

Council Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2009

The Village of Chippewa Lake Council met in regular session on Monday, December 14, 2009 at the Church at the Lake located at 7824 Lake Road. The Honorable Mayor Joanne Dodaro called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Present: Mayor Joanne Dodaro, Clerk-Treasurer Cathy Osborn, Council Members Katrina Sommers, Debbie Bican, Barb Hunter, Alan Robbins and Brent Osborn.

Absent: Council President Keith Riedel and Law Director Allan M. Michelson.

This is Katrina Sommers' last meeting as a council member. She has served the village for the last eight years. A cake was brought in for all to share and give thanks to her for her service to the community. Katrina has agreed to continue to do the updates on the village's website which she started many years ago. Thank you for everything Katrina!

Jerry from the Medina County Auditor's office reports that just in time for the cold weather he wants to bring our attention to some programs available.

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The Community Action Wayne-Medina offers the HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program) for those that qualify for help with

home heating. There is also an emergency home energy assistance program that is available one time per heating season. This would help those that have been threatened with a disconnection or have less than a ten day supply of heating fuel. Another plan is called a "Percentage of Income Payment Plan" also administered by Community Action. You can just more information about this assistance by calling 330-723-2229.

Motion made by Robbins to accept the minutes from the November 9, 2009 Council meeting. Osborn seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.

The Clerk-Treasurer reported the following bills to Council:

Staples	520.13
Joanne Dodaro	218.45
Cathy Osborn	1,310.25
Robert Locher, Jr.	332.52
Allan M. Michelson	631.56
Keith Riedel	136.78
Katrina Sommers	131.08
Debbie Bican	186.32
Barb Hunter	131.08
Alan Robbins	131.08
Brent Osborn	109.23
John Kindall	22.81

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Bills (Continued):

Columbia Gas	52.36
Ohio Edison	1,256.88
Time Warner Cable	89.19
Medina County Sheriff's Office	2,243.29
Medina County Sanitary Engineers	68.70
Michelle Wharton	480.00
Paul Vereb	320.00
Nick Schmitz	280.00
Don Bican	280.00
Pro Touch Lawn Care	1,037.50
Bright Idea Shops	1,990.00
Treasurer of State of Ohio	32.50
Walter Drane Company	95.00
Ohio Public Employees Retirement System	713.68
Postmaster	133.66
Bill Zweifel	400.00
Engineering Associates	1,040.15
C Martin Trucking	<u>522.50</u>
Total Of All Bills	\$14,896.70

Motion made by Sommers to pay the bills from their proper funds. Osborn seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.

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Committee Reports

Safety: Fire Chief Jeff Hall distributes the October Activity Report to members of Council. He reports that for the month of October the village had 0 fire calls and 5 EMS calls. The year to date totals for fire calls are 20 and there have been 42 EMS calls so far this year. Jeff said that at the January Council meeting they will have the stats for November and December of 2009. In 2010, the reports will only be behind one month instead of two months.

Mayor Dodaro added that Lafayette Trustee Lynda Bowers had a good thought for this time of year. Even if you don't have a small child or grandchild, you might know of a child that would like a gift. Please make a donation so that a child receives a special gift at Christmas from Santa delivered by the Fire Department.

Hunter read the patrol report for the month of November as follows: 2 calls assigned by dispatch, 18 self-initiated calls, 3 in person complaints, 61 citizen contacts, 13 assists citizens, 6 traffic stops, 2 village citations, 5 written warnings, 6 suspicious persons, 3 suspicious vehicles and 6 assists to other police departments. The deputies worked a total of 81 hours for the month of November. They logged 408.3 miles on the cruiser using 44.8 gallons of gasoline. **(See attached report)**

Hunter said that Claire List of the Neighborhood Watch program has sent out an email with good suggestions about burglar- proofing your home during the winter.

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Safety (Continued): Some of the suggestions were to walk up and down the driveways of neighbors who only live here

seasonally, plow or drive on those driveways and pick up newspapers that are just thrown out. Just be a good neighbor and keep an eye out should power go out and someone needs help.

Hunter said at the last Council meeting there was discussion about a pay raise for the deputies. They are currently paid \$22.50 per hour. Cathy and Hunter compared their numbers to determine the cost to the village to increase their hourly pay. Mayor Dodaro called Allan Michelson and found out that he will not be attending the meeting tonight because his car has broken down. She said he told her that council can approve an increase in hourly wage for the deputies by a motion. **Motion made by Hunter to increase the hourly pay of the deputies to \$23.00 per hour effective January 1, 2010 and eliminate the uniform allowance. Bican seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.** Cathy will notify the Sheriff's office of this approved pay increase beginning on January 1, 2010. Hunter thanked Cathy for coming up with all the figures that she had. She wished everyone a happy Christmas and a safe New Year.

Zoning: Osborn reported that on November 13, 2009, Bob Locher and he attended a Planning and Zoning Workshop in Westlake. He said that Locher and he chose to attend some different classes. Osborn said the classes he attended were interesting, but a lot of it was dealing with communities that are a lot larger than ours. He did learn that the village needs to change some zoning rules that are not correct.

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Zoning (Continued): The village does have a section in the zoning book that does regulate political signs in the village. He learned

it is a first amendment violation to regulate political signs other than the size of the sign. The village can't regulate the length of time it can be in somebody's yard or the number of signs in their yard. Osborn will bring this to the Board's attention during a workshop meeting.

Another class Locher and Osborn attended was a Small Community Comprehensive Plan which the Zoning Board is currently working on. The class was more or less a sales pitch for the company that was selling their program with a starting price of ten to twelve thousand for even the smallest of communities. Locher attended a class pertaining to the internet and he said he got a lot of good information from that class.

Osborn said the Zoning Board met on Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at 7:30 pm at the town hall. **(See attached minutes)** Osborn reports that Jeff and Jennifer Schmitt were present. He had a letter to read to the Zoning Board concerning the power posts on the lakefront. The information was collected and forwarded to Allan Michelson for a response. Osborn said that Jeff was also complaining about fireworks on the Fourth of July. He was told that was not a zoning issue and the next time he needs to call the sheriff when he has a complaint.

The Board then went into old business. There was a shed at 37 Circle Crest that was in violation. It has been moved two feet from the property line as requested. With the recent passage of the dumpster ordinance, the Kuric dumpster on Lake Road is now in violation. Locher will send a citation letter.

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Zoning (Continued): Osborn said that at 117 Clover Cliff is a vacant house, but a lot of people are parking there. Bob Locher and Deputy Easterday will monitor that area.

Locher went over his complaint list and three out of the four junk vehicles we had from last month are gone. One violation letter was returned to the village as unable to deliver. Locher is following up with Allan Michelson on the next step.

Mayor Dodaro asked the Zoning Board members if they were going to stay for the next year. After some demands for a very large salary increase they all decided to stay for the same amount of money. Mayor Dodaro said the village is lucky that they have all decided to stay because they are doing a very good job and it's not an easy job.

Osborn said the next Zoning Board meeting will be on Tuesday, January 5, 2010 at 7:30 pm at the town hall.

Osborn said that on December 10, 2009 they had a Zoning Workshop meeting. The Board, Osborn and the Zoning Administrator Cyndy Naragon were there to work on the comprehensive plan for the village. Cyndy and the Board are going to draft a plan, present it to the public for input and then to Council to be voted on. The plan is going to be an outline on the direction the village wants to proceed in the future. It will try to cover land use and possible development. There is an outline in the current zoning book that Cyndy will base the comprehensive plan on with the exception that the Board thought we should eliminate promoting industry in the village and only promote residential and limited commercial development.

Zoning (Continued): There is no date set for the next workshop meeting yet, but the ad will appear in the newspaper when scheduled.

Robbins said he received a complaint about an utility trailer being parked for the winter off of Beachside Blvd. Osborn will forward this complaint to Locher.

Finance: Cathy said that she doesn't have a lot of financial reports to review with Council tonight, but she sure will in January. She said she would like to schedule a Financial Planning meeting for Monday, January 11, 2010 at 6:30 pm. This meeting will be to review the end of year figures for 2009. At this time Cathy will also review the actual figures for 2009 and the 2010 **suggested** village appropriations on a spreadsheet that she will have prepared. This meeting will be held one hour prior to the January Council meeting. All members agreed to this meeting and Cathy will place the ad in the newspaper.

Cathy said tonight she has the bank statement ending November 30th and the accounting reconciliation to review with Council showing all balances are reconciled. She asks for Council's signature on her reconciliation page.

Cathy goes over the Cash Summary by Fund monthly report with figures from November 1st to December 14th before the approved bills are paid. The starting balance in all funds was \$208,269.41. The revenue collected and deposited was \$7,165.02 and the expenditures were \$15,179.80. The Star Ohio account presently has a balance of \$12,278.76. The checking balance is presently at \$187,975.87.

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Finance (Continued): Cathy said that Allan Michelson did purchase a CD that has the village's traffic and criminal code on it at a cost of \$95.00 from Walter Drane Company. This CD gives us the right to make as many copies as we need. Allan will bring this CD to Cathy at the January Council meeting. **Motion made by Osborn to waive the three reading requirement for Ordinance #689-09. Robbins seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved. Ordinance #689-09 "An ordinance to approve, adopt and enact updated traffic and general offenses codes for the village." was read by title only. Motion made by Hunter to adopt Ordinance #689-09 as an emergency. Osborn seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.**

Buildings: Sommers said she will look forward to see what will happen in 2010 with the building. She said Tom Melter is already on the ball and excited. He was able to get seven copies of the plan since the meeting last month. He has requested quotes from Gene's Refrigeration, Ron Pfaff Electric, Yorktowne Heating and Cooling and RB Electric. Mayor Dodaro asks that Jeff Thacker of Lake Refrigeration also be contacted again for an itemized quote. Council will need to make decisions once all the quotes are in. Mayor Dodaro thanked Tom for already obtaining bids and preparing to become head of the building committee when he takes his seat on January 11, 2010.

Melter said that there is a lot of "stuff" stored in the new building now which will make it difficult for contractors to work in there.

Buildings (Continued): Cathy said it has been mentioned to her about the need to build a storage shed next to the new building. This would be used for street materials and bulky equipment. It was discussed that Bill Zweifel would be given a key to this shed for maintenance purposes. Tom will discuss this with Keith as this may be a priority project to get that stuff out of the building and still serve a purpose after completion.

Sommers said she plans to continue working on the village website and do the newsletters if that's OK with everyone. She also gave her thanks for the cake in her honor and said that was a nice surprise.

Mayor Dodaro added that we all owe Katrina a debt of gratitude for our website and now the village calendar. We also need to thank you for our building that now stands. She is thanked for getting the village logo completed and starting the sales of village logo shirts, which she says she will continue to sell. Mayor Dodaro said she knows that she has spent a lot of time away from your family to serve your community which is appreciated. We thank you most of all for your work on the building. Katrina has worked with many different people and the many things you learned to do and we are grateful to you. Mayor said in closing "Thank you for the good job you've done." Cathy adds that "We will miss you."

Community Relations: Pam Williams of the Pride Committee said they are having a "Caroling Party" on December 20th. They will have a fire, hot chocolate and music to sing by and hopes that many residents show up for this first time event.

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Community Relations: Pam said driving over to the meeting she was surprised to see how many residents had their homes and property decorated for the holidays. They plan to have a meeting in January to start planning for 2010 activities.

Robbins said that he would like to see the Village Clean Up Day scheduled for around the first weekend in May.

Robbins said on December 5th members from the Lions Club, Village Pride and many village residents showed up to clean up the old Reese's Pond area. They filled up a huge dumpster with debris from that area. A special thank you to all who gave their time.

Tom Melter said that the ski team's fourth annual dinner auction will be on Friday, March 19, 2010 at the Oaks.

The Lions Club wrapped up their holiday fruit sale, the Toys for Tots collections, they are collecting names for needy families in the area to disburse baskets. Mayor Dodaro said that about forty families will receive approximately \$2,000.00 worth of food. The Lions Club helps the community by doing things that we don't see.

Mayor Dodaro and Alan Robbins attended a meeting hosted by the Medina County Planning Department at the Oaks on Tuesday, December 8th. Robbins said there were about fifteen people in attendance. They have concern about the possible explosive growth in our area without proper planning and zoning coordination between the villages. They are mainly looking at Lake Road from Chippewa Road down to the old park. This area involves two townships and two villages. Mayor Dodaro and Robbins agreed to work together on this project. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 18, 2010.

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Community Relations (Continued): Mayor Dodaro said that when you think of the village's commercial area you think it's not that big. Actually it is because all the property from Stop-N-Go down Lake Road to Chippewa Road is all commercial property. The village is paying attention to our commercial property and the comprehensive plan will allow us to have a say as to what goes in there in the future.

Cathy thanked Robbins for getting the new community ordinance boxes built and installed. Robbins thanked Bob Williams and Bob Dennison for helping him with the installation. Cathy said they look so much better, but she hasn't posted anything in them yet, but will soon. **(See attached Community Activities Report)**

Parks: Bican said that the Pochedley Park-Reese's Pond clean up was very successful. The next phase of clean up is to have Bill Zweifel go in and remove five small trees and grind up several stumps. He has given Bican a quote for \$2,500.00 for this work. **Motion made by Bican to encumber up to \$2,500.00 to have Bill Zweifel remove the trees and stumps in the Reese's Pond area. Sommers seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.**

Bican asked about who to contact about cleaning the pond up. Robbins suggested Bican should contact the Medina Soil and Water Conservation District would give her some direction. Bican will contact them and report back to Council.

Mayor Dodaro said that last month someone asked about putting a outlet in at the Point Park. She said she would contact Ohio Edison about this.

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Parks (Continued): She did speak with a man at Ohio Edison about installing an outlet on our pole at the Point Park. He gave her several options which included calling every time we wanted power to the outlet or having a fee on the bill all the time, which he didn't recommend. Mayor Dodaro said the outlet will be installed just like we did at the beach area.

Bican plans to make some changes to the existing beach benches next spring. She will also look into adding steps down into the lake. There were several different options discussed for the steps. A decision will be made later.

Bican said that a resident will be moving soon to the village and they have an elaborate swing set that they would like to donate to the village. Bican plans to look at a picture of the swing set and decide where this equipment could possibly be installed.

Streets: Mayor Dodaro said that the Phase Four Craggy Creek project is on schedule and the bidding will start in early 2010.

Riedel sent a message thanking Katrina for her time and work on Council and "Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night."

Cathy said she received a letter from the county engineer's office saying that the village is using an average of 254 tons of road salt for the past two winters. The village has been allocated 278 tons of road salt for this winter season at \$47.90 per ton picked up at their yard.

Cathy has received an agreement with the county commissioners to purchase road materials for 2010. This isn't just for road salt, but for road signs and posts as needed. The current agreement will expire on December 31, 2009.

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Streets (Continued): Cathy said that Allan Michelson has prepared an ordinance approving that agreement. **Motion made by Hunter to waive the three reading requirement for Ordinance #688-09. Osborn seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved. Ordinance #688-09 "An ordinance approving an agreement with the Medina County Commissioners for purchase of road materials in 2010 and declaring the same an emergency." was read by title only. Motion made by Robbins to adopt Ordinance #688-09 as an emergency. Osborn seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.**

Mayor Dodaro, Keith Riedel and Allan Michelson attended a meeting for "Percentage Aggregation Program". First Energy called to set up a meeting with the village and Gloria Glens to sign up for this program. She said basically you get your electricity from Ohio Energy instead of Ohio Edison which is pretty much the same company. They would be offering electricity for about 6% less than it is now. The claim is that they would give our village some money if this program was approved. Originally they said if we sign a nine year contract with them they would give the village \$50,000.00, but then they changed it to \$25,000.00. Council would only vote to put this issue on the ballot. This would be something that goes on the ballot and decided by the residents. Mayor Dodaro said she thought the village had until February sometime to decide to put this on the ballot or not. Mayor Dodaro will have Allan Michelson report on his opinion of this meeting at the January Council meeting.

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Mayor Dodaro decides to hold off on signing the agreement with Engineering Associates for the easement work pending further clarification from Allan Michelson.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

**Motion made by Hunter that the meeting be adjourned.
Sommers seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.**

Next Meeting: Monday, January 11, 2010 at 7:30 PM at the Church at the Lake located at 7824 Lake Road.

Joanne Dodaro, Mayor

Cathy Osborn, Clerk-Treasurer