

**VILLAGE OF CHIPPEWA LAKE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – MAY 10, 2021**

**NOTE – THIS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED VIA “ZOOM MEETINGS” DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS**

Mayor Joanne Dodaro called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M.

A roll call was taken with the following officials present: Lowell (Bud) Hardesty, Barbara Hunter, Alan Robbins, Tamitha Sorgi, Keith Riedel, Ken Demeter, Allan Michelson – Solicitor, Jim Brandenburg – Zoning Inspector, Gary Harris – Fiscal Officer; visitors Mark & Lisa Krosse, Mark Reuter, Ed Nagy, Andy Weimer, Matt Sorgi, Diane & David Mulliner, Gregory Stanislawski, Joan Armbruster, Dennis Mohn, Tim Davison, Brian Maxwell, Howard Wolff, Adam Carter, Gina Deeks, Chief Winkler and Deputy Harhay.

Mayor Dodaro thanked Tamitha and Ken for the very successful Find the Flag community activity and also thanked Tamitha, Ken and Ken’s wife along with the Pride Committee for all of their hard work on and the distribution of the Spring Newsletter

Mayor Dodaro asked if everyone read and agreed with the April 12<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes delivered to Council this past Saturday and if there were any corrections, questions or comments – none were offered

**Gary confirmed that Alan made the motion to accept the April 12<sup>th</sup> Minutes, and that it was seconded by Ken. Roll-call vote; Bud –aye, Barb – aye, Alan – aye, Tamitha – aye, Keith – aye, Ken - aye.**

Mayor Dodaro asked if everyone read the May Bill’s for Approval that delivered to Council this past Saturday and asked if there were any other changes, questions or comments – Gary confirmed that no other changes were made and the total payments amount to \$18,884.89

**Gary confirmed that Alan made a motion to approve the May Bill’s for payment in the amount of \$18,884.89 and that it was seconded by Barb. Roll-call vote; Bud –aye, Barb – aye, Alan – aye, Tamitha – aye, Keith – aye, Ken - aye.**

Council Reports:

Safety

Alan reporting:

1. read the Sheriff’s Monthly Hours Report with 83 of 80 hours requested having been worked in April and asked, Deputy Harhay if they are OK to begin working 100 hours per month in May and 120 hours per month June through September and Deputy Harhay reported everything looks good – Alan proceeded to read the Activity Log and when finished asked Deputy Harhay if there is anything of significance to report and Deputy Harhay reported “no” – Barb reported that the key code on the side door is still not working and she is researching how to do a reset – Alan offered to get door keys to Deputy Harhay for distribution to those who patrol the Village
2. Chief Winkler read his report – reported that the Rapid Response vehicle is soon to go into service – confirmed that hydrant flushing will be taking place and that he will put an alert on the Facebook page for our residents – Alan stated that he has a request from the Pride Committee to have fire department vehicles participate in the Memorial Day parade – Mayor Dodaro said she spoke with Fire Department employee Jenkins to alert the Village residents in advance when they plan to have a practice drill in the Village – Chief Winkler said he would do so and that he has high hopes that the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade can happen and he will be pleased to have members of

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his department present and in the parade – Alan stated that the Emergency Management team is busy with the build-out at Station 2 and reported that some local requests to use the facility for community functions had to be declined due to the amount of equipment now based at the facility and being “on call” – reported that the siren remains an open issue and it has a high priority for being replaced

Zoning

Bud reporting:

1. Jim read the Zoning Report and stated that the owner of 87 Longacre is asking for another extension to have the truck in running condition – Council discussed this matter and decided to not allow any extension and requested that Allan file charges – Allan confirmed that he will do so – Jim also relayed a message from Jeff Schmitt concerning the Village’s agreement to trim the tree line/hedgerow down to 48” and confirmed that the other property owner is not opposed to this
2. Allan called the Variance Hearing to order on the matter of installing a pool at 419 Northvale with a setback issue on two sides - Allan asked Jim if the neighbors had been notified about this Hearing and Jim confirmed “yes” – Allan proceeded to swear in the Mulliner’s (owners of the property) after confirming that no neighbors were in attendance at tonight’s meeting – David confirmed that a smaller pool is unavailable from the chosen manufacturer thus a 10’ encroachment into the set back requires a variance – Mayor Dodaro asked where the drain will empty and David confirmed that it will drain into the front culvert – Barb asked if this will drain into the Lake and Keith confirmed that it will – Mark Krosse confirmed that he did not know if the treated pool water going into the lake would cause any issues or not - Allan had Jim confirm the setback infringements which are 2’5” on one side and 4’ on the second side and then reviewed the Area Variance seven factors for the record and no exceptions were noted and then asked for a roll-call vote on approving the Variance – Roll-call vote; Bud – aye, Barb – aye, Alan – aye, Tamitha – aye, Keith – aye, Ken – aye. Allan asked Jim to issue the Decision Letter to the owner confirming the passage of the Variance – Jim said he would do so
3. Bud raised a concern about the condition of 7299 and 7385 Lake Road both in Lafayette Township that need corrections made – 7299 is empty/vacant, has high grasses, a sitting vehicle, poor condition of the property and 7385 had the fire with no insurance and now a burned-out structure sitting on the property and recommended that a letter be sent to the Township to correct these matters – **Gary confirmed that Bud made a motion to have Allan release a letter to the Township on these properties and that it was seconded by Ken. Roll-call vote; Bud – aye, Barb – aye, Alan – aye, Tamitha – aye, Keith – aye, Ken - aye. – Jim to provide photos to Allan for submission to the Township**
4. Mayor Dodaro asked Ken if he visited 388 Craggy Creek in response to the complaint raised last month about a business operating out of this site – Ken confirmed that he did visit the site and, in his opinion, there was no indication of a business operating out of the garage at this residence – Ken confirmed that he did not go upstairs in the garage – Allan confirmed that no photographs were provided to him by Village residents – Mayor Dodaro asked Allan to send a letter to the those who raised the concern at last month’s meeting stating that there is no basis for the complaint raised – Allan agreed to do so and Bud offered to send Allan the addresses for those raising the issue
5. Allan did the second reading of Ordinance 860-21 “an Ordinance amending the Village Zoning Code, Ordinance No. 498-00 in order to add the L-1 Lakefront district contained in new Article 4, District Regulations, Section 406 – Joan Armbruster supported the Ordinance – Alan recused

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himself from voting when the time comes for a vote – Ken reported that there appears to be a lot of miscommunication going on regarding the taxes for the properties involved – Allan confirmed an earlier letter received from Auditor Kovack stating that property owners had previously applied for revaluations, none were offered and thus no changes in the property taxes took place – Mark Krosse stated that property owners will have to appeal to the County Auditor as the “new” impact is the language change in Ordinance 860-21 to correct a 20 year mistake and confirmed that 5 years ago he wrote a letter requesting a revaluation that was declined – Allan stated that the L-1 Lakefront District adds a new factor into the discussion as should the fact that this is in a floodplain – Matt Sorgi asked if this is rezoned L-1 then it no longer is zoned as R-2 and Allan confirmed “yes” – Ken stated that his understanding is that as an L-1 zoned property, the property owners can have a fire pit on these properties or park their golf carts on the property, etc., and Allan confirmed that in his opinion this is correct for the property owners only - Allan confirmed that he has advertised for a Public Hearing on this Ordinance for the June 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting at 7:00 PM

6. Bud reported that he helped to prepare an Ordinance applying to wood piles in the Village due to the number of trees that are down on private properties, trees and piles of wood left for years, poor wood pile maintenance, etc. and reviewed sections from the Ordinance – a public discussion took place on this proposed Ordinance and the language therein - **Gary confirmed that Keith made a motion to amend the language in Section 1.D from 2 weeks to 30 days and that it was seconded by Ken. Roll-call vote; Bud –aye, Barb – aye, Alan – aye, Tamitha – aye, Keith – aye, Ken - aye.** – Allan will make this change and send it to Bud - Mark Reuter stated that there are other means to clean-up unsightly trees and debris as well as questioning the limit of one chord of wood per property and suggested that this not be passed as an emergency without further input – other Council members and residents questioned this Ordinance as “overreach”, short time limits to clear debris and woodpiles, too limiting on quantity allowed, etc. – Bud suggested that this Ordinance be “tabled” to allow for additional discussion, obtain comments, other ideas, etc. and asked that those with additional input to send such to either Bud or Allan – Keith suggested looking at other sub-divisions with similar legislation for ideas – Bud will post the proposed Ordinance onto the Village website

Community Relations

Tamitha reporting:

1. reported that the Garden Club has scheduled an activity that will run from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM on Saturday and she is planning on a kid’s activity at 11:00 AM when they will work with the kids on planting flowers and seeds where she hopes this might bring in some new folks into the Village Garden Club – she will be purchasing the necessary materials/supplies for this event
2. confirmed that they had 30 people attend Find the Flag and that all had fun as well as attracting some of our new residents and their children who also participated
3. Mayor Dodaro asked Mark Krosse if he had anything to report on Save-The- Lake and he reported that there is another meeting this Wednesday and he also reported that at last month’s meeting the Park District has hired a planning construction consultant for the old amusement area and that they plan on having 5-6 “stakeholders” involved and it is hoped that the Village of Chippewa Lake will be one of those stakeholders

Buildings & Utilities

Barbara reporting:

1. confirmed she replaced the flag at 24 Circle Crest Drive

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2. confirmed that the Backflow Test was also invoiced by Dynamerican who was not authorized to proceed with that work – Gary confirmed that he sent the invoice back to Dynamerican along with a note as to why payment is not being made and provided his telephone number in case they wanted to speak with him, thus far no call from this contractor
3. reported that the breaker box along Beachside Blvd now has a combination lock on the box but now the box is broken
4. provided further updates for the pole on Park Lake that had First Energy out and they did install a new anchor rod but it still has a “lean” and now Spectrum and Frontier should be able to move forward in correcting the low wires and thanked Mark Reuter for keeping an eye on the work done during the day and asked if he could obtain a business card from Frontier and/or Spectrum workers so she has a direct number and name when contacting First Energy – Mark said he will work on this – Barb reported that she is waiting to hear back from First Energy about the floodlights for this area but wasn’t sure if they are included in our agreement – Mark Krosse confirmed that they are not but told Barb he has a few ideas to discuss with her - Tamitha asked about the low wires and the timing to get this corrected and Barb reported that she had none but will keep her updated -
5. confirmed that the power usage at the Community Center has significantly dropped since turning off the baseboard heaters – Gary confirmed a 60-70% drop in power usage since those heaters have been shut down – Barb asked for the OK to mark the breaker for these heaters to remain off and Mayor Dodaro gave the OK
6. confirmed that the door lock at the Community Center only works with a “key” for entry and explained that she replaced all of the batteries and will look on the website for any instructions on troubleshooting this device and if nothing works she will contact Albright to visit the site to assist in a solution

Parks

Ken reporting:

1. announced that the Beach will reopen on Memorial Day, May 30<sup>th</sup> and that they do plan on hiring 5-6 new Beach Attendants
2. applications for boat stickers and beach passes remain available on the website and Post Office
3. Mayor Dodaro thanked Bill for repairing the Fountain

Streets

Keith reporting:

1. reported that Phase 8 requires an Ordinance to be generated about acceptable connections as well as boring or tunneling for water lines and wondered if Allan has heard anything from Engineering Associates and Allan stated that he had not but that he will begin to put the Ordinance together - Keith asked Gary about the advertisement for Construction Bids – Gary confirmed that he did place the Ads to run on May 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> with a bid opening date of May 26<sup>th</sup>
2. asked Gary about allowed monies for pot-hole repairs and Gary stated that based on their discussion last month the agreed upon amount was \$25,000
3. Mayor Dodaro asked Keith about the tree removal they did on Park Lake near Craggy Creek – Keith confirmed that this was taken down as the result of complaints by School Bus drivers that it was scratching the sides of the busses and he also confirmed that other dead trees need to be removed as well that are causing this same problem

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Legal

Allan reporting:

1. confirmed that he is working on 5 cases – #1 for 9 Park Way Path the trial date of May 27<sup>th</sup> had to be rescheduled due to his being out of town at that time, #2 the disorderly conduct trial that was set for April 19<sup>th</sup> had the defendant failing to appear, a warrant for her arrest has now been issued, #3 waiting on a sentencing date to be set on a disorderly conduct charge, #4 Lee Lore property code violations going to trial this Friday, #5 the defendant was convicted on an obstruction of official business and resisting arrest to perform 50 hours of community service and pay \$410 in court costs
2. announced that the Village has received a document from NORML Appalachia of Ohio indicating their intention to issue an initiative petition and obtain the necessary number of votes that will allow this Marihuana measure to be on the November ballot – Allan confirmed that the intent is to change the local laws to eliminate any penalties for possessing, growing or selling Marihuana and that it will be the responsibility of the Village to deliver the Petition to the Board of Elections once Gary receives the signed petition document from this group and both he and Gary have 10 days to review the signed Petition and then deliver it to the Board of Elections – those signing the petition will be confirmed by the Board of Elections whether they are Village residents as it does require no less than 10% of Village eligible voters to have signed the document - Citizens have two options as relates to a ballot issue – they can issue an Initiative to get something on the ballot or pursue a Referendum to remove something from the ballot
3. Mayor Dodaro asked about the status of the Lake Break Wall matter and Allan confirmed that he has not yet heard anything back from the County Attorney

Finance

Gary reporting:

1. confirmed that this past Saturday he distributed the April Bank Reconciliation Report to Council reporting that all accounts are “in balance” – he asked if there are any questions or comments – none were offered; he requested **a motion approving the April Bank Reconciliation Report as distributed and authorizing Council to sign the report – he confirmed that Alan made a motion to so move, and that it was seconded by Ken. Roll-Call vote: Bud –aye, Barb –aye, Alan – aye, Tamitha – aye, Keith – aye, Ken – aye.**
2. confirmed that this past Saturday he distributed the April Appropriations Report to Council through April 30<sup>th</sup>; he asked if there were any questions –none were offered– Gary asked for a **motion approving Council to sign-off on the Appropriations Report through April 30<sup>th</sup> signifying Council’s review and agreement with the expenditures, he confirmed that Alan made a motion to so move, and that it was seconded by Keith. Roll-Call vote: Bud –aye, Barb –aye, Alan – aye, Tamitha – aye, Keith – aye, Ken – aye.**
3. confirmed that the Record Retention Program’s RC-2 was approved by the State authorities and the next Records Commission meeting will be held on December 13<sup>th</sup>
4. confirmed that he did attend a webinar for the American Rescue Plan Act entitled Project Funding Strategies on April 27<sup>th</sup> where general guidelines were discussed but without the specific details that are yet to release – the initial estimate of funds to be made available to Chippewa Lake amount to \$146,069.34 – the Village has already filed the necessary documentation allowing us to receive any such grant monies by having set up the US Government’s System for Award Management (SAM) as well as obtaining a Dunn & Bradstreet

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number for the Village - a second webinar was announced at 3:00 PM today that started at 4:00 PM which I was also able to attend, this meeting was hosted by the US Treasury Department announcing that monies will be made available to non-entitlement communities (communities with less than a population of 50,000) and stated that more details would be made available next week

5. announced that we are at that point in time once again where we need to begin working next year's (2022) budget – reported that over the next few weeks he will be sending Council his first pass at the budget along with documents to assist them in their review and requests for any budget adjustments – the final budget must be approved at the July 12<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting after which he will forward it to the Medina County Auditor's Office
6. Alan asked Gary if he has heard anything from County or Lake officials relating to projected changes in revenues and Gary responded that no such changes have yet been generated or mentioned

Old Business

Nothing reported.

Public Participation

1. Gregg thanked Council for looking into developing a standard for wood piles in the Village and raised concerns about too tight of a timeline to clear cut wood from properties due to all of the work involved especially when taking down multiple trees and how a standard will assist everyone to avoid trees being down and wood piles sitting for years and looking "ugly"
2. Ed thanked Council for looking into the break-wall issue and thanked Tamitha and Ken for the Capture the Flag event where he and his family had a great time
3. Dennis reported that on Rustic Rook and Craggy Creek there are cables broken and wires just hanging – Barb reported poor response from Frontier and Spectrum and suggested that he contact them as a resident with wire issues on his property which may get better results and to let her know if no response is received and she will see what she can do to assist – he also raised concerns about an issue on the condition of the Lake that is due to inadequate drainage where this has been an issue for decades – Allan reported that the response he has received for years from the Muskingham Watershed District on this matter is the problem is that there is only an 8" fall between Chippewa Lake and Rittman and the need to build a retention pond or lake is one answer – Mark Krosse also reported that dredging of the Lake is not yet a firm consideration by the Park District due to locating a site/method to dispose of the dredging materials

New Business

1. Alan raised a concern about the street sign posts where wood rot has happened and suggested the Village put out a Request for Quotation to repaint these street sign posts and/or see if there is any interest within the Village to undertake this project and bring them up to standard

**There being no further business, Gary confirmed that Keith motioned to adjourn at 9:31 PM, and that it was seconded by Alan.**

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Mayor Joanne Dodaro

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Fiscal Officer, Gary Harris