

**CHASSELL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**  
**December 13, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Dave Mattson

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

**MINUTES:** Motion by Kelly Holmes to approve the November minutes, supported by Dan Palosaari. M/C

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The November treasurer's report was approved by Dan Palosaari supported by Dave Mattson. The treasurer's reports and the clerk's financial report are attached to the minutes. M/C

**AGENDA:** Motion by Kelly Holmes to approve agenda supported by Dave Mattson. M/C

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:** The payment of bills was approved per motion by Ryan Kuntze supported by Dan Palosaari. M/C

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** none

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Letter from Houghton Co. that the Draft Houghton Co. Recreation Plan and Master Plan is available for review. Resident Kris Luoma brought up concerns about dog treats at garbage and sewer issues. Discussion. Conclusion, employees should respect dog owners' wishes. In addition, sewer issues occurred after Miller Pipeline was in the area this past summer. Miller Pipeline did videotape the line, the issue is where the plastic pipe connects to the clay pipe. The resident needs to contact the contractor used to fix in the Spring.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** First Responder Director Dylan Malone reported for the Fire Department (FD) 5 calls with 29 to date. The First Responders reported 10 calls with 113 to date. A trailer was purchased for the new side by side with money donated to the department.

**TOWNSHIP MAINTENANCE:** Cole Smith reported that booth Lagoons have been dumped. Need to add a letter to the W/S bills saying "no sump pump water should go in the sewer system". Also "no hand wipes" because they clog the grinder pumps. The letter should offer guidance to residents to resolve sump pump water. White Dodge heater working, need plow mount, serpentine belt. Red truck new tires are on. Next year will need more wood chips. Dylan Malone said he has a source if the township wants to talk to him. Craig Austin commented that Waste Management (WM) is charging us an inactivity fee of over \$200 per month for our recycling bin. Lynn Gierke talked to WM today and they said the charge was per our contract. She asked Dave Mattson to call Mark Herrick.

**ZONING:** No Report

**PLANNING COMMISSION (PC):** Keith Meyers reported the first of 2 public hearings were held for the Recreational Plan Report. PC recommends the board approve the 2023-2028 Recreation. Dave Mattson made a motion to approve the plan supported by Dan Palosaari, M/C. Advertised in the newspaper an RFP for a Prime Professional for the SPARK grant. Only one responded. Motion by Dave Mattson to approve UPEA supported by Dan Palosaari. M/C. Kelly Holmes abstained. SPARK Grant Deadline 12/23 to submit to map with legal description, agreement and resolution. PC hopes to apply for DNR grants to improve kayak launch. Rep. Markanen attended the past PC Meeting. He discussed recent changes in the wind and solar energy power oversight now with the Public Service Commission. Shifting permitting control from local government to the state. He recommends the township review zoning ordinance for both wind and solar. Also, new laws might be implemented for state control of septage and aggregate mining. HCRC was contacted about visibility at 7th street and Chassell-Painesdale Rd. The general conclusion is people need to make a complete stop before turning. For more PC details see minutes on website.

**ASSESSOR:** December BOR will be December 14 at the Fire Hall from 5-7 pm.

**WEBSITE:** Brian Waters requested last month that new pictures of canoe kayak launch be added to the website. Lynn Gierke has not received them yet. Keith Meyers will email them to Lynn Gierke.

**UPEA REPORT:** Chris Holmes reported the original wastewater project included upgrading Lake Shore Dr. Lift Station and replacing the force main (from 6" to 8"). Because of increased costs, he will review the project costs and determine what the water sewer rates need to be. To finalize the loan with Rural Development we will need a public hearing for the project. The hearing will be at the January 10th board meeting. Danielson Contractor submitted the final bill for the main lift station. He would like the township to cover rental of one pump for the Spring 2023 that we normally would have paid. Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Dan Palosaari to cover one month pump rental, approximately \$9K and add to the final Danielson bill. M/C. Chris will have Danielson contact Crane to fix the computer system at the main lift station. Meeting attended to review EGLE, Intent to Apply (ITA) for water repairs grant money. Lead Copper Survey Grant deadline 1/15/24, awards in March 2024 to help with required Copper Lead Survey. Still waiting to hear from the State Police/FEMA grant-extension on Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA).

**REVIEW BUDGET:** Lynn Gierke made the following budget amendments for the Park & Recreation 101-750-980 from \$0 to \$5,890 and 203-450-935 from 0 to \$181,500. Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes to approve amendments.

**CHASSELL OFFICE BUILDING ISSUES:** Kelly reported the carpet will be installed on 12/14-15.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Water Plant-Upgrades to the computer/system should happen in January.
- B. Cemetery Rate Increase-Discussion. Tabled
- C. Sump Pump letter-The letter as mentioned above, DPW report, needs to make residents aware that extra water in the system costs money to treat. Less water in the system will help issues with the current lagoons. Our current ordinance does state that no floor drains are allowed.
- D. Lakeshore Drive Adams/Bjork-the project is complete. Lynn Gierke will invoice residents.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. 5 Year Recreation Plan Resolution-Keith Meyers talked about the background of what included in the plan-Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Ryan Kuntze to approve the 2023-2028 Recreation Plan resolution. M/C. Comments that we will need one additional park camera for inside the pavilion. Motion by Dave Matton supported by Dan Palosaari to purchase. Lynn Gierke will contact BTC.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm, per motion by Kelly Holmes supported by Lynn Gierke. M/C

Dave Mattson, Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Lynn Gierke, Clerk \_\_\_\_\_