

**VILLAGE OF CHIPPEWA LAKE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – June 12, 2023**

Mayor Joanne Dodaro called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

A roll call was taken with the following officials present: Barbara Hunter, Alan Robbins, Lowell (Bud) Hardesty, Keith Riedel, Tamitha Sorgi, Ken Demeter, Allan Michelson - Solicitor, Jim Brandenburg – Zoning Inspector, Matt Sorgi – Assistant Zoning Inspector, Gary Harris – Fiscal Officer; visitors Bill Glasenapp, Leslie & JB Burns, Kelly Schmetzer, Lisa & Mark Krosse, Alison & Andy Weimer, Ed Stevens, Jen & Rob Root, Tom Melter, Claire List, Scott Donaldson, Byron Barlow, Pam & Bob Williams, Mark Reuter, Howard Wolff, Andy Vidra, Christopher Livingston, Deputy Harhay, Acting Fire Chief Holzman and Brian Cavanaugh

Mayor Dodaro thanked Tamitha for generating and sending out the Newsletter

Mayor Dodaro thanked Tamitha, Barb, Matt and Debbie for Kids Day and the great job that they did and the fun that the kids had with the “frozen T-shirt” challenge where most of the shirts were too frozen to be able to put on and it created a lot of fun for the kids – Great Job

Mayor Dodaro asked if everyone read and agreed with the May Regular Meeting Minutes and asked if there were any corrections, questions or comments – none were offered

Alan made the motion to accept the May Minutes, and it was seconded by Bud. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Mayor Dodaro asked if everyone read the June Bill’s for Approval and asked if there were any other changes, questions or comments – Gary stated that late this afternoon he sent out a revision and he was just now given another invoice which will revise the total to \$46,834.42

Alan made a motion to approve the revised June Bill’s for payment in the amount of \$46,834.42 seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

Council Reports:

Safety

Alan Reporting:

1. read the Sheriff’s Monthly Reports, they worked 86 hours in May down from the 100 hours requested and Alan asked Deputy Harhay how June is looking and he responded that they will get closer to the number of hours requested – read the Activity Report and asked Deputy Harhay if he has any concerns and he reported “none”- Mayor Dodaro asked if they are now doing Bike Patrol’s – Deputy Harhay reported “yes, they do this on a Countywide basis, not just in Chippewa Lake – Leslie asked if the Park Rangers report to the Sheriff’s department – Deputy Harhay reported that they have their own Chief and headquarters – Bob asked if we are to call 911 for emergencies on the Lake and Deputy Harhay said “yes, as their office dispatches response teams for such emergencies – Mark Reuter asked about a golf cart accident and Deputy Harhay confirmed such an accident and reminded all that parents can get charged if there is an underaged driver as a regular driver’s license is required and the rules of the road also do apply to golf carts – Andy Vidra asked about car seats for children in a golf cart and a brief discussion took place with Deputy Harhay advising everyone that if all occupants are

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buckled in and driving safely there should not be any violation involved and he stated that golf carts are not permitted on roads with speeds at or above 45 mph

2. Alan asked Acting Fire Chief Holzman to present his report to Council – Acting Chief Holzman reported that May had six calls for the Village out of 66 total calls in the month – reported that the Turnout Time for the month was at 2 minute and 9 seconds – reported that the average travel time to Chippewa Lake is 5minutes and 19 seconds – discussed several other matters including confirmation that they have the tarp on the rescue boat and hope to have it in the water and based at Craggy Creek and Beachside – reported having a new Medical Director, Dr. Minotti, all fire hydrant testing is completed and after interviewing three candidates he reported and introduced the new Fire Chief, Brian Cavanaugh, who spoke for a few minutes introducing himself to all in attendance as well as his objectives and outlook for the Fire Department

Zoning

1. Jim read the Zoning Report for June along with input from Allan who reviewed the history of this Case for 9 Parkway Path, the various inspections that have taken place, the lack of contact with the owner, Allan has passed along the contact information to another prospective buyer, discussed actions to date and options to be able to move this forward, confirmed that this home owner has been in court 5-6 times on these violations and paid the fines and his latest violation has a deadline to pay the associated fines on or before July 27th – Bud reminded everyone that the Village has had the Department of Health inspect the residence, it was not in a condition that called it a health hazard and they have no further interest in this matter – Council voiced consideration to have the Village pay to fix-up the exterior – Allan stated that if the Village does this, then if the Village is not reimbursed the Village could force a Sheriff Sale for this property after filing a lien – Council asked Allan to give notice to the owner to mow his property and that if it is not done, the Village will mow the property and lien the property – Allan asked Jim to provide him all of the details on what needs to be corrected - 227 Rustic Rook a review of the actions to date took place, it was confirmed that the owner has filed for bankruptcy, reported that materials at this site are currently stored in the right-of-way – Council asked Allan to give notice to the owner of the need to move materials out of the right of way and tarp the materials and to also advise the owner that the Village will do so if the owner does not – Keith and Ken suggested locating residents who might be willing to help move materials while Allan is working on the “notice” – Allan stated that the owner has appeared in court twice and has failed to pay the fines
2. Allan opened the hearing on the Variance for Parcel 048-28A-03-039 & -040, owned by Robert and Jennifer Root, where the owner wants the setback measurement measured from the foundation and not from the overhang on all four sides of the proposed house structure – Allan stated that the setback requirements were put into the Code years ago – neighbors were asked for input and comments which resulted in comments to the effect that the Code is the Code, also concerns about water run-off and impacting adjacent properties and Village responsibilities for water run-off in the right-of-way also consideration for changes to the Code – Village responses to these comments ranged from only swails have been in use on this stretch of road up to this point in time to the owner possibly needing to install a catch basin – Allan stated that the Zoning Inspector needs to be involved with the engineer to review allowances and additions for drainage control and, if a problem develops, the owner will be responsible to correct the issue – further discussion took place about the history of the Village and its early history of being a cottage Village and how, over time, the Village has transitioned into permanent homes with a

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history of Variances for residents and how the area in question is adjacent to a low area where water “ponds” when the Lake level rises – Keith stated that Village can install a storm sewer but the Village cannot prevent flooding and water back-up – it was confirmed that if a home is built on this property with the Variance allowed, it will be 15’ from two of the three neighbors property lines and 120’ from the third neighbor’s property line – Allan read the seven considerations that Council has to consider as each of them vote - **Allan asked for a roll-call vote: Bud - nay, Barb – aye, Alan – abstained, Tamitha – aye, Keith – nay, Ken – aye** – Allan stated that the Variance has passed and Jim is to issue a letter to the property owner

3. Tom Melter asked about his permit application that he mailed – Jim stated that he has not yet received it and that he will check again
4. Bill asked about the high grass at 221 Rustic Rook – Jim to investigate

Community Relations

Tamitha reporting:

1. reported that Kids Day event, that replaced the Fishing Derby, turned out great and with more kids participating – ages ranged from 2 to 12 years old and they were arranged into age groups for the competitive games and how nice it was to see the older kids helping the younger kids in what they had to do to win prizes
2. the next event is anticipated to take place on August 5th for Slip-N-Slide but she has to confirm the availability of the Fire Department – Keith asked if there is any age limit and Council asked him to please not participate
3. another consideration for an activity is a “thank you Community Party” for all the assistance offered by Village residents
4. Mayor Dodaro stated that she received a flyer on her door to subscribe to LIT Fiber and asked “what about Medina Fiber” – Mayor Dodaro advised those handing out the flyers that the Village does not permit such solicitations – a discussion took place on several topics including the level of involvement of Medina County, other companies who appear to be coming into the Village and installing fiber-optic lines, different colored flags and which companies have which colors, possible ownership change at Medina Fiber and the potential impacts to the previous quoted prices – Barb stated that the company who had an oil and/or fuel spill on the parking lot at the Community Center never returned to correct this issue as they had promised to do – Mayor Dodaro asked that more information be obtained about what is going on the fiber optic companies and recommended that any residents with damage issues contact LIT direct and if the problem persists, let Council know about this
5. Residents expressed concerns about non-residents entering the Village and using accessing Village facilities especially now that Medina County Park District is opening up the areas around our Village – this led to a discussion and concerns about parking around the Village, use of the Village boat launch areas, new residents outside of the Village but with a Village mailing address believing they have full access to Village facilities – a suggestion was made to install signs stating that Chippewa Lake is a Private Community – Allan stated that this cannot be done as we are a municipal corporation – Alan offered to contact the Sheriff’s department if he is advised about illegal parking within the Village

Buildings and Utilities

Barbara reporting:

1. reported that she will install a new battery in the Community Center clock tomorrow

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2. reminded Council that she encumbered \$1,000 last month for front door repairs and that she is working with Matt on these repairs
3. confirmed that the old TV in the Fiscal Officer's office is being donated to Medina Counties Department for Developmental Disabilities next week
4. reported that there has still been no response from First Energy – she has emailed them once again to obtain pricing to add one LED in the corner of the Beach Parking Lot as well as adding a mast arm and LED at the Beach
5. reported that she has a price of \$3,500 to remove the flood lights at Point Park and \$5,500 to install new LED's with new mast arms
6. on the matter of installing a new pole at Point Park to support Village activities a discussion took place with many open questions and several ideas – Barb is working on getting a price to install a new pole that will meet our needs and then we can compare that against other options once a price estimate is obtained
7. **Barb made a motion to encumber \$9,000 for another storage barn at the Community Center, seconded by Ken. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
8. Alan indicated that the Medina County Park District is not interested in sharing any cost for a Siren - Christopher has obtained some pricing ranging from a low of \$31,520 to a high of \$56,900 – Christopher reported that based on the area of coverage that a new siren can offer and based on the area that each subdivision occupies within the area range of the siren, Chippewa Lake is at 3.97%, Lafayette Township is 75.87% with the other communities and the Lake at other values and Alan reported contacting Lafayette Township and so far one Trustee is interested, Gloria Glens he is waiting to hear back, Friends of the Park may be willing to assist, Barb asked about Save the Lake and Alan will check with them and Mayor Dodaro asked that Alan approach the County Commissioners once again – Alan stated that he will begin checking with these other communities – Christopher feels that the USDA offers the best chance for a Grant option – the Mayor, Council and the audience applauded Christopher for his efforts and progress

Parks

Ken Reporting:

1. confirmed that the Beach opened on Memorial Day – Mayor Dodaro asked why they are working on days that are cold and/or rainy and recommended that they not work in such weather and consider giving them other work in the Village for those who still want to work – Ken stated that he will call Kelsey on this to discuss rules for Beach Attendants and the associated enforcement of the rules – Ken stated that all Beach Attendants are now CPR Certified
2. reported that he is ordering larger signs to restrict both parking and entering areas where non-residents are not permitted to be and restricted access to other certain Village amenities – Barb suggested, where appropriate, to list any applicable Ordinance to better emphasize the restrictions
3. confirmed that the dock and kayak launch are installed and in use and he has received positive feedback from the community – reported that the Village has filed for a \$1,200 rebate that he would like to use for lights on the dock, tools and a new water ladder for the swimming platform at the Beach
4. stated that new ropes will be needed next year along with floats to mark the area reserved in the Lake for beach users – Tom stated that spare floats are stored above in the attic

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5. invited Mark Reuter to distribute a plan for Briarwood Park – Mark distributed his plan to all in attendance, reviewed his layout and enhancements to this Park that is yet to be “named” – Ken stated that the new fence will be installed the first week in July and the trees that are in the way of the new fence will be removed this Friday – Ken stated that he would eventually like to see an observation deck installed in this Park and Mayor Dodaro suggested naming the Park “Overlook Park”
6. confirmed that Valley View has begun weekly mosquito spraying
7. Ed asked about a dead tree on Bungalow Bay needing removal and a new tree planted by someone unknown – Bud to investigate this with Ed

Streets

Keith reporting:

1. confirmed that the Village did not get awarded the Small Government Grant and that he is in the process of obtaining bids for street repairs

Legal

Allan reporting:

1. confirmed that he has the two other cases in addition to those in Zoning – one is a violation of a Protective Order that now has a Trial date of June 30th and the second case is a Domestic Violence case with no Trial date yet set
2. reported that he has three Ordinances ready for reading
3. did the first reading of Ordinance 885-23, “an Ordinance requesting that the Medina County Auditor certify to the Village of Chippewa Lake the total tax valuation of the Village and the revenue that would be generated by the Replacement of the existing three (3) mil current Road and Bridge Levy of the Village and the declaring the same an emergency”
4. **Keith made a motion to waive the 2nd and 3rd readings of Ordinance 885-23, seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
5. **Keith made a motion to adopt Ordinance 885-23 as an emergency, seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
6. did the first reading of Ordinance 884-23, “an Ordinance approving the second amended Agreement to establish the Medina County Office of Emergency Management Agency and Homeland Security”
7. Alan asked what changes are in the second amended Agreement and Allan stated the Agreement is rather lengthy and he can review it all or send it to everyone – Alan asked that he send it out to all of Council for further review

Finance

Gary reporting:

1. confirmed that he distributed the May Bank Reconciliation Report to Council reflecting that all accounts are in balance – he asked if there are any questions or comments – none were offered; he requested **a motion approving the May Bank Reconciliation Report as distributed and authorizing Council to sign the report – Alan made a motion to so move, and it was seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
2. confirmed that he distributed the May Appropriations Report to Council through the end of May, he asked if there were any questions –none were offered– he asked for **a motion approving Council to sign-off on the Appropriations Report through the end of May signifying**

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Council's review and agreement with the expenditures, Alan made a motion to so move, and that it was seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

3. reminded Council of the need to identify a project for the NOPEC Grant and use \$1,318.57 by November 30th or return the unused portion and he reminded Council that NOPEC did authorize up to \$1,200 towards purchasing an AED
4. confirmed sending out the Special Election Notice on June 9th to Barb and Bud and Barb agreed to open the facility on August 7th, 8th and 9th – Gary asked Bud if he is able to be present to accept the delivery of the voting machines on the 7th and the pick-up of the units on the 9th and he confirmed that he is able to do this – Gary thanked both Barb and Bud for their assistance on this matter
5. reminded Keith that the new OPWC Applications will be opening up in June and we need to notify Engineering Associates if we are going to pursue an OPWC Grant this year
6. reported delivering to all of Council, this past Saturday, the 2024 Budget Overview and stated that the budget cannot support the additional \$50,000, requested by Barb at May's meeting, to be added to the Land and Buildings budget as there are insufficient monies available based on the 2024 Appropriations already budgeted – Gary stated that at the end of this year and if sufficient carryover is available, we may be able to add this to the 2024 budget at that time – he asked if there were any questions or comments about the 2024 Budget – none were offered
7. asked for a **“motion approving the submittal of the 2024 Budget to the Medina County Auditor, the same budget as given to Council at the April, 2023 Council Meeting, so moved by Keith, seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
8. Alan did the first reading of Ordinance 883-23, “an Ordinance to amend Permanent Appropriations for the current expenses of the Village of Chippewa Lake, State of Ohio, during the year ending December 31, 2023 and declared to be an emergency” – Gary stated that this is to add the extra \$5,000 to the Park budget as requested by Ken back in April
9. **Bud made a motion to waive the 2nd and 3rd Readings of Ordinance 883-23, seconded Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
10. **Bud made a motion to adopt Ordinance 883-23 as an emergency, seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
11. asked Allan if there are any updates to the request to lower the property taxes on the Village owned properties – Allan stated that they are “in process”
12. reported that as of the end of May, the balance in the primary checking account was \$230,163.71 in the Money Market account \$250,967.43 and \$102,517.82 in the Star Ohio account for a total of \$608,098.28 - he asked if there were any questions – none were offered – Gary reminded everyone to remember that nearly 90% of this amount of money is already appropriated so the amount of “free or unencumbered” money is not the \$608,000

Old Business

1. Bud requested that Allan and Gary proceed with the contract for the McCabe Creek project and he reported that the neighbors are not willing to sign an easement – Allan asked if they will sign an Agreement allowing the Village to access their property for the work involved and Bud said he will deliver the Agreement to them once received
2. Pam confirmed that we have the July 4th Parade and ski show coming up as well as the annual Cardboard Boat Race and that the Pride Committee has purchased a large event tent for shared usage
3. Mark Reuter asked Allan for a copy of the EMA Agreement – he asked who sets the schedule for the Sheriff to patrol the Village and Alan stated for special events we make such requests but

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not for the daily patrols – Mark suggested to Gary that he offer a workshop explaining how the budget works and Gary said he would be happy to do so

4. Andy Weimer asked about the 2024 Budget – Gary offered to send him the documents, that are all public records and asked if anyone else wanted a copy, Tom Melter also asked for a copy and Gary said he will send them out
5. Bill reported that the wrong edging was received for the Tennis Court and that they now have the correct edging – he requested more presence by the Sheriff in the Village
6. Bob thanked the newest group of helpers, including Bryan, for moving the flower pots

New Business

1. Alan announced the upcoming Lions Club Hole-in-One competition
2. Mayor Dodaro reported on the State of the Village and reported that we have good Village Council people who are getting things done, for example, Alan and his work on Safety and the Siren, Bud for his work on Zoning and McCabe Creek, Tamitha and her work with the kids and the Newsletter, Barb and her work with Ohio Edison and Building issues, Ken and his work with the Beach Attendants and rules and working with John on the dock and kayak launch and Tennis Court, Keith for his work on Streets and the pond and the help provided by Jim and Matt on Zoning as well as the work done by Allan as Solicitor and Gary as the Fiscal Officer

Public Participation

Nothing offered.

There being no further business Alan motioned to adjourn at 10:26 PM, seconded by Tamitha.

Mayor Joanne Dodaro

Fiscal Officer, Gary Harris