

MINUTES

Chassell Township Planning Commission Meeting

Dated: March 2, 2023

Chassell Fire Hall

Attendance: Brian Waters, Doug Hamar, Keith Meyers, Steve Spahn, Rich Smith, Lynn Gierke

Call to Order 7:03

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approval of the Agenda with 3 additions to New Business D. Willson Memorial Drive, E. Fire Protection Class Rating, F. Strawberry Festival. Brian Waters moves, Doug Hamar seconds, all aye.
3. Reading and Approval of February Minutes. No minutes to review.
4. Public Comments-No Comments
5. Road Commission Report-No Report
6. Old Business
 - a. Chassell Mercantile Update-No Report
 - b. Historical Trail Update-signs are in for production at Industrial Graphics and will be ready in the Spring.
 - c. Snowmobile Trail Update-Brian Waters commented that there are still delays and reports we won't see the trail open from Baraga to Chassell for another year.
 - d. Centennial Park Engineering Study-Keith has been working with UPEA for dock measurements for map and for EGLE permits.
 - e. Sturgeon River Water Trail Mapping-Mat Moore has updated the sign for the Visit Keweenaw grant and will go to production.
 - f. Bark Park Improvements-Fencing work will be done in Spring.
 - g. RFP Specifications for Chassell Park Launch Site Vendor-The township board did not meet last month due to no quorum. The township will need to approve the site vendor at the March meeting.
 - h. Launch Site Amenities as part of DNR Grant Proposal-Passport Grant or DNR Trust Fund application (due 4/1). DP has provided numbers for parking improvements. Doug commented that MDOT might want the entrance to be at a 90 degree angle. Similar to the school and Sturgeon River Rd.
 - i. DNR Spark Grant-Chassell did not make round 1 of the grant process. Only 1 UP community received an award. Sault Ste. Marie of \$716,600 for a park expansion. Working on updating the proposal for the second round.

Adding more support letters from KBIC, VFW. There is now bus service by Community Action. EGLE permit for boardwalk submitted.

- j. Bridges Out of Poverty-Keith met with Kevin Storer, Portage Health Foundation, to work on a draft agreement.
- k. Lakeshore Drive Long Term Rental Concerns-Keith will attempt to schedule a meeting with the parties this coming Saturday.
- l. Old Holy Trinity Church and adjoining property RFP-Lisa Mattila from Houghton Co. Land Bank said she has received one proposal.
- m. Sturgeon River Launch-Keith reported that American Dock has withdrawn its bid due to employee issues. Accudock needs to hear from UPEA about design. Doug had a few more contacts for possible vendors.

7. New Business

- a. Master Plan Public Hearing Review. Brian Waters moves to approve the Master plan, Doug Hamar supports. All Ayes.
- b. 5 Year Recreation Plan Update-Ask Pat Coleman what the deadlines are for renewing.
- c. Recreation Millage Promotion-will be on the May 2 Election.
- d. Willson Memorial Drive-In 1954 the main street in Chassell was renamed from Calumet Ave to Willson Memorial Drive in honor of Dr. Percy Willson who was a physician in Chassell for over 50 years until his death in 1952.
- e. Fire Protection Class Rating-Doug Hamar asked why he has a Class 4 rating for the building he owns in downtown Chassell. Lynn Gierke said she would contact the Fire Chief.
- f. Strawberry Festival-Doug Hamar commented since he can remember the Chassell Lions club fundraiser has always been called. Copper Country Strawberry Festival. Lately he has noticed the people are referring to it as Strawberry Fest.

Brian Waters wished Keith Meyers good luck on his Border to Border Ski adventure in Finland!

Next meeting date – April 6, 2023 at 7 pm

Adjourn 8:00 pm. Brian Waters moves, Doug Hamar seconds. All aye