

**VILLAGE OF CHIPPEWA LAKE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – DECEMBER 8, 2025**

Mayor Dodaro called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

A roll call was taken with the following officials present: Alan Robbins, Barb Hunter, Ken Demeter, Lowell (Bud) Hardesty, Leslie Burns, Tamitha Sorgi, Allan Michelson – Solicitor, Jim Brandenburg – Zoning Inspector, Gary Harris – Fiscal Officer; visitors Bill Glasenapp, Mark Reuter, Debbie Horning, Debbie Rustic, Lisa Krosse, John Sandora, Diane Hardesty, Pam & Bob Williams, Howard Wolff, Vanna Robbins, Deputy Harhay and Assistant Fire Chief Holzman

Mayor Dodaro thanked Barb and the Pride Committee for the decorations on the outside of the Community Center as well as those inside and was happy that Barb is alive and well after installing the lights on the roof of the Community Center

Mayor Dodaro asked if everyone read and agreed with the November Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted and asked if there were any other corrections, questions or comments – none were reported

Bud made the motion to accept the November Regular Minutes as submitted, and it was seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Mayor Dodaro asked if everyone read the December Bill's for Approval and asked if there were any other changes, questions or comments – Gary said no changes apply, the total of \$21,744.09 remains as submitted to Council

Alan made a motion to approve the December Bill's for payment in the amount of \$21,744.09 seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

Council Reports:

Safety

Alan Reporting:

1. Alan read the Sheriff's Monthly Reports, they worked 84 hours in November versus 80 hours scheduled – reported that each year the Village adjusts the hourly compensation for the Deputies as the Village tries to keep its rate competitive with the other communities – he asked Deputy Harhay if there is anything special to report and Deputy Harhay stated nothing special to report
2. **Alan made a Motion to increase the hourly rate by 3% for 2026 (new rate \$35.05/hour), seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
3. Alan asked that Allan and Gary work through the normal channels to obtain a 2026 Contract for Sheriff Patrols in the Village
4. Assistant Fire Chief Holzman read the report that had a total of 62 calls, 5 of the calls were for Chippewa Lake and 71% of all calls were for EMS – reported that the November average turn-out time was 2 minutes and 4 seconds, YTD turn-out time is 1 minute and 53 seconds, travel time to be on site was 6 minutes and 07 seconds on – gave a tour to the Handicapped Society showing the equipment and then provided a lunch for those in attendance – Stryker provided

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their annual maintenance on their power cots and they received a \$3,746.44 EMS Equipment Grant

5. John thanked the Fire Department for saving his home from burning down and they did an outstanding job for he and his family
6. Bill thanked the Fire Department for flushing the hydrants – Assistant Chief Holzman thanked those in the Village who sent letters to the Commissioners as this helped to move this effort forward
7. Assistant Chief Holzman thanked Alan and Bud for their support over the years and he enjoyed working with them – he also reported that the Santa Fire Truck will make its rounds on December 20th arriving in the evening in Chippewa Lake
8. reported that he is working on closing out the Siren Grant that has a June, 2026 deadline and in order to use all of the Grant monies he purchased an extended maintenance agreement – Tamitha asked how long does that agreement last – Alan to provide the termination date of the agreement
9. confirmed that he is continuing with his EMS Certification for being the local organizer in the event of a community emergency i.e., tornado, flooding, etc.

Zoning

Leslie and Jim Reporting:

1. Leslie reported an issue with cars parking in unauthorized areas at a property in the Village that is a rental property – she contacted the property owner who claimed no knowledge about Village restrictions on parking and the issue was subsequently resolved – Bill asked about the booklet that she was working on as hand-outs to property owners and she confirmed that yes, she is indeed working on this and it may be a Flyer to put on the refrigerator
2. Jim read the Zoning Report for December and with the 9 Parkway Path residence being on-going and with no actions taken by the owner to correct the Violations – Allan will call Jim to get a listing of all violations so he can proceed to file charges against the property owner – 13 Circle Crest also has no corrective action underway and he recommends filing charges here as well
3. reported that they have a bid to remove trees that are in the right-of-way and will allocate \$3,000 for this removal – Alan recommended to locate other trees that might also need removal from the ROW as you get better pricing doing more at one time due to equipment set-up, travel, personnel, etc.

Community Relations

Tamitha reporting:

1. confirmed that Breakfast with Santa will take place on December 13th at 10:00 a.m. and confirmed that Jim will be making pancakes at the Community Center for this event with McDonalds donating biscuits and gravy as well and we will also have eggs and pies
2. reported that she handed in the receipts for the Breakfast with Santa materials and **made a Motion to spend up to an additional \$250, seconded by Bud. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**

Buildings and Utilities

Barb reporting:

1. confirmed attending the NOPEC Meeting and encouraged residents to consider signing up for a multi-year plan to help in budgeting electrical usage – also reported that NOPEC is working on an effort to force A.I. Data Centers to build their own power source – Mayor Dodaro confirmed

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with Alan that Barb should be our new NOPEC representative with NOPEC personnel and Alan agreed

2. confirmed that K&C power washed the Community Center and also suggested that they be allowed to power wash the sidewalk at the Community Center as well for an added cost of \$50 and that she approved this adder for a total cost of \$350.00
3. thanked Bill for his great work on fixing the brick molding and repairing/painting the rotted sections of the front door frame, this saved the Village a lot of money
4. thanked the Chippewa Lake Pride Committee for the Community Center Christmas decorations
5. confirmed repairing the Men's toilet that was leaking
6. still working with Ohio Edison to get street lights replaced that are not functioning properly
7. reminded everyone who uses the Community Center to make certain that the side entrance door is securely closed upon leaving the facility – the door will require an “extra” push to make sure that it is closed and locked

Parks

Ken reporting:

1. brought in the four (4) new signs for Lake Access and stated that he plans to install 2 in front and 1 on each side of the access area – the next signs that he is working on are the “No Dumping” signs for the Reece's Pond area and would like Council to consider increasing the fine up to \$500 – a discussion took place on the signs and fines, ORC reference and enforcement, etc. – Allan to investigate and make a recommendation to Council at the January meeting
2. now wants to add Parking Stops at Point Park instead of adding stone and use the PEP Grant monies for these 16 Parking Stops – has received information that the cost would be \$1,024 – **Ken made a Motion to use the PEP Grant monies for this purchase, seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays** - asked Gary to investigate this with PEP to see if they will OK the use of the Grant funds for these items

Streets

Bud reporting:

1. reported that the snow plowing crew for the Township is going from 3 to 1 and raised concerns about getting Village streets plowed and salted if staffing remains at 1 – he confirmed that they are advertising for 1 full-time and 1 part-time employee and suggested we may need to consider contracting with a company to do Village streets – Gary reminded Council of the need to obtain a Certificate of Liability Insurance and Workers Comp documents before any contracted party can begin any work

Legal

Allan reporting:

1. has two cases – one being the Omni Fiber lawsuit that they dismissed, all at their costs, since the Village approved the Solicitation Ordinance and the court dismissed the case with prejudice – the second case involves a menacing charge issued by the Briarwood Police Dept. in 1995 and the defendant wants the record expunged
2. Mayor Dodaro asked if Council read the letter from the Park District asking for support for their effort to rebuild a section of the old Chippewa Lake Amusement Park and a Grant request for \$1.1 million
3. **Alan made a Motion to submit a letter of support to the Ohio House of Representatives, Representatives Melanie Miller and Sharon Ray, seconded by Bud. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**

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4. Allan did the first reading of Resolution 520-25, “a Resolution requesting the Medina County Auditor pay the Village Fiscal Officer advance payment of taxes for the year 2026, and declaring the same an emergency
5. **Bud made a Motion to waive the second and third readings of Resolution 520-25, seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
6. **Bud made a Motion to adopt Resolution 520-25 as an emergency, seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
7. Mayor Dodaro asked Allan about the Village owned property reappraisals and Allan confirmed that he is working on it

Finance

Gary reporting:

1. confirmed that he distributed the November 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 November 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**
2. confirmed that he distributed the November Appropriations Report to Council through the end of November, 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 November 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. tonight we have to vote on the 2026 Temporary Appropriations – he added a total of 12,187.32 to the budget that he gave to Council on May 12th the biggest adders were \$3,000 to the Sheriff Budget, \$3,000 to Zoning and \$5,187.32 for OPWC Loan Payment – he asked if anyone on Council wants to hear what the other adders were for, they amounted to \$1,000 in total – no such request was made – he asked Allan to do the first reading of Ordinance 912-25 – Ordinance to be signed by the President of Council
4. Allan did the first reading of Ordinance 912-25, “an Ordinance to set Temporary Appropriations for the current expenses of the Village of Chippewa Lake, State of Ohio, during the year ending December 31, 2026 and declaring the same an emergency for the public peace, health, safety and welfare
5. **Bud made a Motion to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance 912-25, seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
6. **Bud made a Motion to adopt Ordinance 912-25 as an emergency, seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
7. to date he has received notice and/or documents identifying 4 individuals from Omni Fiber wanting to get Solicitation Permits – to date documentation has been incomplete thus none have yet been issued – he recommended to Council that they permit him to generate a report to be posted onto the Village Website – the report will list the person to whom a permit is issued, the company that they are representing and the expiration date of the permit – this will allow every resident, with computer access, to confirm that the solicitor knocking on their doors has been issued an official Village Solicitor’s Permit that each person soliciting is to also wear on the outside of their jacket or shirt while soliciting in the Village – Gary asked for **a Motion to so allow the posting of Solicitation Permits Issued by the Village onto the Village website, so moved by Bud, seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**

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8. announced that year-end closing begins the end of this month and for the following 4-6 weeks he will be working on finalizing all financial reports to the Auditor of State's Office and thus may be delayed in responding to some messages but he will respond as quickly as possible
9. as of the end of November, the balance in the Primary Checking Account was \$397,734.35 and \$208,434.68 in the Money Market Account and \$116,203.24 in the Star Ohio Account for a total of \$722,372.27 – he asked if there were any questions or comments – none were offered

Old Business

1. Mayor Dodaro reported that tonight Council interviewed Debbie Rustic and **asked for a Motion to appoint Debbie to Council at the January Council Meeting, so moved by Bud, seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**

Public Participation

1. Mark thanked Alan and Bud for their service to the Village

New Business

1. Mayor Dodaro announced that Alan will be leaving Council at the end of this year after serving on Council since December of 2009 after being the Safety Chairperson, won the Grant for a replacement Siren and got it installed, worked with NOPEC and is now going to be the Village's EMS Disaster Representative and commented how she loved Alan's monthly reports and his work with the annual Polar Bear Jump that this past year raised \$14,000 that will be distributed as food cards to 80 families in our community – she also announced that Bud will be leaving Council at the end of this year after serving on Council since December of 2017 after being the Zoning Chairperson and working with Jim whom he drove crazy, who did the McCabe Creek rehab and then picked and then became the Street Chairperson after Keith left Council and getting us road Grants to do the work and remarked how good Bud was at doing research and sometime too much research – Mayor Dodaro stated that both served long and served well, and Barb stated that both were highly knowledgeable and work attitudes to always do the best for the Village – all in attendance applauded the great work done by both Alan and Bud

There being no further business Alan motioned to adjourn at 8:40 PM, seconded by Bud.

Mayor, Joanne Dodaro

Fiscal Officer, Gary Harris