

CHASSELL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
May 13, 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 April minutes, supported by Dave Mattson. M/C

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

AGENDA: Motion by Kelly Holmes to approve, supported by Ryan Kuntze with addition of New Business g. MERS Contract Amendment. M/C

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Brad O'Connell of Four Season Solutions brought a garbage proposal to the board. They can offer residents curb side pickup. Lynn Gierke will post information on the website. Keith Meyers said the VFW and Chassell Lions Benefit Pancake/French Toast/Sausage Breakfast was very successful. Randy McClullen was not able to make the meeting but asked the board to consider having a 5 or 10 year boat launch fee option. Discussion about benefits.

CORRESPONDENCE: Two Cemetery quotes received for maintaining trees and stump grinding. Motion by Lynn Gierke supported by Kelly Holmes to hire OJP Tree Service to prune and remove dead wood from 4-5 trees that will extend the life of the trees up to 15 years instead of removing for \$2,400-\$2,600. M/C. Second quote was for stump grinding for the trees that were removed this spring. Discussion to get additional quotes. Letter from UP Kids asking the board to waive the rental fee for their Banquet that benefits kids and families in the Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw Area. Motion by Ryan Kuntze supported by Dave Mattson to waive the fee. M/C. The township wrote a support letter for Houghton County to US House of Representatives Jack Bergman in support of funding for a new law enforcement vehicle for the Sheriff's Department. Letter from Copper Shores that our RFP Small Grant for Blight Mitigation Fund Start-Up project was denied.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fire Chief Curt Judson reported the FD had 2 calls with 9 to date. Correction last month there were only 7 calls to date, not 8. Two members have passed their licensing. Holy Trinity has donated a commercial fridge for the FH. The FD will be doing additional fund raisers. One will be a Document Shredding Day. Discussion about what will happen if the State adopts OSHA guidelines for Volunteer Fire Departments. They are watching this closely. Director Dylan Malone reported 8 calls with 31 to date.

TOWNSHIP MAINTENANCE: Cole Smith reported that the park is officially (fish cleaning station and toilets) open with only a few issues.

ZONING: N/R but there will be a Zoning Board of Appeals meeting soon to review 3 permits.

PLANNING COMMISSION (PC): Keith Meyers reported that the sidewalk portion of the SPARK grant went out to bid. Next will be the boardwalk. The restrooms, boat ramp dock will be after. The KISMA grant for a DC Boat Washing Station at the park did not get funded. For more PC details see minutes on website.

ASSESSOR: Lynn Gierke working with Mark Maki to update a few documents on the website.

WEBSITE: N/R

UPEA: Chris Holmes reported that the 4th Street project will be going out to bid soon. Last month UPEA secured a TMF grant from EGLE for \$153,770. The low bid for the Copper/Lead Assessment was Danielson Contracting, Inc. at \$171,950. Motion by Dave Mattson to accept the bid supported by Dan Palosaari. M/C. The difference in costs will come out of the water fund. The W/S Rates were reviewed.

The last rate change was in December 2023. He recommends no change at this time.

REVIEW BUDGET: N/R

CHASSELL OFFICE BUILDING ISSUES: N/R

OLD BUSINESS:

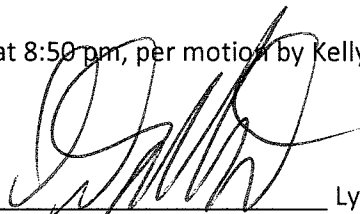
- A. Water Plant-Upgrades to the computer/system-working well.
- B. Sump Pump Letter, W/S Rates-Kelly Holmes distributed survey and sump pump letter. Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Lynn Gierke to credit residents \$5 on bill if they complete the survey. W/S Rates see UPEA report.
- C. Old Dump Plans-discussion organizing the site. Stumps are an issue. Suggestions to post a sign that says as of XX no stumps. Donation box installed. Start charging contractors to use the site.
- D. Ice Rink Warming Shack-table.
- E. School Path Repair and Bridge Boards-Quote to black top high. Rebid with overlay instead of all new blacktop.
- F. Kokkonen Sewer Extension-Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes to get a second bid for the Old 41 Sewer Extension and accept the lowest bid. M/C.
- G. Mower arm for skid steer-Dave Mattson will work with Bethany Baetsen about companies she has contacted and get info on extended warranty, service, etc. Comments by Brad O'Connell of All Seasons was asked a few years back to give bid for lagoon mowing but said the costs would have been too prohibitive for the township.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Monthly Board Meetings/Township Representation-Motion by Kelly Holmes supported by Lynn Gierke the board meetings for 2024-25 will be held the 2nd Wednesday of month, and the township will use Rukkila Negro and Associates for auditor and Amy Schultz with Graybill & Mead as attorney.
- B. Kim Badke Resignation-Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes to accept resignation with regret. M/C.
- C. Road Commission Agreement for Dust Control-Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Lynn Gierke to sign agreement for 8,000 gallons @\$2.30. M/C.
- D. Policy to allow electronic payments-Tabled.
- E. Add cameras to old dump, Grapple-Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Kelly Holmes to purchase 2 cameras for the old dump. M/C. Grapple cost \$1600. Dave Mattson recommended to see if they could "borrow" someone's to see if it works and then purchase one.
- F. W/S Clerk Retiring-Audrey Viola is retiring after 30 years of service for the township. Kelly Holmes has been learning the position and will hire a new W/S Clerk and appoint a Deputy Treasurer. Till then she would like to hire Jake Holmes to work over the summer at the same rate of \$18/hr. Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Dan Palosaari. Kelly Holmes abstained. M/C.
- G. MERS Agreement Amendment-Motion by Dave Mattson supported by Dan Palosaari to amend the agreement that Temporary, Part-Time, Seasonal, Appointed, Contract Employees are excluded from the MERS pension plan. Also, the Definition of Compensation is Gross Wages. With the new amendment, motion by Dave Mattson supported by Ryan Kuntze to hire Jacob Elenich for seasonal work at \$15.50/hr. and 40 hours per week. 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

