

MINUTES
Chassell Township
Planning Commission Meeting

Dated: June 6, 2019

Chassell Fire Hall

Attendance: Ericka Malone, Keith Meyers, Dale Peterson, Steve Spahn, Brian Waters, Doug Hamar, Peter Torola, Dillon Geshel, Julie Meyers

1. Call to Order 7:07
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Reading and Approval of the Minutes, Brian moves to approve with changing title to minutes, Keith seconds
5. Public Comments
 - a. Dale-commends how much work has been done this winter by the Planning Commission
6. Road Commission Report
 - a. The County acknowledge receipt of the letter from the Township about the Master Plan
 - b. Paradise Rd Bridge Repair-awarded to MJO & plans to be done this fall, 2 million dollar project. Land acquisition issue has been settled. The bridge will be raised less than a foot, but will be much longer to accommodate larger storms.
 - c. MDOT started work on 41 in Chassell. All sidewalk crossings will be redone to be ADA compliant. No work will occur during Strawberry Festival (Thurs-Monday). MDOT is also resurfacing the road from Denton to Old 41.
 - d. Dale to take back over on Road Commission Meetings
 - e. 5 year plan-no items have been discussed because of flood projects. County has measured and marked out items for projects discussed on our 5 year plan.
 - i. Dale requested doing another review, but the County will be doing a full road rating this summer. We can reevaluate our 5-year plan after they've completed their rating.
7. Zoning Ordinance Review Report
 - a. The committee work on the zoning prior to this meeting.
 - b. Ericka to rewrite final markups. Committee will have a hearing after the draft has been finalized.
8. Master Plan Committee Report
 - a. Have notified major stakeholders, have received a few emails responding asking

to see the 5 year plan draft when complete.

- b. A few more utility letters need to be sent out
- c. Portage Health Foundation-revitalizing agriculture, can discuss the processing center. Plans to attend an upcoming meeting.

9. Old Business

- a. Chassell Township Logo
 - i. Nothing yet
- b. Chassell Mercantile Update
 - i. Lynn will be reaching out to the court for details on the upcoming court date.
 - ii. Property for sale online for \$30k
- c. Historical Trail Update
 - i. Next step is the easement
 - ii. Question of the owner (Doug) providing a letter of authorization or doing the DEQ application under his name.
 - iii. Doug looking into liability with his agent
 - iv. Lion's Club asked about the trail-well received by the group. And willing to assist in the future.
 - v. Still waiting on the Besse Foundation for awards on their current rounds, Doug will mention next week as he is meeting with them.
 - vi. Wetland Application-DEQ to visit the site.
- d. Community Center Update/Treats
 - i. Treats-Michael Mallow-Submitted a bid to the bank, another party outbid with a cash offer, that bidder received it. New owner to produce dough.
 - ii. Community Building-Conversation with Don Kendal-on board with working on renovation, waiting on AireCare for an estimate on the heating system. Keith plans to propose partnering with Michael Mallow in the developments at the Community Building.
- e. Recreational Marijuana Law
 - i. The Board approved an ordinance to prohibit recreational marijuana establishments within the Township.
- f. 2018/2023 Recreation Plan Update
 - i. Lynn-no word from the state. Brian called the department with no call back
- g. Strawberry Festival Bike Raffle
 - i. Municipalities cannot hold a raffle.
 - ii. A potential option for the Lion's Club to do it next year
- h. Portage Health Foundation Grant / Facebook
 - i. Responsibility to promote that we got an award from the Portage Health Foundation. Posted to FB and Linked in.
 - ii. Chassell Twp Facebook Page 2,000+people reached, 643 engaged in the post. All positive reactions
 - iii. Significant attention on Linked in as well

- i. Sturgeon River Boat Launch Study
 - i. Brian and Keith met with Traverse Engineering for a preliminary meeting.
 - ii. Discussed Anderson's adjoining property, potential for land swap.
 - iii. Brian brought up project to all boats seen on opening day, all positive responses.

10. New Business

- a. Risk Reduction Grant
 - i. May 31st deadline. Keith submitted proposal
 - ii. Grant would be used to update the Chassell trail system to get GPS and put into google maps.
 - iii. Second feature of grant is new signage on the trail.
 - iv. Michigan Tech-willing to do all of GPS with assistance from trail operators for navigation
 - v. IG Graphics doing all signage for just under \$1k
 - vi. \$1,400 grant request
 - vii. Even if we don't get the grant, the trail will be GPSed
 - viii. Lynn has already talked to the insurance carrier and responses are very positive about it.
 - ix. A resolution needs to be passed at the next Township Board meeting. Keith has forwarded to the Board for next week's meeting.
- b. Lightpole Banners
 - i. WUPPDR Community Marketing Grant Received
 - ii. Keith is providing initial designs
 - iii. Need to decide on colors-Look at Houghton colors
 - iv. The Print Shop in Hancock will be creating these
 - v. Signs will be up year round, rotated frequently, and intermixed with existing seasonal signs.
 - vi. Dale-requesting a more drastic color than white for lettering, as it is hard to see
 - vii. Keith to request color ideas from the Print Shop and then send around via email
- c. Portage Paddle Sports
 - i. Unable to participate in Strawberry Festival, but open for working in the future.
- d. Dog Park Info & Name Contest
 - i. Name contest-65 requests from students
 - ii. Chassell Bark Park selected
 - iii. Award to give to students at Strawberry Festival (\$25 KC Bonkers gift card) 2 winners
 - iv. Brian moves, Doug seconds. All Aye
 - v. Estimates on fence, still waiting on one from G&J
 - 1. Important to do all chainlink for durability as opposed to horse fencing

2. 4' fence at entries, 5' fence around perimeter
 3. Estimate would chew up remaining millage
- e. Inspection of Gas Station next to Community Center
 - i. Building inspector looked at old gas station and deemed in violation of the dangerous building ordinance.
 - ii. Owner committed to making repairs to the building. If no repairs made, the hearing will be held on 7/9
 - f. Redevelopment Ready Community MOU submitted to MEDC
 - i. Queued up, MEDC is evaluating, but backlog is pushing outside this calendar year
 - g. Fitness Trail Equipment / Bridge Repair
 - i. Equipment has been ordered
 - ii. Construction via volunteers
 - iii. School will work on equipment in the fall
 - h. MTA Magazine
 - i. Chassell Featured in the July issue. Will be sent out first week of July
 - i. Remote Workforce Keweenaw Initiative
 - i. Keith 20%, WUPPDR put up 80% to use social media to promote the Keweenaw
 - ii. Created pinterest boards under "Remote Workforce Keweenaw", engages in interests up here, embracing winter

Adjourn: 8:40

Next meeting date - July 4, 2019 7pm

Schedule for another date? Potentially Tuesday July 2nd

Adjourn, Brian