

CHASSELL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
January 11, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Dave Mattson

PRESENT: Lynn Gierke, Kelly Holmes, Ryan Kuntze and Dave Mattson.

MINUTES: Motion by Kelly Holmes to approve the November minutes, supported by Dave Mattson. M/C

TREASURER'S REPORT: The December treasurer's report was approved by Dave Mattson supported by Ryan Kuntze. The treasurer's report and the clerk's financial report are attached to the minutes. M/C

AGENDA: Motion by Kelly Holmes approve agenda with new business additions c. Farmers Market Rental, d. Park & Recreation Millage, e. Ditching, f. RFP for Vendor supported by Ryan Kuntze. M/C

PAYMENT OF BILLS: The payment of bills was approved per motion by Ryan Kuntze, supported by Kelly Holmes. M/C

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Koray Inal from Baraga Telephone provided us a map last night of the area that will be the focus of their effort in 2023 to bring high-speed broadband to the homes in Chassell Township with the \$3.3 million competitive USDA Re-Connect Loan for which we provided a letter of support. They have already hired a construction firm out of Wisconsin that will be performing the work as weather permits. Baraga Telephone also has about \$500,000 in RDOF funding that will help with additional construction outside the census tract that is the focus of the USDA Re-Connect Loan. Separately, Keith Meyers has reached out to Atlantic Engineering Group's (AEG) Chairman out of Atlanta, Georgia, who won in the reverse auction the eastern portion of the township, asking him for an update on their plan for deploying high-speed broadband.

Heather Tarvainen-township resident expressed at last night's meeting about males identified as being in the age 12 to 19 category playing hockey during the open skate times at the pavilion ice rink. They are doing this when children as young as two are on the rink. There have been a number of close calls involving pucks. This same group of hockey players have also been engaging in vandalism, public urination, and leaving trash and cigarette butts. Keith Meyers said he would contact the Chassell Schools to see if they can send out a notice to the area wide schools about the Ice Rink hours and asking for parental help in supervising the rink.

CORRESPONDENCE: none

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fire Department (FD) Chief Curt Judson reported 3 calls (structure fire, dog rescue and person rescue) for 2023 and 35 calls for 2022. First Responder (FR) Director Dylan Malone reported 4 calls for 2022 and 120 for 2023. 2022 Report the FD/FR have purchased 2 new trucks, they have upgraded the lights to LEDs except the brush truck, have purchased \$4,000 in equipment for high rescue and still need New Members.

TOWNSHIP MAINTENANCE: Cole Smith reported that there have been some issues at the Ice Rink. See Public Comments. Water main leak repair done on 4' old cast iron. Need to look at replacing the cast iron. John Deere skid steer hydraulic hose replaced. Lots of calls for Green Burials after an article in Daily Mining Gazette.

ZONING: Lynn Gierke reported that there were 22 permits for 2023 and will be having a Zoning Board of Appeals meeting in the future.

PLANNING COMMISSION (PC): Keith Meyers reviewed information about high-speed broadband. See Public Comments. Spark Grant-completed 12/19/22 for \$495K. A request for proposals for canoe and kayak rental vendors at Centennial Park and Sturgeon River launch. Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes to advertise in the Daily Mining Gazette. M/C. The County Land Bank did not receive any proposals for the Old Cemetery Church and adjacent property. Motion to extend the deadline to 3/31/23. M/C. For more PC details see minutes on website.

ASSESSOR: Board of Review meeting March 13 from 9-3 pm and March 16 from 3-9 pm at the FH. The organizational meeting will be on March 8. Two BOR members Christian Muehlfeld and Steven Palosaari will be attending the BOR Training in Houghton on February 7th.

WEBSITE: Lynn Gierke reported that a new plugin for the scrolling announcements has been added to the website.

UPEA REPORT: Chris Holmes reported the contractor for the Main Lift Station hasn't received the circuit boards yet. The groundwater wells at the lagoons need "continuous sampling" per EGLE. Trimedia cannot do. Chris is checking with Coleman Engineering to see if they can. Sampling will probably need to be done in the Spring. UPEA will have the Engineering plan by 2/2/23.

REVIEW BUDGET: February meeting.

PIKE BAY COMMITTEE: N/R

CHASSELL OFFICE BUILDING ISSUES: The DPW received 3 bids for a furnace for the building. Dave Mattson motioned to accept the bid from AireCare for \$4,500 supported by Kelly Holmes. M/C.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. ARPA Road Plan-Discussion by Dave Mattson that the township should be using funds to maintain existing paved roads before they deteriorate beyond repair. Motion by Dave Mattson to repair in town streets (5 1/2 Street/Hancock Street from US-41 to 6th Street (640'), 6th Street from US-41 to Hamar Street (680'), 7th Street from US-41 to Hamar Street (875') for approximately \$214K and South Klingville to corner (1/2 mile) and Klingville Rd. from Old Timer to Ruotsi Rd. (1/2 mile) for approximately \$300 with a total project for \$514K supported by Kelly Holmes. M/C.
- B. Master Plan-Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Lynn Gierke to have the Public Hearing will be at 5 pm on March 2.
- C. Dog Park Fence-work will be done in Spring 2023.
- D. Park engineering study-Chris Holmes reported that the report will be completed by 2/2/23.
- E. HC Rec Auth re-adopt resolution-table.
- F. PC Open Position-Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Ryan Kuntze to accept Rich Smith to fill the open position that expires on 8/10/25. M/C.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion of clerk needs in the office-Lynn Gierke said there is a need to hire a bookkeeper to help her in the office. Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes. M/C.
- B. First Responder Asst. Director-Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes to pay FOR assistant \$100 per month to help with paperwork.
- C. Farmers Market Pavilion Rental-Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes for Chassell Farmers Market rental agreement, to use the Pavilion on Wednesdays from June 1st-Sept. 28th except 6/28/23 for \$300. M/C.
- D. Park & Recreation Millage expires at end of 2023-Dave Mattson made a motion to have millage on the 5/2/23 ballot for 5 years so the next millage will be on a presidential election year, supported by Lynn Gierke. M/C.
- E. Ditching behind Gagnon Property-Motion by Dave Mattson to accept low bidder, DP Construction unless lower bid obtained, supported by Lynn Gierke. M/C.
- F. RFP Vendor-See PC report.

Public Hearing and Special Meeting for Budget on March 22 at 6 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm, per motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes. M/C

Dave Mattson, Supervisor

Lynn Gierke, Clerk