

**VILLAGE OF CHIPPEWA LAKE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 13, 2025**

Mayor Joanne Dodaro called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

A roll call was taken with the following officials present: Barbara Hunter, Lowell (Bud) Hardesty, Tamitha Sorgi, Ken Demeter, Alan Robbins, Leslie Burns, Allan Michelson – Solicitor, Jim Brandenburg – Zoning Inspector, Matt Sorgi – Assistant Zoning Inspector, Gary Harris – Fiscal Officer; visitors Lisa Krosse, Greg Stanislowski, Debbie Horning, Lauri & Al Safko, Theresa & Rick Kerr, Mark Reuter, Jill Heck, Deputy Harhay and Assistant Fire Chief Holzman

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Barb made a motion to nominate Tamitha Sorgi as Council President, seconded by Ken. Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

Mayor Dodaro announced that Jim Brandenburg will be remaining as the Zoning Inspector with Matt Sorgi as his Assistant – she also announced changes to the 2024 Committees and stated that no changes are being made at the Chairman level but rather at the Committee level, the changes are as follows:

- Barb off Safety and reassigned to Parks
- Leslie off Buildings & Utilities and Parks and reassigned to Safety
- Tamitha off Streets and reassigned to Buildings & Utilities
- Ken assigned to Streets

All other Committee Chair positions remain the same – Alan – Safety, Ken – Parks, Barb – Buildings
Leslie – Zoning, Tamitha – Community Relations and Bud - Streets

For the Financial Planning Committee, Mayor Dodaro announced no changes with Bud and Alan on the Committee and Gary will be the Head of the Committee

This ended the Organizational Meeting

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Dodaro thanked Tamitha and Ken and all who assisted with the very successful Christmas Program and also thanked Engineering Associates for the box of nuts that will be sent around to all in attendance as the meeting progresses

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

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

Mayor Dodaro asked if everyone read the revised January Bill's for Approval and asked if there were any other changes, questions or comments – Gary stated that there are no additional changes and the revised Total Bill's for Approval are \$152,794.32

Alan made a motion to approve the revised January Bill's for payment in the amount of \$152,794.32 seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

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Council Reports:

Safety

Alan Reporting:

1. read the Sheriff's Monthly Reports, they worked 84 hours in December versus 80 hours scheduled – read the Activity Report and asked about the V Checks now showing up under Business Checks and Deputy Harhay confirmed that this is a new change to list all Checks under one category – Alan reported on some of the events this past month, those being a broken window on the restaurant in the Township along Lake Road, dumpster diving, Deputy Harhay stated that once trash is out by the road, no laws are being broken and Alan asked the status of the reported stolen mail, Deputy Harhay stated that it is with the Detectives – Mark reminded everyone that if you see something call the Sheriff's Department before putting it on Facebook
2. Assistant Fire Chief Holzman read his reports and reported, in addition to other topics, that they had a total of 59 calls in December and 7 of the calls were for Chippewa Lake; 76% of all calls were for EMS, reported that turn-out time for the year was at 2 minutes and 5 seconds, reported that with the passage of the new Tax Levy they are looking to have three staff members on call 24 hours per day – they made 127 stops for the Santa visits and the kids really enjoyed these visits – in 2024 they responded to 729 calls versus 500-600 the year before and 73% of those calls were EMS – Assistant Chief Holzman announced that he needs to do an inspection of the Community Center and Barb asked that he contact her to schedule the inspection – reported that there is a Blood Drive this Saturday at the Firehouse from 11:00 – 3:00 – reported that the house fire on Ryan Road left the family with nothing and was happy to report that the Red Cross found accommodations for them and the Lions Club is also assisting with clothing, etc. – confirmed that the Pancake Breakfast will be in April and in 2-1/2 weeks the Polar Bear Jump will be taking place – Alan confirmed that the Polar Bear Jump event is also a good training exercise for the Fire and Sheriff departments as well as providing safety during this event
3. Alan reported that the Siren is set-up and working and prior to this most recent activation test the last time he showed the siren working was in 2007 – Alan expressed his gratitude to Ohio Senator Romanchuk's office for assisting the Village in winning the Grant for this Siren – Alan reported that we spent all \$35,000 of the Grant for the equipment, installation, 5 year Maintenance Warranty as well as Christopher Livingston for all of his research work on this project – the Village had to absorb \$17.90 of expenses that exceeded the Grant monies

Zoning

Leslie reporting:

1. Jim read the Zoning Report for January – 77 Longacre – charges filed – Allan stated that no trial date has yet been set

Community Relations

Tamitha reporting:

1. reported that the Christmas Party was very successful and they had 35 children and she thanked all who assisted including Ken and Lori as well as McDonalds for supplying the pancakes, biscuits and gravy – Tamitha asked if Gary sent a thank you and Gary reported that he did not but will now do so
2. wants to start preparing the Spring Newsletter and asked that those with input to begin sending her the information via email

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3. asked if the Community Center is available on April 12th for the Easter Egg Hunt, Barb confirmed yes and Tamitha asked that Barb schedule that date for this event
4. Mayor Dodaro reconfirmed the Polar Bear Jump taking place on February 1st and that there will be some road closings for this event, including Beachside Blvd
5. Mayor Dodaro asked if Tamitha and Ken can check their schedules to see if one of them would be able to attend the Health Department Advisory Council Meeting on March 3rd at 5:30 p.m.

Buildings and Utilities

Barbara reporting:

1. asked that anyone using the Community Center to please remember to push the door shut on the north side of the building as it does not fully self-close
2. confirmed that she contacted Ohio Edison about the street light on Beachside Blvd. that is on 24/7 and needs fixing so it only activates overnight and they replaced two street lights but with high pressure sodium bulbs as they are out of the LED's at this time
3. please don't use "glitter" inside the Community Center due to the clean-up issues it creates
4. Mayor Dodaro thanked Barb for replacing the flags and Barb confirmed that she gets flags that are 5' x 8'

Parks

Ken reporting:

1. confirmed that the Pond rehab is on hold until Spring
2. announced that Kelsey Burns is returning this year as the Beach Attendant Supervisor

Streets

Bud reporting:

1. confirmed that we have an issue at 154 Brookshore that he is working on with the property owner regarding a sink-hole as relates to a lateral leak on private property
2. **Bud made a Motion to encumber \$1,120 to pay CW Landscaping for the work they did at 154 Brookshore, seconded by Ken. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
3. reported that Rooter Rooter filled a hole with stone and asked that he be contacted if anyone notices the stone settling until a permanent repair can be made

Legal

Allan reporting:

1. confirmed that his seven cases dealing with things ranging from 911 Abuse through Zoning
2. reported receiving a letter from the Medina County Park District who wants to sell 10 vacant lots on Bigelow Drive with minimum bids of \$500 each with a deadline of February 15th for Gloria Glenns and Chippewa Lake to decide if they want to bid and if not, it then opens up for public participation, Allan asked that anyone interested contact him for details

Finance

Gary reporting:

1. confirmed that he distributed the December 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 December Bank Reconciliation Report as distributed and authorizing Council to sign the report – Bud made a motion to so move, and it was seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**

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2. confirmed that he distributed the December Appropriations Report to Council through the end of December, 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 December 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. asked for a **Motion to allow the Fiscal Officer to publish the annual notice, once all 2024 Financial Reports are completed, that the 2024 Year End Financial Reports are completed and available for public review, Bud said so moved, seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
4. asked for a **Motion to appoint the Fiscal Officer to receive the Record Retention Training for the Mayor and Council until such time that they each determine that they desire to receive this training, so moved by Bud, seconded by Alan. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
5. Year End closing and the submittal of the annual reports is about ¾ complete and all of this should wrap up before the end of January - he asked if there are any questions or comments – none were offered
6. the NOPEC Sponsorship Grant Application supporting the Lions Club July 4th Parade will be completed tonight and he will submit the Application by the end of this week
7. the NOPEC site remains down and he is waiting for it to reopen so he can submit the costs, less the tax amount, for the Carriage Lights for the Community Center at a cost of \$800 in round numbers
8. asked if it would be OK to schedule the Record Committee Meeting for February 10th at 6:50 p.m. before the regular meeting – no objections were raised – so scheduled
9. reported that as of the end of December, the balance in the primary checking account was \$316,599.56 in the Money Market account \$203,576.77 and \$111,608.00 in the Star Ohio account for a total of \$631,784.33 - he asked if there were any questions –none were offered

Old Business

Nothing to report.

Public Participation

1. Greg raised a concern about the property at 87 Longacre and the conditions of the property – a discussion took place and Jim will look into the violations and Allan will speak with the Prosecutor’s Office – Allan stated that the Village can do the clean-up and put a lien on the property if the Village wants to consider this – Jim stated that he has a contractor who will do demolition of structures as well as removing vehicles and storing them – Allan stated that this sounds questionable due to what an entity can legally do on private property
2. Leslie stated that we have a similar issue on Rustic Rook - Jim to investigate for violations
3. Leslie and Bud will review the Zoning Code
4. Rick asked why is there a “pink ribbon” on a tree in the right-of-way at 178 Brookshore – Jim said it was a tree that was marked to be removed – Council told Rick the tree will be removed
5. Debbie thanked the Village for allowing the Pride Committee to hold a recent party at the Community Center where Keith Riedel was crowned the Prom King for his years of service to the Village, being a Volunteer Fire Fighter and the example he was for his students as their teacher and she announced that had Mayor Dodaro been at that gathering she also would have been crowned Prom Queen – Debbie crowned Mayor Dodaro in recognition of her devotion to Public Service, being a pillar of the Village along with Keith and told all present how Joanne and Keith grew up together in Cleveland, went to the same schools from elementary through High School, all the while being good friends, and how wonderful and amazing it is and was that both

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relocated to Chippewa Lake, unplanned – all present applauded Mayor Dodaro for all that she has done and continues to do for the Village – Thank you Mayor Dodaro and Keith for everything

New Business

1. Mayor Dodaro asked about the email that Gary sent out from the Ohio Municipal League (OML) pertaining to costs associated with moving utilities which would now be absorbed by all municipalities in Ohio as opposed to the utility companies absorbing such expenses as has been the case up until now – a discussion took place and Council agreed to vote on the legislation requested by OML especially since this attempt by AT&T could soon be adopted by all utility providers in the state
2. Allan did the first reading of Resolution 515-25, “a Resolution of the Village of Chippewa Lake supporting the Ohio Municipal League’s challenge of AT&T’s Tariff Application at the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio”
3. **Bud made a Motion to waive the 2nd and 3rd readings of Resolution 515-25, seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
4. **Bud made a Motion to adopt Resolution 515-25 as an emergency, seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**

There being no further business Alan motioned to adjourn at 8:45 PM, seconded by Leslie.

Mayor Joanne Dodaro

Fiscal Officer, Gary Harris