

MINUTES

Chassell Township

Planning Commission Meeting

Dated: February 6 2020
Chassell Fire Hall

Attendance: Ericka Malone, Keith Meyers, Steve Spahn, Brian Waters, Doug Hamar, Dillon Geshel, Lynn Gierke, Dar Gronevelt

1. Call to Order 7:02pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of the Agenda Brian moves to approve, Doug seconds all aye
4. Reading and Approval of the Minutes; Doug moves to approve, Brian seconds all aye
5. Public Comments-none
6. Road Commission Report
 - a. Pete is not present, but provided notes from the meeting. Brian requests including them with the minutes.
7. **Old Business**
 - a. Chassell Township Logo
 - i. Steve brought student drawings
 1. Artist selected, minor modifications requested
 - b. Chassell Mercantile Update
 - i. Property owner responded to the letter that was sent and is indicating that he will clean up the site and is currently getting bids from contractors.
 - c. Historical Trail Update
 - i. Need to work on EGLE permit with Doug Hamar
 - ii. Potential brook trout restoration habitat. DNR conservation grant to potentially repair the stream and eliminate the meandering stream and return it to its original straight streambed.
 - d. Community Center Update
 - i. Don and Ann Kendall, KEDA, and OHM staff met to discuss a proposal to help draft drawings for the MEDC Grant Request.
 - e. Centennial Park Accessibility Report
 - i. Table for today
 - ii. Potential Rec Passport Grant application to complete some of

these projects.

- f. Cemetery Church - Dangerous Building
- g. Fitness Trail Signage
 - i. Multiple trails GPSed already.
- h. DNR Rail-Trail / Trail Authority
 - i. No new information
- i. MTU Senior Project (David Nelson)
 - i. We need to gather information for Dave for the types of projects we would be looking for assistance on.

8. **New Business**

- a. Zoning Ordinance Public Hearing 2/12 6:30pm
 - i. Need to provide a baseline for handling community members under financial hardship that are subject to blight complaints
- b. Dollar General Wetlands Notice
 - i. They received the permit from EGLE for filling the wetland.
- c. Dollar General Sewer Line Questions
 - i. Potential easement being drafted to put pavement repairs on Dollar General if sewer repairs need to happen.
- d. DNR Grant Opportunity
 - i. Rec passport and MNRTF good funding sources to keep in mind for future grant opportunities
- e. Sturgeon River Engineering Report
 - i. Plans from Traverse Engineering
 - ii. Cost Estimate is coming
 - iii. Potential grant funding shortage due to rising lake levels in Lake Michigan.
- f. Portage Health Foundation Grant
 - i. Seeking grant for canoe/kayak launch vehicle. This would then count as match towards the waterways grant.
- g. Master Plan Committee
 - i. Baraga Telephone-plan to include in the master plan
 - ii. Keith and Brian will be attending the next school board meeting to discuss the master plan and potentially get someone from the school board to join the master plan committee.

Next meeting date - March 5, 2020 7pm



Brian Waters

From: Peter Torola <petertorola@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 31, 2020 1:15 PM
To: Brian Waters
Subject: Feb PC Meeting

Brian,

I will be on the road coming back from Manistee on Thursday, so there is a fairly good chance I will not be able to make it to the Planning Commission meeting. I should be in cell phone range so feel free to call me if you need me to help make a quorum (906-231-3264). Here are the road commission report notes from 1/13/2020:

- 5-year Transportation Improvement Plan
 - o The majority of our roads are not eligible to be placed on this plan because of the two funding categories it covers.
 - o TEDF – D Funding: Chassell-Painsdale Rd only
 - o Rural STBGP: Chassell-Painsdale Rd, Pike River Rd, Portage Entry Rd, Sturgeon River Rd, Superior Rd, and US-41
 - o This plan is a reporting requirement that the county has to do in order to be eligible to receive these types of funds.
- FEMA projects
 - o The county has paid contractors \$6.6 million and has received \$1.5 million from FEMA for these projects.
 - o There is still \$10 million in work left to do.
 - o They do not receive FEMA money until the work is complete and they can prove to FEMA that the county has paid the contractor. This is a huge cash flow problem for them.
 - o They have not been able to find a buyer yet for the 2020 Rural STBGP funding yet. This is exchanging their federal funding with another county (80 cents on the dollar) to be able to use this money to help cash flow the FEMA projects.
- Massie Rd Repair
 - o There are two types of FEMA funding that may cover Massie Rd:
 - 406 – The state will provide the match money
 - 404 (hazard mitigation) – The township may be asked to provide the match if the county is not able
 - o The type of fund that FEMA allows will dictate the type of repair that is allowed. I believe 404 funding will allow curb and gutter with storm sewer to be placed and 406 will not. So, if they are able to install curb and gutter with storm sewer the township may have to cover the match.
 - o Only about a half mile will be repaired by FEMA. If the township has the funding, it would be more cost effective to have the township pay for the extra mile and include it in the FEMA repair project. This road is on our township 5-year plan. I would suggest they patch and overlay the existing road as a lower cost option for this added piece if we want to have this one-mile gap repaved.
- Boundary Rd Repair
 - o Boundary Road is eligible for 404 funding
 - o Portage and/or Chassell may have to cover the cost of the match
 - o I am not sure on how much of it will be repaired
 - o Just like Massie Rd this is on our township 5-year plan
- Supervisor meetings with county

- Kevin will sit down with Dave after he has it figured out with FEMA on what type of funding he will get for our township road repairs (Late February?)

Not part of the road commission report:

At my Asset Management for Local Officials class Dan mentioned it would be nice to have an inventory of all the gravel and paved roads segments that are difficult to travel through because the road is so bad in the spring. I will build a database of the bad sections this spring. This could be something that the Township can use in the future to help identify where to do repairs.

Pete