

**TOWN OF VASS
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
August 14, 2017**

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Mayor Callahan at 6:08 p.m. Commissioners in attendance were: Kosem, Mosley, Blackwell, Callahan, and Kellis.

A. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Kellis wanted to add Agenda Item H. Shade Sails, I. Grass In Playground Area, J. Status On Park Cameras and Internet, K. Parks Public Hearing, L. Farmers' Market At The Park, and M. Waive The Propane Tanks Restriction At the Park for BlueVass Festival, and N. 911 Observance. Mayor Callahan asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Kosem made a motion to approve. All were in favor.

B. Consent Agenda

Items approved by above motion were:

1. Minutes of July 10, 2017 Regular Board Meeting
2. Police Report for July 2017
3. Financial Report for July 2017

C. Public Comment

Mike Apke with McGill Associates and Randy Gould Public Utilities Director came to give the Town an update on sewer project expansion for Vass. Back in September 2016 the Town submitted a CDGB-I grant application which was not funded. Vass scored a 64.14 on application. The lowest funded score was a 69. There were some income surveys that were not counted due to errors. They have since been to additional training on the application process. They have submitted a loan application for the entire area that does not currently have sewer. Hopefully, they will have an answer soon on the USDA loan. This loan would cover adding sewer to all areas currently unserved. There is another grant cycle coming up this fall. Mike stated if the Town wants to apply again, he said they would be glad to do this. It would require a public hearing before the next Board meeting. Mike Apke stated getting the funding for the lines from USDA loan and getting the funding through CDBG grant to hook up the customers would be a nice way to do particularly for residents who can't afford the hookup fees. Commissioner Callahan thanked Mike Apke and Randy Gould for the work over the past year they have done to keep this project moving forward.

Tyrone Ross came to request from the Board to use the baseball field for his softball league on Tuesday and Thursday night. They will also use the field on Saturday mornings. He asked if he and his team could renovate the ballfield in exchange for waiving the fee for the ballfield. Commissioner Callahan made a motion to waive the fee for use of the ballfield lights. All were in favor.

Mary McLeod of 230 McLeod Street addressed the Board with a concern regarding the water drainage at her home. She is applying for a USDA loan to renovate the home. They are requiring her to take care of the water issue before they will make her loan. County Public Utilities has taken a look at the manhole and they recommend a berm be built to divert the water at the road. Town Clerk has contacted Ron Atkinson to make an assessment and recommendation.

Old Business:

No old business

New Business:

D. 230 McLeod Street

A request was made by property owner, Mary McLeod for the town to find out what can be done about the water issue on her property at 230 McLeod Street. She stated there is an issue of water running off the road and onto her property. Town Clerk has contacted Ron Atkinson to look at property and give his professional opinion to divert the water. This had not yet been done at the time of this meeting. Commissioner Kellis made a motion to table this item until Ron Atkinson can make an assessment and recommendation.

E. Closed Session – Personnel

A motion was made by Commissioner Mosley to go into closed session to discuss a personnel issue. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Commissioner Blackwell to come out of closed session. All were in favor.

F. Bulletproof Vest Grant

Chief Blakeley made a request to the Board to apply for grant to assist in paying for bulletproof vests. Commissioner Mosley made a motion to approve request. All were in favor.

G. Police Award Presentations

Chief Blakeley presented service awards to three officers. The officers who received these awards were former Chief Brian Beck, former Sergeant Ben Haddock and former Police Officer, Seth Patterson. Mayor Callahan expressed his gratitude to the officers for their service to the Town.

H. Shade Sails

Commissioner Kellis told the Board about finding out the price of \$20,000 for 18 x 20 shade sail over the playground equipment at the park. He told the Board about possibly constructing a shade with PVC pile, but would run this by Leigh Bags, park consultant.

I. Grass In Playground Area

Commissioner Kellis expressed his concern about grass already coming up through the new ground cover in the playground area at the park. He mentioned that Commissioner Blackwell had access to chemicals that could be used to kill the weeds. Board discussed applying this during a time that the park could be closed to the public. Mayor Callahan asked if a better weed barrier could be installed. Mayor Callahan asked for a motion to have Town Clerk contact contractor who installed the wood chips to find a way to resolve this issue. Commissioner Kellis made a motion. All were in favor.

J. Status On Park Cameras and Internet

Commissioner Kellis asked Town Clerk if she had heard back from Spectrum regarding the internet service at the park. She informed the Board she had been in contact with them, but no one had responded. She will call them again. Also, the drivers' license camera has been installed.

K. Parks Public Hearing

Commissioner Kellis reminded the Board and audience of the upcoming Public Hearing for an Ice Cream Social to be held at Town Hall at 5:30 p.m. to discuss improvements at the park.

L. Farmers' Market

Commissioner Kellis told the Board on Facebook he gotten a lot of responses from the public for a farmers' market. There would be no charge to vendors limited to agricultural items. He wanted to have one this upcoming Saturday, August 18th from 8-12. He said there was mention of also having flock swaps. Mayor Callahan asked for a motion to move forward with allowing a farmers' market for local farmers as well as flock swaps, but only barnyard animals, no cats and dogs. Commissioner Callahan made a motion. All were in favor.

M. Waive The No Propane Tanks Restriction at The Park

Commissioner Kellis made a request to the Board to waive the no propane tanks used at the park restriction for the BlueVass Festival. Commissioner Callahan made a motion. All were in favor.

N. 911 Observance

Sam Webb with the American Legion made a request to hold an observance at the flag at Town Hall on September 11th. They will perform a ceremony that morning and will the notice out to area churches. Mayor Callahan asked for a motion to allow this ceremony. Commissioner Blackwell made a motion. All were in favor.

Sam Webb also made a request to waive the fee of installing a sign coming into town on 690 near the Lion's Club sign. Mayor Callahan asked for a motion to waive the fee of installing their sign. Commissioner Callahan made a motion. All were in favor.

Appreciation Dinner honoring police officers immediately followed the Board meeting.

Adjournment

Mayor Callahan asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Kosem made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN OF VASS

Henry E. Callahan, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Barbara Boyd, Town Clerk