

**VILLAGE OF CHIPPEWA LAKE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 11, 2024**

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

A roll call was taken with the following officials present: Lowell (Bud) Hardesty, Alan Robbins, Barb Hunter, Tamitha Sorgi, Leslie Burns, Ken Demeter, Allan Michelson – Solicitor, Jim Brandenburg – Zoning Inspector, Matt Sorgi – Assistant Zoning Inspector, Gary Harris – Fiscal Officer; visitors Kelly Schmotzer, A. Safko, Edward Nagy, Fire Chief Cavanaugh and Deputy Harhay

Mayor Dodaro did her annual salute to the past Mayor of Briarwood Beach, Leonard English, for being the first community in the United States to make Saint Patrick’s Day a Legal Holiday

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

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

Mayor Dodaro asked if everyone read the revised March Bill’s for Approval and asked Gary to read the revised amount and he reported that it is now \$49,057.82, Mayor Dodaro asked if there were any other changes, questions or comments – none were offered

**Alan made a motion to approve the revised March Bill’s for payment in the amount of \$49,057.82 seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**

Council Reports:

Safety

Alan Reporting:

1. read the Sheriff’s Monthly Reports, they worked 84 hours in February versus 80 hours scheduled – read the Activity Report and asked Deputy Harhay if there was anything special to report, Deputy Harhay stated “nothing special” – Alan announced that Deputy King is no longer serving in the Village and reported that Deputy Harhay and Captain Ross have interviewed three candidates and selected one, that being K-9 Deputy Mike Lyon who also has the benefit of living in the vicinity – Alan reported that Captain Ross is retiring at the end of March, replacing him will be Captain Chris Conwill who came to the department with Sheriff Grice – Alan will be sending a “thank you” to Captain Ross and a “welcome” to Captain Conwill – Alan thanked Deputy Harhay for participating in the screening of the applicants for replacement patrol personnel for the Village
2. Fire Chief Cavanaugh reported that of the 49 calls in February, 6 of the calls were for Chippewa Lake and 65% of all calls were for EMS – reported that the 2024 YTD Turnout Time is 2 minutes and 8 seconds and the Average Travel Time is 5 minutes and 36 seconds – reviewed the Mutual Aid Given and Received – confirmed that the Citizen Advisory Committee had its first meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup> with a great turnout and that the next meeting will be on March 21<sup>st</sup> – reconfirmed that the annual Pancake Breakfast will be held every Sunday in April – reviewed the Education, Grants and Department details from his reports – Alan asked if the Fire Department gets reimbursed for training costs for Firefighters and EMS personnel if/when they leave the fire department for other opportunities in other communities and Chief Cavanaugh said “yes, if it

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was paid for by his department” but many employees self-pay for the training – Alan offered assistance for the Pancake Breakfast through the Lions Club if additional help is needed – Mayor Dodaro asked if the Chief has obtained the schedule for trains on the tracks north of the Village and the Chief confirmed not yet but he will keep trying and will report back to the Mayor

3. Alan reported that when he had no response from Representative Ray’s office he called again and spoke with one of her associates on the matter of Siren financial assistance – the associate sent Alan an Application for the One Time Strategic Community Investment Funds, due on the 15<sup>th</sup>, and they also offered to contact the State Public Safety Committee to see if any financial assistance might be available, Alan confirmed that he is looking for \$35,000 in assistance

Zoning

Leslie had nothing to report.

1. Jim read the Zoning Report for March – 9 Parkway Path and 227 Rustic Rook – reported nothing changed from last month – Allan also hasn’t heard back from anyone and he will follow-up and report back to Council next month
2. Allan swore in Mr. Safko in a continuation of last month’s Variance Hearing for 224 Shorefield Drive – Jim reviewed the set-back issue of 10’ per code and now a proposed set-back of 2’8” – Mr. Safko reported that the set-back with the gutters installed will be 2’6” – Allan asked if Jim notified the neighbors about tonight’s meeting and Jim said “yes” and he reported that he spoke with one neighbor, Mr. Lyle Morris and he is OK with everything – Allan read the seven (7) factors to be considered with this Area Variance and no exceptions were taken, Allan asked for a Roll-Call Vote: Bud – yes, Barb – no, Alan – yes, Tamitha – yes, Leslie – yes, Ken – yes, Allan reported that the Variance is passed; Jim to notify the owners in writing
3. Mayor Dodaro asked if Jim looked at the tree issue on Garmin and Jim reported “no but he will look at it”
4. Bud reported that the Travel Trailer is gone from 316 Craggy Creek

Community Relations

Tamitha reporting:

1. confirmed that the Easter Party and Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, starting at noon at the Community Center and that she is working on securing the Easter Bunny for this event
2. reported that she will be placing hand-outs on the table in the Community Center from both the Department of Commerce, on “how to” issue complaints about cable companies, and from the Medina County Library on the “programs” planned for 2024
3. will be posting a notice on the website and Facebook issued by Habitat for Humanity for those needing financial assistance in making minor home repairs
4. a discussion took place as pertains to the Agreement between the Village and the Park District for the collection of dock fees, etc. and Allan confirmed that the Agreement will be revised to incorporate the agreed upon responsibilities that the Village will have as a part of this task and will be sent out tomorrow – it was confirmed that Amber is “on-board” with these responsibilities that, as Mayor Dodaro stated, we are already doing with the Beach access, Boat ramp and parking passes

Buildings and Utilities

Barb reporting:

1. confirmed resetting the clock in the Community Center that now requires batteries, also confirmed that all Exit lights are fully functional and lit

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2. confirmed that the annual Back-Flow test will be happening this Friday – Gary reminded her that the contractor must send the final reports to his attention so he can submit them to the Medina County Sanitary Engineering Department
3. confirmed that she will be receiving the Voting equipment and opening the Community Center for the Poll Workers on Tuesday, opening the Community Center on Wednesday for the Poll Workers and being present on Thursday for the removal of the Voting equipment
4. suggested using the remaining Endowment Funds for monuments and setting up a Memorial Park overlooking Craggy Creek – Ken reported that he is working on projects to use the Endowment Funds

Parks

Ken reporting:

1. reported that he is looking into building a second Bocce Ball court and is considering maintenance on the Shuffleboard Court to possibly pressure wash and repaint as well as building a second court at the Bungalow Bay Park and he wants to pressure wash the benches at this site as well – Leslie asked if a Corn-Hole Board could be set-up at the end of the Shuffleboard Court and also suggested updating the Totem Pole – Mayor Dodaro recommended to Ken that he call a Committee Meeting to discuss these matters – Andy who is watching on YouTube offered to provide Sticks and a Scoreboard for the Shuffleboard Court
2. confirmed hiring a Beach Supervisor, Anne Chech, and based on responsibilities and the need to work over a five-month period recommended an adjustment in the salary for this position– **Alan made a Motion to approve increasing the salary for the Beach Supervisor to \$1,250/season, paid in \$250 increments over five months, seconded by Leslie. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
3. confirmed that the Beach Attendant Applications are on the website
4. confirmed speaking with the Ski Team’s Tim Cochran on a few matters that still need to be worked out and finalized
5. Leslie suggested making the island pavilion located on Briarwood, Mayor Dodaro said it looks like a wishing well, look nicer with flowers – Bud reported that this has been done before but no one maintains it, weeds take over and we’ve got what we got

Streets

Bud reporting:

1. confirmed that the gas line work that is currently underway on a number of streets within the Village and the quality of the “finish work” is very good and that they will return in the Spring to reseed the work areas
2. recommended that we rework Parkway Path by milling and then an overlay of paving due to the poor condition of the street
3. **Bud made a Motion to resurface Parkway Path using Most Paving at a cost of \$14,832, seconded by Alan. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**

Legal

Allan reporting:

1. confirmed that he currently has no cases
2. reported that the Medina County Park District has issued a new 10-year Lease Agreement for use of the Lake in the Beach area and for the Boat Ramp – reported that there are new/revise

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conditions in the Agreement and that today he did provide copies to the Mayor and Council for their review so they can vote on Legislation to approve at April's meeting

3. confirmed that the Deed revisions went through for the 15 lots making them unbuildable – reported that he missed the deadline for getting the Auction Notice in the newspaper for the sale of two of these lots on Garmin and Allan will get the notice posted in the newspaper as well as posting it on the website and Facebook in time to have the Live Public Auction at the April meeting – Council agreed to list the minimum bid in the notice at \$500 per lot for these properties with a 10% down payment due on the night of the auction with the balance due in 30 days for these two properties currently valued at \$830 each

Finance

Gary reporting:

1. confirmed that he distributed the February 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 February Bank Reconciliation Report as distributed and authorizing Council to sign the report – Bud made a motion to so move, and it was seconded by Alan. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
2. confirmed that he distributed the revised February Appropriations Report to Council through the end of February, 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 February signifying Council's review and agreement with the expenditures, Bud made a motion to so move, and that it was seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
3. reported that he did not receive any calls from Council pertaining to the 2024 Permanent Appropriations for any changes – confirmed that he did add the \$6,400 to the Land and Buildings account for Barb's department – Council asked what this was for and Barb stated for a possible pole and light at Point Park – Gary said that Bud asked for another \$10,000 to be used for part of the overlay paving on Parkway Path – Leslie asked for another \$15,000 for the possible demolition for 9 Parkway Path for the Zoning accounts – Gary asked if there are any other changes – none were offered – Gary reported that with these changes, total Permanent Appropriations are revised to \$935,559.00 – Alan asked if we will be OK based on comparing Appropriations to current bank balances – Gary said that \$399,000 of this total is the OPWC pass-through monies and that for 2024 we will be OK
4. Allan did the first reading of Ordinance 895-24, an Ordinance to set Permanent Appropriations for the current expenses of the Village of Chippewa Lake, State of Ohio, during the year ending December 31, 2024 and declared to be an emergency for the public peace, health, safety and welfare
5. **Bud made a Motion to waive the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings of Ordinance 895-24, seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
6. **Bud made a Motion to approve Ordinance 895-24 as an emergency, seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
7. reminded Council that we do have the NOPEC Grant valued at \$1,643 Grant this year and he must still submit a project for review and approval before monies can be accessed – once Council decides on a project he will submit the documentation for review by NOPEC
8. reminded Council that we also have the opportunity to apply for the PEP Grant valued at \$1,000 for use on safety related expenses for the playground, streets, sirens, etc. – once a project is identified he can process the grant application

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9. reported that since we exceed the FDIC limit in the Money Market Account, he is going to move 50% (\$124,621.47/62,310.73) of the General Fund monies, invested in the Money Market account into the Checking Account – this way all funds are FDIC insured and with this reduction in the Money Market account it will take a considerable amount of time to reach the FDIC limit of \$250,000 – Alan confirmed that with the new Investment and Banking Policy that we have, Gary is free to move these monies as needed without Council approval
10. as of the end of February, the balance in the Primary Checking Account was \$272,089.20 and \$256,951.49 in the Money Market Account and \$106,810.35 in the Star Ohio Account for a total of \$635,851.04 – he asked if there are any questions or comments – none were offered
11. Alan reported that in February, interest earned amounted to \$1,855.25 – Gary stated that all of this is due to Andy Weimer suggesting investigating higher interest earning programs for Village monies and Gary thanked Andy, who was reported as attending tonight’s meeting via YouTube

Old Business

1. Bud asked Gary about bid proposals for the OPWC Phase 9 project – Gary said he has spoken with Joshua, from Engineering Associates, and recommended that we advertise the bids in April, select a contractor in May and begin construction in July and that this is the same tactic he uses for the OPWC Grants in Burbank

Public Participation

1. Kelly thanked Council for the work that they do
2. Ed thanked Council as well

New Business

1. Barb reported that the flag on Willow Wood is tattered so she purchased a new, but smaller flag, from the sister of Lewis Bertock, a veteran, to replace the tattered flag

**There being no further business Alan motioned to adjourn at 9:02 PM, seconded by Tamitha.**

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Mayor Joanne Dodaro

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Fiscal Officer, Gary Harris