

**VILLAGE OF CHIPPEWA LAKE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**

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

A roll call was taken with the following officials present: Alan Robbins, Barb Hunter, Tamitha Sorgi, Ken Demeter, Bud Hardesty, Allan Michelson – Solicitor, Jim Brandenburg – Zoning Inspector, Matt Sorgi – Assistant Zoning Inspector, Gary Harris – Fiscal Officer; visitors, Alison & Andy Weimer, Howard Wolff, Pam and Bob Williams, Pamela & Dennis Mohn, Scott Schilero, Kelly Schmetzer, Greg Stanislan, Deputy Harhay and Assistant Fire Chief Holzman

Mayor Dodaro thanked Pam and Bob for their work on the Village Pride Party and the Chippewa Lake Ski Team for the very nice show on Saturday over the Labor Day Holiday

Mayor Dodaro stated that in the August Meeting Minutes under Zoning, item 4 needed to change from Leslie to Jim in the opening remark and asked if there were any other corrections – Jim stated that also under Zoning, item 2, line 4, correct the name spelling to Hannahs – **Bud made a motion to approve the revised August Minutes, seconded by Tamatha. Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays**

Mayor Dodaro asked if everyone read the September Bill's for Approval and asked if there were any other changes, questions or comments – Gary reported that there was one late addition adding \$22.97 bringing the total to \$19,966.44

**Alan made a motion to approve the revised September Bill's for payment in the amount of \$19,966.44 seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays**

Council Reports:

Safety

Alan Reporting:

1. read the Sheriff Department reports, they worked 99 out of the 100 hours requested in August, there were 88 activities of which 55 were extra patrols for August – confirmed that Deputy Cornelius took a disability retirement and will not be returning – Deputy Harhay confirmed that the fourth suspect in the break-in at Cycles R Us was apprehended and a Grand Jury will soon be convened - Alan and Deputy Harhay also reported that Grants are available for FLOCK cameras that are used at intersections to ID license plates for cars that law enforcement but we are not pursuing this at this time – Alan reported that Leslie has generated some Friendly Parking Notices and he has spoken with Captain Cornwall and Alan has asked Allan Michelson to look into options, if any, to post such notices onto vehicles, fines that may be imposed, etc.
2. Assistant Chief Holzman read the report and in addition to other items in the report he announced that there were 65 calls in July, 10 of the calls were for Chippewa Lake and 78% of all calls were for EMS – confirmed that they assisted other departments three times in August and they received assistance three times as well – Alan reported that the average Turn-out time year to date is 2 minutes and 4 seconds and the average time to arrive on site was 5 minutes and 3 seconds
3. Alan also reported that he is working on the details for receiving the monies for the \$35,000 Grant that was obtained to replace the existing siren and hopes to have it installed by the end of this year

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4. Bud reported watching the moving tribute to those NY Firefighters who lost their lives on 911 and expressed his sincere appreciation to the Lafayette Firefighters and all other Firefighters who walk into fires doing their jobs to save and help others
5. reported the Medina County Park District Report for August enforcement activities on Chippewa Lake:  
**Citations** – 1 ORC 1547.05 Completing boating course as prerequisite to licensing  
**Verbal Warnings** – 1 ea. ORC 1547.15 Observer required when towing, 2 ea. ORC1547-22 Restriction on Sitting, Standing, Walking on Moving Vessel, 2 ea. ORC-1547-57 Watercraft Tags and 1 ea. Park Code 9.9 Failure to Register
6. report listed 1 citation ea. for violating ORC 1547.05 and the need to complete the boating course for obtaining a license, 015 and the need for an observer when skiing and 57 regarding Watercraft Tags along with 6 Verbal Warnings

Zoning

Jim reporting:

1. read the Zoning Report for September – 9 Parkway Path – no update but Allan reported that he will be filing charges for this as well as for 77 Longacre – Jim confirmed that for 273 Rustic Rook he is moving forward to issue an Order to Correct
2. Alan asked how long is a Permit good for and Jim stated for 1 year
3. Allan reported that he has issued a Legal Opinion on the complaint raised at last month's meeting by the Walter's regarding what appears to be a violation of the Zoning rules as pertains to the driveway location – Allan stated that there is no violation of the Zoning code as the Permit was issued based on a pre-existing non-conforming use before the current 2' set back went into effect, thus, there is no violation or misuse of the Zoning rules

Community Relations

Tamitha reporting:

1. confirmed that the Fall Festival is scheduled for September 28<sup>th</sup>, it is a fund-raising event and she is looking for donations and volunteers and this year she is going to have a contest for the best Dog Photos and asked those interested in participating to send her the photos and to include the name of the family and a phone number so winners can be notified for door prizes and confirmed that the Balloon Rides will be back as well for a fee
2. confirmed that the Golf Cart Party will be on September 21<sup>st</sup>, Pam asked that others who would like to participate should see her about signing up – Tamitha announced that the Porch Rockers are scheduled for September 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>
3. Mayor Dodaro announced that the Garden Club has a revised price to replace the fence surrounding the public Garden down from a bid of \$15,000 now at \$5,699 and Pam asked the Village for some assistance
4. **Ken made a motion to have the Village donate \$1,000 to the Garden Club for this effort, seconded by Alan. Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays**
5. Mayor Dodaro asked Ken to talk with John Sandora and Tye Fullerton about Reese's Pond clean-up for the Spring of 2025
6. Alan reported that he was invited to attend a meeting on September 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM about a new Waste Water Treatment Plant being considered for Medina County
7. one of the residents offered to donate 2,000 gallons of water to the Pride Committee to be used for watering plants in the Village – Bob to work with the resident on this matter

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Buildings and Utilities

Barb reporting:

1. confirmed that she will be turning off the water and removing the water meters in October at the Bungalow Bay Fountain and Briarwood Access
2. Pam asked about hanging Christmas Lights on the fence down by the beach, Mayor Dodaro suggested looking again at doing the lighting on homes in the Village – Pam to look into this matter
3. confirmed that she has pricing for the cameras and the solar panels for the Shuffleboard area and received confirmation that NOPEC monies can be used for these and asked if Gary could order these and get tax exemption – Gary asked her to send him the details
4. asked about the old sound system and the status of the letter of understanding due from Cross Point Church allowing the Village to have access to all of the components for use as needed and that the equipment remain the property of the Village – Jim stated that they are working on generating this letter for the Village
5. confirmed that NOPEC has no control over rate increases being proposed by Ohio Edison as this is up to the PUCO – Alan to reach out to NOPEC and invite them to the October meeting

Parks

Ken reporting:

1. confirmed that the Beach is closed for the season and expressed his appreciation for the great job that the Beach Supervisor did this year – he said the Beach looks good including the new sandbox
2. reported that the removal of the Kayak Dock will take place the first weekend in October
3. Mosquito spraying will continue until further notice
4. the Shuffleboard Storage Box has a combination lock on it and users can contact Ken for the combination
5. considering a new method to enter the Boat Ramp area next year, possibly with a higher tech key fob although he knows this would be very expensive – members in the audience urged Ken to not move quickly on this as simple and basic is sometimes better than new technology in addition to considering annual maintenance with higher technology and especially with our limited usage

Streets

Bud reporting:

1. confirmed that Phase 9 is proceeding as expected with no surprises
2. Ken asked about the gap in the road on Lore and if it is going to be repaired – Bud indicated yes it will be
3. Mayor Dodaro reported that Leslie has been looking into Parking issues in the Village, overnight parking etc., a discussion took place on this subject getting into the age of some of the homes who had no parking area when the Village first formed, how to handle the consideration of overnight parking, the lack of driveways for some homes, installing No Overnight Parking signs in certain locations, etc. – Allan to review the Ordinances and consider what changes may be warranted regarding Parking
4. a discussion also took place on Bed and Breakfast rentals and Airbnb rentals and how best to move forward with these units in the Village, how we need to have our Ordinances and laws in place, information that needs to be shared with property owners, purchasing Beach Passes and the need to proceed in a thoughtful manner – Mayor Dodaro is going to have Leslie look into this matter

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Legal

Allan reporting:

1. confirmed that he currently has three cases – one is a Domestic Violence Threat that had a Court Hearing this coming Wednesday, the second is a charge of disorderly conduct and the defendant was found guilty with sentencing scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup> and the third is a Stalking charge that has a Criminal Pre-Trial hearing on September 26<sup>th</sup>

Finance

Gary reporting:

1. confirmed that he distributed the August 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 August Bank Reconciliation Report as distributed and authorizing Council to sign the report – Bud made a motion to so move, and it was seconded by Barb. Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays**
2. confirmed that he distributed the August Appropriations Report to Council through the end of August, 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 August signifying Council’s review and agreement with the expenditures, Bud made a motion to so move, and that it was seconded by Barb. Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays**
3. tonight he is pleased to announce that all Village elected officials and all Village employee officials have completed the mandatory Fraud Prevention Training and all was completed before the deadline of September 29, 2024 – unfortunately we only had 8 out of a total of 19 employees complete this mandatory requirement, the missing 11 were all Beach Attendants – if any of these 11 return next year they will only have 30 days to complete this training and if they do not complete the training they cannot remain employed as we would be in violation of the Auditor of State’s directive – for this reason, Gary recommended that next year’s meeting with the Beach Attendants be held no later than Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> so that those not completing the training are not permitted to work beyond Monday, June 2, 2024 – this will require that Beach applications be received and applicants who are hired be contacted all before May 2<sup>nd</sup>- Ken thought this to be a good idea – Tamitha recommended that all Beach Attendants view this in one group setting as individually they may not take the time to do it – Gary to look into and report back
4. 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 – Council asked when must the balance of monies be used by and Gary to look into and report back to Council – confirmed that he heard back from NOPEC about using \$300+ for another camera with a solar panel and they approved this purchase using NOPEC monies and he advised Barb on this on August 13<sup>th</sup>
5. confirmed that he did apply for the PEP Grant valued at \$1,000 apply against the tree removal recently completed by AJ Tree Service

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6. as a result of our Audit, which is still in progress, he learned that when he set-up Fund 2906 for Watercraft Stickers he was in non-compliance with the AOS office based on a memo issued in 1999, 13 years before being hired in September of 2012 in Burbank – so he will close this fund and transfer all monies into the General Fund and this will be listed in our Audit
7. another audit listing will be Gary’s failure to stop the award of the PO to Most Paving for the work they did in 2022 for road repair when Keith’s three bids exceeded the amount of money that triggers an advertisement to bid – Gary’s understanding of how this happened is that the scope of work started small and then increased in scope three times thus reaching a total of \$129,473 when the maximum at that time was \$50,000 at which time an advertised bid was necessary and this will also be listed in our Audit
8. as of the end of August, the balance in the Primary Checking Account was \$367,537.85 and \$201,090.73 in the Money Market Account and \$109,773.80 in the Star Ohio Account for a total of \$678,402.38 – he asked if there are any questions or comments – none were offered

Old Business

Nothing reported.

Public Participation

1. Greg asked about the issue brought up last month about vacating Village property so the owner of 67 Bungalow Bay could build a garage – Mayor Dodaro stated that nothing is proceeding and the Village is waiting to hear back from the property owner with more details
2. Kelly thanked Council for all that they do and said there is a big difference between a Bed & Breakfast unit versus an Airbnb
3. Bob reported a street light out at or near 78 Longacre
4. Pam thanked those who attended the Pride Party and announced that this weekend is the Poker Run and on October 4<sup>th</sup> is Square Dancing at the Sailing Club
5. Dennis reported a tree at or near 258 Rustic Rook is dropping branches and Barb reported branches are down on Briarwood Blvd

New Business

Nothing to report.

**There being no further business Alan motioned to adjourn at 8:56 PM, seconded by Barb.**

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Mayor Joanne Dodaro

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Fiscal Officer, Gary Harris