried, by Rathje second by Sprague to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2024 Council Meeting as presented. **6-0 Approved.**

INVOICES, BUDGET AMENDMENTS & TRANSFERS:

RESOLUTION #2024-55, INVOICES, ROLL CALL, by Tait second by Ignash to approve invoices in the amount as presented: Paid through September 5, 2024, totaling \$302,272.16. **Roll Call Vote Approved 6-0.**

PRESENTATIONS:

None

REPORTS:

Written reports were received from the Zoning Administrator, Oakwood Senior Citizens Housing, Advisory Water Board and the Caseville Area Fire Protection Assn. Hartz talked about his meeting with EGLE, State Representatives, Huron County Health Department and the engineers over the water discoloration issues. He also talked about our employee being struck by a vehicle on the city lawn mower. Jamie Learman went over the agenda item of Caseville Township and the Village of Pigeon rates and how the rates are determined. Chief Hopkins spoke about Cheeseburger. She said it went well, but did not have much help from the Sheriff’s Department or State Police. She also talked about issues with golf carts.

MOTION Carried, by Rathje second by Sprague to file the Reports as presented. **6-0 Approved.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

Historical Society of Caseville requesting closure of street for car show September 21, 2024.
Chamber of Commerce letter regarding changes to the Witches Walk event.
Scheurer Hospital letter regarding water color issues.
Fleis & VandenBrink letter recommending award of force main replacement project.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: - (Agenda Items Only)

Kelly Villanueva discussed rates from another community and how much higher they are versus here.

James Smith questioned statements made about drinking water and feels the council should meet more about it and form a board to investigate it. He thinks it has to do with lines leading into people's homes.

Alan Pryor complained that he wouldn't drink or buy the current water.

Noah Wikert asked about what else besides collecting samples was being done.

Veronica Fershin lives in the township and says she has issues all year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION Carried, by Sprague second by Tait to hold the October 14, 2024 meeting at the Caseville Historical Building. **6-0 Approved.**

MOTION Carried, by Tait second by Ignash to approve the Historical Society's car show on September 21, 2024. They will close the street around 9:00 a.m. and reopen it at 4:00 p.m., near the intersection of Prospect St. and Ash St. and are requesting barricades to use. **6-0 Approved.**

MOTION Carried, by Sprague second by Tait to reappoint Charlotte Ignash to the Planning Commission, term ending 9/2027. **6-0 Approved.**

RESOLUTION #2024-56, ROLL CALL, by Tait second by Kretzschmer to set the water rate for Pigeon and Caseville Township at \$11.00 per thousand. Effective July 1, 2024 for the October 1, 2024 bill. **Roll Call Vote Approved 6-0.**

RESOLUTION #2024-57, ROLL CALL, by Sprague second by Hervert to purchase a Kubota mower from Lingle Equipment at a cost not to exceed \$16,330. (Pending EMC Insurance totaling the City's mower and payment for replacement, less deductible (\$500) and less salvage of wrecked one (\$2,525)) **Roll Call Vote Approved 6-0.**

RESOLUTION #2024-58, ROLL CALL, by Tait second by Ignash to approve the street closures requested by the Chamber of Commerce for the Witches Walk and to approve up to four food vendors at \$100 each on October 26, 2024. **Roll Call Vote Approved 5-1 (Rathje -Nay).**

RESOLUTION #2024-59, ROLL CALL, by Sprague second by Hervert to award the force main replacement project to American Excavating LTD of Saginaw, at a cost not to exceed \$1,891,981.92, per the recommendation of Fleis & VandenBrink. **Roll Call Vote Approved 6-0.**

RESOLUTION #2024-60, ROLL CALL, by Tait second by Ignash to authorize Fleis & VandenBrink and Jamie Learman to negotiate and sign easements with Kretzschmer Brothers inc. and Leipprandt Brothers LLC at a cost not to exceed \$60,000, for the sewer force main project south of Kinde Rd. **Roll Call Vote Approved 5-0. (Kretzschmer abstained)**

RESOLUTION #2024-61, ROLL CALL, by Sprague second by Tait to approve the October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2029 MDOT Maintenance Agreement for M-25.(Attached) **Roll Call Vote Approved 6-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Clyde Campbell said that we have a super system, we have our own plant and we are lucky to have the township and Pigeon sharing the costs.

Mellissa Mell asked if we are seeing more issues with water at the end of lines. Troy said yes, that dead ends have been a problem with minimal circulation.

Dione Babbitt commented that the water she purchased from the plant's bulk fill station was hard.

Jeff Peyok asked if we hired an engineer and if bottled water was available. Troy said they have an engineer working on it and EGLE may have bottled water, if we get requests, which we haven't received.

Gale Brown said the public needs more information on the water and the costs.

Rodney Brown asked if we put things on the website. Jamie said we do and Facebook.

Sandy Hankus said she remembers prior to the water plant when the well water here was bad.

Michael Muskat complemented the DPW on the storm cleanup. He asked Troy about the filter replacement and parking signs. Troy said signs are in and we are waiting to find the problem before we replace more filters. Michael said he was against food trucks in town and asked for the Scheurer Hospital letter to be read in its entirety. Jamie read the letter.

Wendy Waldrep said she concerned there isn't more information on the water and stated it is hard to get into the restaurants during the witches walk.

Veronica Fershin stated perception is everything.

Louis Johnson advised everyone that the meetings are every month.

James Smith said the DPW does a great job. He asked about a written police report. Chief Hopkins told him they had 145 complaints in August. He questioned why we changed the public comments and what contracts were passed last month and how much it cost the city over their life. He thought the council should have more input on the water issue and asked when we added the City Manager Position.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Tait said we are working on the water issues.

Ignash said we have to get it fixed.

Sprague stated we haven't turned our back on it.


Stahl talked about the steps test it.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION Carried, by Sprague second by Tait to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m. **6-0 Approved.**



Jamie Learman, City Manager



Christopher C. Stahl, Mayor

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