

**CHASSELL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**  
**June 12, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Dave Mattson

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

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

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

**AGENDA:** Motion by Kelly Holmes to approve with addition New Business 19 b. Boat Parking Extension 19 c. Strawberry Festival Boat Launch Closure supported by Lynn Gierke. M/C

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Randy McClellan-pigeon poop in pavilion. Look at how to keep clean. Jeremy Shannon Lower Pike River Rd. did not get calcium chloride coverage on the recent application. Kelly Holmes mentioned that the office also received a call from Cheryl Ohtonen, also wasn't happy with coverage at her house. Discussion. Dan Palosaari who rode with the Road Commission said they tried their best to get coverage to everyone. Jeremy Shannon has offered to help next year. DPW suggested having residents flag their property. Dave Mattson will call HCRC to see if additional calcium chloride can be purchased.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Copper Shores thank you for \$1000 towards the UPSET West program. Jodi Dompier, 22115 Marinette St. letter to township was read about drainpipe issue in yard not operating properly. Discussion. Dave Mattson asked the DPW to investigate with Chris Holmes and Dan Palosaari. Kelly Holmes received a call from Darlene Gronevelt about someone camping on railroad grade near Lindala Road. Dave Mattson said that the railroad grade is DNR property and she should call them.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Fire Chief Curt Judson reported they had 6 calls with 15 to date. They attended a multi-agency training at the Porcupine Mountain State Park. They worked directly with 5 different agencies on rescue scenarios and practiced using their high rescue gear. A total of 30 agencies were involved in the training. The new PPE washer/dryer is installed. The FD is now National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) compliant. Curt Judson asked the board to consider approving the purchase of a 200x300' lot for \$10,000 to be used for a new proposed Fire Station. He explained that the current FD/FR have outgrown the current facilities. A new facility would provide indoor storage for the current equipment and allow for indoor maintenance on equipment. Discussion. Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Lynn Gierke. Dan Palosaari abstained. M/C. FR Director Dylan Malone reported 11 calls with 42 to date. They have 1 part time member with EMT training, Jasper Gustafson, MTU student who would like to work this summer. Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes. M/C.

**TOWNSHIP MAINTENANCE:** Craig Austin reported that they have 2 quotes for 6 stumps to grind and clean up at the cemetery. Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes to accept the bid from All UP Snow Blowing for \$975. M/C. Discussion about downtown tree's that now have decreased visibility at corners and some are dead. Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Dan Palosaari to remove all the dead tree's downtown. M/C.

**ZONING:** N/R

**PLANNING COMMISSION (PC):** Keith Meyers reported that the PC recommends the township purchase for the park a new toddler swing. Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Lynn Gierke to purchase 1 toddler swing for \$475. M/C. Second, Jim Vaught on Marinette Street received a variance to build a retaining wall, upon excavation he came across 16 tires and would like the township to cover the cost of disposal at \$8/tire or \$128. Lynn Gierke commented that the township has a partnership with Superior Watershed and waiting to here when the scrap tire collection will be this summer. She will let Keith

Meyers know when the event will be. Keith Meyers also recommended that the township have a cleanup event at the old high school (?). See can do it this fall. Senator Peters' office reported that the \$1.9 Million lagoon project for the township has advanced in the appropriations committee. If the grant is received this would help the township with adding an additional sewage lagoon to increase capacity. Finer Dock installed the additional parts to the launch. The DNR/SPARK grant waterfront boardwalk will be submitted soon. An anonymous donor would like 2 pickleball courts at the park. Discussion about location. Chris Holmes will email to everyone the current Engineering Study map. Grant received from Visit Keweenaw Destination Development for \$2750 with a match from Keith & Julie Meyer for sign at the launch entrance. Demolition of the cemetery church is moving forward. Research on the building included that there was a fire at the church in the 1960's. Merrie Carlock will visit the township on July 2nd to review the site for the Trust Fund/Recreation Passport Grant application. It would be good to know if the Anderson property could be purchased. Residents have asked if the township can apply for any Rail Trail grants-unfortunately no, because the DNR currently controls the railroad grade. But the DNR does have "limited" funds to use for improvements, ex. the Lindala Rd. drainage improvements from the Father's Day flood. The PC would like to recommend that the DNR make a permanent fix at the drainage "dip" by Gagnon property with a culvert so the grade is "accessible" for all. Also the DNR is in discussion of installing gates at the Pike River Bridge. The PC has decided to not pursue the "Rent Fun" kayak loaning machine till park improvements are complete. Steve Spahn will donate a vehicle that can have tracks installed to use to groom ski "oval" in the winter time on the lake. For more PC details see minutes on website.

**ASSESSOR:** Mark Maki requested the board to amend resolution 612191 per state requirement and update the Assessment Records Public Inspection Policy. Both will be posted on the website. Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes. M/C.

**WEBSITE:** N/R

**UPEA:** Chris Holmes reported that the 4th Street specs going out to advertising next week. There is an issue with a residents' pumping capacity where the sewer/water extension happened last fall. The resident is working with AireCare. The township asked Chris Holmes to keep us updated on what might be needed.

**REVIEW BUDGET:** N/R

**CHASSELL OFFICE BUILDING ISSUES:** New computers installed for Treasurer, W/S Clerk, Clerk, DPW, Cemetery, Fire Department. Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes to commission Tim Viola to remove all information from computers in exchange to keep computers for parts. M/C.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Water Plant-old sensors burned out new part. Currently the sensors are disconnected. Discussion to get pricing to replace the sensors.
- B. Sump Pump Letter, W/S Rates-Kelly Holmes reported the letter was sent out. No change to W/S rates per last month's meeting.
- C. Old Dump Plans-Kim Maki has been working on it. Ryan Kuntze will be look into the cost for a grapple and mower arm.
- D. Ice Rink Warming Shack-waiting on bids.
- E. School Path Repair and Bridge Boards-waiting on additional bid to resurface.
- F. Kokkonen/Old US41 Sewer Extension-Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes to go with DP proposal for \$22,232. Dan Palosaari abstained. M/C.
- G. Mower arm, lagoon mowing plan-Dave Mattson reported he contacted Blue Line to do a mowing at the lagoon for an estimated \$1500 per mow. The first mow took 2 hours and 45 minutes to mow 95% of the lagoon. Typically it takes the township 8 days to complete once. Craig Austin reported if Blue Line is hired the lagoon gate entrance will need to be enlarged to

accommodate the machinery. Dave Mattson recommended we wait for the bill to see what Blue Line recommends for the summer.

H. Policy to allow electronic payments-Tabled.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Half Moon Beach (HMB) Control Panels-Craig Austin reported that the electronic parts for the grinder stations are over 20 years old and can't get parts anymore. Estimated cost per panel is \$1400-\$1700 and an additional \$950 to install. HMB has 37 pumps of which 20 need replacing. Recommended to have a plan of repairing 5/year. No action taken.
- B. Boat Parking Extension-Three bids received, one to only fill extension. The other two to fill and provide drainage. Motion by Dave Mattson to accept the bid by DP Construction for \$12,200 to fill parking extension and remove culvert supported by Ryan Kuntze. M/C.
- C. Strawberry Festival Boat Launch Closure-Motion by Lynn Gierke supported by Kelly Holmes to close the boat launch Thursday, Friday and Saturday. M/C.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm, per motion by Kelly Holmes supported by Dave Mattson. M/C

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