

**VILLAGE OF CHIPPEWA LAKE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 9, 2025**

Mayor Joanne Dodaro called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

A roll call was taken with the following officials present: Alan Robbins, Tamitha Sorgi, Leslie Burns, Barb Hunter, Ken Demeter, Lowell (Bud) Hardesty, Allan Michelson – Solicitor, Jim Brandenburg – Zoning Inspector, Matt Sorgi – Assistant Zoning Inspector, Gary Harris – Fiscal Officer; visitors Kelly Schmetzer, Alison & Andy Weimer, Howard Wolff, Pam & Bob Williams, Mark Reuter, Lisa Krosse, Bill Glasenapp, Amber Dalakas, Jill Heck, Al Horning, JB Burns, Jennifer & Ed Stevens, John Sandora and Deputy Harhay

Mayor Dodaro thanked those responsible for the Golf Cart Parade that took place on a chilly day with ice cream offered and for the Crafts for Kids this past Saturday morning

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

Bud made the motion to accept the May Regular Minutes, and it was seconded by Tamitha. 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 confirmed two additions totaling \$2,693.66 for a revised total of \$28,161.56

Alan made a motion to approve the revised June Bill's for payment in the amount of \$28,161.56 seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

Council Reports:

Safety

Alan Reporting:

1. read the Sheriff's Monthly Reports, they worked 96 hours in May versus 100 hours scheduled – read the Activity Report identifying the 93 Total Activities for the month of May – reported that he missed listing one attempted suicide of an underage person due to an overdose and that the person did survive – a discussion took place regarding the large number of motor cycles. four wheelers, electric bikes, etc. on the Village streets and the speeds involved and ages of the drivers – Deputy Harhay stated that four wheelers without a license can be cited and towed away and if the driver is underage, the parent can be cited for wrongful entrustment – Deputy Harhay stated that in order to be cited the Sheriff has to catch the drivers in the act and residents should call the non-emergency number, 330-725-6631, and report such activity when observed – Deputy Harhay also stated that electric powered vehicles don't need a license and so long as they are driven under 45 mph, there is not much that the Sheriff's Department can do – Bill stated that they need to work more hours in the Village and Deputy Harhay stated that they work the hours requested by the Village – Alan stated that he will look into this as Gary confirmed that this year the finances are better than last year, when we reduced the hours worked
2. Alan read the report that had a total of 69 calls in May, 10 of the calls were for Chippewa Lake and 75% of all calls were for EMS – reported that the May average turn-out time was 1 minute

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and 41 seconds, travel time is 5 minutes and 16 seconds – reported that the Fire Department was present for the kick-off of the Golf Cart Parade

3. Alan reported that the siren was active this past month due to several tornado warnings in the area – the report from the dispatch office continues showing a power failure for our unit due to its being solar powered
4. reported that he is generating a letter of recommendation for Christopher Livingston who asked for a recommendation as he is now seeking employment having graduated from college with a B.S. Degree in Emergency Management – Mayor Dodaro and Alan expressed their gratitude to Christopher for his excellent work on the Siren project and helping the Village to get a grant worth \$35,000 and the right siren that would meet our needs
5. a discussion took place about fishing from the wall and Boat Ramp , residents and non-residents and how difficult it is to ID them, fishing and deed restrictions that impact fishing as well fishing tackle drifting back onto the beach with concerns about fishing hooks, etc. – Ken said he is looking into putting up a sign that includes no fishing within 50' of the beach and boat ramp – Leslie asked if the Village can piggy-back off of the Medina County Park District Ordinance that prohibits fishing within specified areas – Mayor Dodaro asked Gary to get with Allan on these matters and have him prepare legislation and/or information to be discussed at the July meeting regarding signage, enforcement, etc.
6. another discussion took place about the Sheriff patrols, consideration for walking the Village, asking why tickets are not being issued for parking, fishing and enforcement of Village Ordinances, when it is Village enforcement versus Park District enforcement and the need to issue tickets not just warnings – Bud stated that on the question of walking the Village, this may be prohibited by Sheriff Department rules and may not be able to happen plus taking into consideration the 30-40 pounds of gear that Officers and Deputies carry at any one time – Mayor Dodaro stated that the Village does have 24 hour coverage, seven days a week via dispatching services responding to emergency calls for assistance or other issues within the Village

Zoning

Leslie reporting:

1. Matt read the Zoning Report for June mostly pertaining to Warning Notices for excessive plant growth
2. Mayor Dodaro asked if we still hire people to come into the Village to mow residences that are not following Zoning rules for yard maintenance – Jim stated that we have not done this for quite some time and that there is a filing fee involved as well

Community Relations

Tamitha reporting:

1. Mayor Dodaro thanked Tamitha for the nice Newsletter and Tamitha thanked Pam for distributing the Newsletter
2. reported that the kid's event with Arts & Crafts at Point Park went very well that also included flower planting that the kids really enjoyed and she thanked Nancy Jeffry for her help with this event
3. she is planning a Movie Night in July and will coordinate to avoid having it the same night/time as a Porch Rockers event – the movie will be held at Point Park or near the Tennis Court
4. asked for assistance with the Owl System as only one of the two units are working

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5. announced that she is putting copies of the NOPEC Annual Report on the table for everyone's information

Buildings and Utilities

Barb reporting:

1. confirmed that the new Carriage Lights have been installed on the exterior of the Community Center
2. apologized for not having the Community Center HVAC system functioning during the Beach Attendant Meeting last month
3. discussed the possibility of leaving the power on at Point Park year-round with concerns about the \$95-\$120 per month fee for doing so – Alan stated that he has a spread sheet and in looking at the pole at the Tennis Court, the \$95-\$120/month looks to be accurate – no final decision was made
4. asked that anyone using the Community Center empty all trash containers and reline the containers and the liners are in the supply closet
5. confirmed attending the NOPEC Meeting regarding Solar Power and how it needs the input of someone with an electrician background to determine if there is any benefit for the Village – Mayor Dodaro thanked Barb for attending this meeting

Parks

Ken reporting:

1. confirmed that the Public Sale for Passes and Dock Permits went well and that Applications for all are still available at the Post Office and on the Table in the Community Center – reported that collections total \$20,025 with \$10,875 collected for Dock Permits and \$9,150 for Passes
2. confirmed that the new locks and keys for the Boat Ramp are installed
3. confirmed that all is going well with the Beach now open and functioning with no issues
4. Mayor Dodaro reported that the Ski Team will be working on the Diving Platform this Thursday
5. reported that he is gathering the team to install the equipment to begin the clean-up of Reece's Pond and plans to have work begin over the next 1-2 weeks
6. announced that he will be posting new signs at the Beach on the Rules and he wants to include No Fishing rules as well – Ken was asked if he is going to order more sand for the Beach and he confirmed that he will be doing so – Ken was asked about the weeds at the Beach and Ken stated that he will have the Beach Attendants pull weeds
7. announced that Bill Glasenapp has volunteered to be the Village Handyman doing miscellaneous repairs around the Village at no cost to the Village – Gary asked that Bill sign a new Release Form after tonight's meeting – Bud asked that Bill communicate with the Department Chairpersons before doing any work in the areas that they are responsible for so they are aware of what is going to be done before it is completed – it was agreed that Bill will report to Ken
8. Jennifer raised a concern about tree removal by the Village with no notification to her about this removal and the impact that it has had on her and the appearance of her property – a discussion took place regarding tree removal in the Right-of-Way and how historically and typically no pre-notification was given as stated by Mayor Dodaro, the discussion continued with the Village being asked if they will mow the grass and maintain the area where the tree once stood and asked if she needs to get Village approval to re-landscape her property – Jim offered to meet with her and stated that what she does on her private property does not require Council approval

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9. Pam raised concerns that the Village has not followed through on replacing Mulch around the Village and a discussion took place with Bud offering to meet with Pam and Bob to see what is needed and where it is needed but due to the wet season we have had, such work has been delayed by the mowing contractor

Streets

Bud reporting:

1. confirmed that he has nothing to report tonight

Legal

Mayor Dodaro asked Gary if Allan gave him anything to report on at tonight's meeting and Gary reported "no"

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 – Bud made a motion to so move, and it was seconded by Barb. 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 Council's review and agreement with the expenditures, Bud made a motion to so move, and that it was seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
3. confirmed that last month he provided copies to the Mayor and all members of Council of the 2026 Budget along with instructions and the deadline for any changes, that being on or before June 6th – reported that as of tonight he has not received any input from Council for any changes – reported that he will have an Ordinance to Pass at the July Council Meeting for submitting the 2026 Budget to the Medina County Auditor
4. confirmed that today he spoke with the Audit Manager who informed me that we had one Audit Finding and not eight as I had originally reported - the one finding relates to posting errors on the Homestead and Rollback revenues + my setting up the Endowment with its own Fund number and, per Audit, it should just have been received into the General Fund as there were no usage limitations on the monies received – Alan recommended that going forward we will need to be more detailed in the uses for such monies so a Fund Number can be assigned – Gary stated that this is not necessary and depositing such monies into the General Fund is fine as we can track the usage of these monies and report on where all dollars have been spent – Gary reported that the Audit Manager asked if Council wants to have an Audit Exit Conference Meeting – it's not mandatory, it's up to Council – if a meeting is wanted their normal business hours for the meetings are 8:00-4:00 Monday-Friday or we can try to schedule a meeting here at the Community Center, this is not a public meeting, if a time of day can be agreed upon – if no Exit Conference is scheduled, Council will still receive the Audit reports and Gary confirmed that tonight he did put these reports on the table where each member sits that they would have received at an Exit Meeting - Council will need to sign a Waiver Letter if they wish to waive a meeting – a short discussion took place about the need for a meeting – Mayor Dodaro asked if

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they want such a meeting and Council agreed that no meeting is necessary and they agreed to sign the Waiver Letter

5. reported that our insurance carrier, Public Entities Pool, is asking for a second person to be listed as a contact on insurance matters, voting, etc. when/if the Fiscal Officer is not available – stated that in Burbank they listed the Mayor and he asked how does this Council want to proceed – he needs to list the alternate and have the Mayor sign the form so designating – Mayor Dodaro recommended that Ken be the alternate since he is in the insurance business – Gary stated that he will proceed to list Ken as the alternate
6. asked Council how do they want to proceed with paying for the recent tree removals as we only paid the contractor \$7,000 out of the \$9,000 invoiced – **Leslie made a Motion to pay AJ Tree Service the \$2,000 balance, seconded by Bud. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
7. as of the end of May, the balance in the Primary Checking Account was \$423,008.78 and \$206,008.36 in the Money Market Account and \$113,693.50 in the Star Ohio Account for a total of \$742,710.64 – he asked if there are any questions or comments – none were offered

Old Business

1. **Ken made a Motion to appropriate \$5,000 for Beach Sand, seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
2. **Ken made a Motion to increase the pay for the Beach Attendant Supervisor up to \$1,500 for the season, seconded by Tamitha: Mayor Dodaro asked for a Roll Call Vote: Alan – aye, Barb – aye, Tamitha – aye, Leslie – abstain, Bud – aye, Tamitha - aye**

Public Participation

1. Pam – reported that the Golf Cart Parade was a success
2. Kelly thanked Council for all that they do
3. Mark stated that he looks up property boundaries on Google Tax Maps but it's not accurate and recommended that the Village talk with the homeowners before taking trees down if the tree is close to private property
4. Ed asked if there is a schedule of the streets to be worked on this year for the upcoming road repairs – Bud stated that it will not be determined until the Contractor arrives on site and sets the priority – Mayor Dodaro stated that with the weather delays, tree work and other Village impacts we got pushed back in the schedule and may not see the Contractor until late Summer – Ed stated that he supports increased hours for Deputy patrols and the need for more cameras in the Village – he also feels that Cottage Owners need improved representation at Council Meetings by having an Ad Hoc member on Council representing cottage owners
5. Leslie wanted to speak about tree removal and confirmed that such work is not haphazard but is planned and spoken about at more than one of the Council Meetings leading up to any tree removal – she agreed that we need to better communicate as a community and apologized for what happened with Jennifer
6. Amber stated that she is doing research on how the Villages in the area started and asked permission to go through old records that this Village has – Mayor Dodaro asked that she coordinate with Barb to access the record storage areas
7. Jill reported seeing people around placing yellow flags in yards – it was stated that yellow is usually the Gas Company, Barb stated that another Fiber company is in the area and Bud stated that other utility companies may also be working the area
8. Alison reported that the Owl units pick-up background noise and discussions and those watching on YouTube are unable to pick-up all that is being discussed – she also mentioned how the

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fishing areas were once marked with tape and Bud mentioned that we must be aware of those areas that are private versus public

9. Andy asked for confirmation that Allan will be looking into the fishing issues and asked that Allan also look into minibikes, electric vehicles, etc. and enforcement

New Business

1. Alan stated that with the discussions we've had on NOPEC be prepared for significant electrical rates increases that could possibly jump 30%

There being no further business Bud motioned to adjourn at 9:35 PM, seconded by Tamitha.

Mayor Joanne Dodaro

Fiscal Officer, Gary Harris