

**VILLAGE OF CHIPPEWA LAKE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – July 13, 2026**

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

A roll call was taken with the following officials present: Tamitha Sorgi, Barb Hunter, Ken Demeter, Leslie Burns, Al Horning, Debbie Rustic, Allan Michelson – Solicitor, Bud Hardesty – Zoning Inspector, Gary Harris – Fiscal Officer, visitors Debbie Horning, Bob Williams, Andy Weimer, Kelly Schmotzer, Howard Wolff, Lisa Krosse, Judy & Andy Miller, Christy Moots, Jan Harmon, Deputy Sergeant Lyon and Acting Fire Chief Robert Haas

Mayor Dodaro expressed her, Council's and all those present combined, condolences for the injured Deputies and death of a Police Officer in the Rittman, OH recent tragic event - Deputy Sargent Lyon who reported on the condition of those injured, thanked those present for their condolences

Mayor Dodaro announced that Bill Glasenapp will be stepping down as the Maintenance person for the Village and she thanked Bill for all that he has done and stated that he will be missed

Mayor Dodaro thanked Barb for getting Ohio Edison to assist with replacing the flag pole lanyard and hooks at the Community Center and also thanked all organizers, residents and participants for the great July 4th Parade, the cardboard boat race and ski show and all activities

Mayor Dodaro asked if everyone read and agreed with the June Regular Meeting Minutes and asked if there were any corrections, questions or comments – Tamitha reported two corrections needed on page 1 and 6 – Gary said he will generate the corrections

Tamitha made the motion to accept the revised June Regular Minutes, and it was seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Mayor Dodaro asked if everyone read the July Bill's for Approval and asked if there were any other changes, questions or comments – Gary confirmed that there were two additions to the bills as issued one adding the June Sheriff Invoice and the second for Catch Basin Repairs for a revised total of \$29,963.73

Barb made a motion to approve the revised July Bill's for payment in the amount of \$29,963.73, seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

Council Reports:

Safety

Tamitha Reporting:

1. asked Acting Chief Haas to present the June Fire Department Report - reported that for June they had 62 calls, 7 of which were for Chippewa Lake, 44 were daytime calls and 18 were nighttime calls, 56% of the calls were EMS, the average turnout time in June was 1 min. 37 sec, YTD is 1 min. 56 sec and average travel time is 5 min. 43 sec, Mutual Aid was received 3 times – reported that the Fire Association is purchasing a rescue boat for use on Chippewa Lake along with training 4 new hires on daily operations – confirmed participating in the July 4th Parade and anticipates that the new Chief will be announced within the next 90 days
2. Tamitha reported that the Sheriff Department worked 76 hours and the requested hours were

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100 for June which is low but understandable as a result of a shortage in personnel due to the incident in Rittman, read from the Activity Report that had 55 extra patrols out of the 85 Total Activities for June – confirmed that Deputy Harhay will be rehired and she expects that he will return to Village patrols starting in August

3. Allan did the second reading of Ordinance 918-26, “an Ordinance approving the 2026, 2027 and 2028 Agreement between the Village of Chippewa Lake and the Medina County Sheriff’s Department for Dispatching Services with the Medina County Sheriff’s Office as an emergency”
4. **Barb made a Motion to waive the 3rd reading of Ordinance 918-26, seconded by Leslie. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
5. **Barb made a Motion to adopt Ordinance 918-26 as an emergency, seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**

Zoning

Leslie & Bud reporting:

1. Bud announced that tonight we have a Variance Hearing for 566 Chippewa Road owned by the Moots, confirmed that he sent out photos to Council as they are wanting to add a porch that will have a set-back issue – Bud stated that he visited the neighbors in person and none of them has an issue with this proposed change – Allan swore in Christy Moots who then was asked to speak about this request for a Variance and she reported that they have owned the property for 24 years and they just want to fix it up as well as adding a porch – Bud stated that the house is 21’ from the edge of the right-of-way and with a new 8’ wide porch they will only be 13’, thus the need for a Variance – Al expressed concerns about infringing on the Township since the road is in the Township – Allan stated that the Village has jurisdiction in this matter and there will not be a Township issue – Allan stated that this is an Area Variance to be considered by Council, he then proceeded to read the 7 criteria for consideration and upon conclusion asked for a Roll-Call Vote where “aye” is an OK to issue the Variance and “nay” is against the Variance – Roll-Call Vote: Al – aye, Barb – aye, Debbie – aye, Tamitha – aye, Leslie – aye, Ken – aye. Allan announced that the Variance passed and Bud needs to issue a letter to the property owners so stating – this ended the Hearing
2. Bud distributed the July Zoning Report – asked if there were any questions and Leslie stated there is no need to itemize everything in the report nor any in depth discussion at these meetings
3. Leslie distributed a handout showing her recommendations on new signage for the Village – Mayor Dodaro asked Leslie to meet with her committee and discuss the proposed changes
4. Leslie confirmed that she and Bud are working on the short-term rentals issue and she is considering an Ordinance that would apply to these units especially on the maintenance side of things and she will give the Ordinance to Allan for his legal review – stated that short-term-rentals are those units rented for 30 days or less and we now have 6-7 units in the Village – Mayor Dodaro asked that the owners and renters are advised about the rules that apply – Allan stated that Gloria Glenns lost a court case where they tried to eliminate all short-term-rentals from that Village – they cannot be eliminated

Community Relations

Debbie reporting:

1. confirmed that Aqua Doc is due to do the second weed control application and she is just waiting to hear what date that will take place

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2. thanked Ken for helping her to install 4 of the 5 Beach umbrellas, will need to return one that is damaged
3. confirmed that the Kids Water Fest will take place on August 1st and the Pride Party will take place on August 16th and asked for volunteers to assist at the Pride Party
4. asked if anyone needs to approve banners on signs – Mayor Dodaro stated that it is not required and Debbie said that she has a banner that she believes is for the Lions Club

Buildings and Utilities

Barb reporting:

1. contacted Lake Refrigeration for an emergency repair for one of the air conditioning units at the Community Center that was needed for tonight's meeting
2. confirmed fixing the flag pole in front of the Community Center with the help of Ohio Edison
3. confirmed that all should be set for the upcoming election, she informed the Board of Elections with her contact information so we should be good to go

Parks

Ken reporting:

1. confirmed the need for another truck load of sand and that the board is down to the borders and is too high – a discussion took place about the board with ideas expressed about installing hand rails, posts, steps, etc. – Mayor Dodaro asked Ken to meet with his committee for a solution to this issue
2. **Ken made a Motion to set aside \$1,578 for a load of sand to be delivered, seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
3. Mayor Dodaro asked about the combination for the locks at the Beach – Ken confirmed that he sent that out today to the Mayor and Council
4. confirmed that he has one quote to repair the hole in the wall at the Beach but wants two more for this masonry repair – Tamitha offered to send him the name of a possible source for this work
5. reported that Bill put up swings on a day with high heat and Ken had suggested waiting for a cooler day
6. Mayor Dodaro asked about getting the tall grasses mowed at Reece's Pond – Ken said that a bushhog is needed – Bud offered to contact our contractor to ask about this as well as obtaining a price to remove 11 trees in that area that are loaded with poison ivy
7. Leslie asked about the missing sign at the shuffleboard regarding the equipment access – Ken stated that he will replace the sign over the next few days

Streets

Al reporting:

1. Phase 10 contractor award and signing of documents took place on July 7th and that Omni Fiber may start their work this week or by the end of this month – confirmed that the contractor will soon begin to stake-out the property lines in the work area and that he plans to send out a letter to residents who will be in the work area about changes in access to driveways and where to park as well as temporary mailbox locations and household trash placement locations
2. asked Ken to advise the mowing contractor to not keep the discharge chute in the up position while mowing and to keep it in the lowered position while mowing in the Village – Leslie stated that she has had complaints about the mowing contractor using Round-Up to avoid having to

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trim grasses and the use of Round-Up is also killing the bottom of shrubs – Ken to discuss with Kies Knollbrook Lawn Care

3. asked Allan about his attempts to contact Frontier Fiber regarding the work that they may soon be starting and Allan stated that he will investigate the scope of what they will be doing and define their rights within Village limits and he has had no luck in speaking with anyone at Frontier and he is now going to contact their Statutory Agent – Al also asked Allan to include their responsibility for any road repair – Bud stated that they are only doing part of the Village and does not know why that is
4. reported that he located speed bumps, that are removable during the winter months, for Bungalow Bay – he was asked about golf carts and he said that they can go over the speed bumps just at lower rates of speed
5. **Al made a Motion to set aside \$1,086.15 for the purchase of speed bumps, seconded by Ken. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
6. a discussion followed regarding one-way signage, the signage handout from Leslie and that she just sent Council an email on these signs for consideration
7. confirmed that he is working on obtaining a quote to repair the drainage issue at the Beach area – Tamitha asked if the entrance ways to the Community Center could be looked at so they are less steep

Legal

Allan reporting:

1. one case of domestic violence that has a pre-trial conference scheduled for July 30th
2. discovered a 2-Part Ticket, top page is a Notice and the bottom page issues the fine – what this system offers is the ability to go through Small Claims Court if a violator accumulates fines but what the Village would need is a person or persons to issue the tickets as well as allowing those fined to have a hearing and actually forming a Violation Bureau for Zoning and other violations – details can be found under Chapter 765 of the Ohio Revised Code – a Violation Bureau cannot be part of the Parking Bureau

Finance

Gary reporting:

1. **2027 Budget Public Hearing:** there was one change requested by Ken, that being to add an additional \$15,000 to his budget for the Point Park Rehab, no other changes were asked for to the preliminary budget that he distributed to Council on April 13, 2026 – Gary stated that he did review all revenues and expenditures through June 30, 2026 and based on this review he is not making any additional changes to the 2027 budget – reminded Council that over the years he has issued several emails explaining how Appropriations, which are monies approved and available for spending, are reported to Council each month, as well as how to read and interpret these reports and always offering to sit down one on one or as a group to assist with understanding Appropriations as well as revenue reports, the most recent email was sent on June 15th commenting on spending, underspending and what has to be done if you need to spend more than is available – all of these facts impact budgeting and why it is important for Council to interpret annual Budgets and monthly revenue and appropriation reports - before opening this up to our audience, Gary asked if anyone on Council has any questions regarding the 2027 budget – Ken asked why the reference to 2026 and Gary stated he compared actual to budgeted spending to confirm adequate budgeting for 2027 – Gary stated that a Notice was published in

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the Medina Gazette regarding this hearing on July 1, 2026 and asked those in attendance if there any questions from the audience regarding the 2027 budget – none were offered

2. **Gary asked for a Motion authorizing the Fiscal Officer to deliver the 2027 Budget to the Medina County Auditor, so moved by Tamitha, seconded by Leslie. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
3. confirmed that he distributed the June 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 June Bank Reconciliation Report as distributed and authorizing Council to sign the report – so moved by Barb, and it was seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
4. confirmed that he distributed the June Appropriations Report to Council through the end of June, 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 June signifying Council’s review and agreement with the expenditures, so moved by Tamitha, seconded by Leslie. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
5. confirmed that he was asked by Council to review the past Sheriff Dispatch Fees at last month’s meeting and today at 12:08 he sent that report to Council for their review
6. reminded Council that the NOPEC Grant monies are in the amount of \$3,836 and the Village must spend no less than \$447 by November 30, 2026 or forfeit this amount - he asked if there were any questions – none were offered
7. requested that Council determine no later than the October meeting where to use PEP Grant monies for 2026 since he wants to expense this in 2026 and it can take up to 2 months for PEP to issue the check - he asked if there were any questions - none were offered
8. confirmed that the financial Audit for the years 2024 and 2025 are underway, thus far he has responded to all questions and requests for additional documentation, now he is waiting to hear if any additional information is needed or that the audit is complete and he can then retrieve the records in their possession - he asked if there were any questions - none were offered
9. Cyber Security – since our last meeting, Gary contacted the State of Ohio, Adjutant General’s Office who heads up this program for the State of Ohio and found out that what we have written up is 1/3 of what is needed – also – they will review all documents to make certain that we are in compliance with State requirements – Gary will continue working on the other 2 sets of documents and hopes to have all sets ready to submit to this department by the end of this third quarter - he asked if there were any questions - none were offered
10. reminded Council that on June 5th, he sent out an email to the Mayor and Council to begin considering if the Village will be offering any additional pay incentive for the deputies patrolling the Village – in 2024 and 2025, each year we gave an additional 3% to their billing rates which are currently at \$35.05 per hour – no decision is needed tonight but if this is something that Council will want to do, it has to be voted on at the December meeting
11. reported that he is in possession of 4 outdoor flags, 3’x5’ that he purchased from the Medina American Legion Hall for use in Burbank but other flags had been obtained for their needs and he asked if anyone would like to purchase one or all of them, he paid \$35 ea. but will sell them for less if anyone is interested – Barb said the Village could use two of them
12. as of the end of June, the balance in the Primary Checking Account was \$480,343.33 and \$210,601.53 in the Money Market Account and \$118,812.69 in the Star Ohio Account for a total of \$809,757.55 – he asked if there are any questions or comments – none were offered

Old Business

Nothing to report.

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Public Participation

1. Jan was going to ask a question about Mosquito Spraying but now that they are spraying after dark, she is OK – Ken stated that he has heard concerns about the chemical being used possibly impacting bees and other pollinators and Ken did speak with Lakeside Fogging about this issue/concern
2. Kelly said she will purchase one flag and thanked Council for taking good care of the community
3. Howard thanked Council for their work
4. Judy introduced her and her husband Andy who just purchased a property in the Village and attended tonight to find out who to speak to if/when questions arise and thanked Leslie and Bud for their assistance
5. Andy asked what has Council decided about the use of Round-Up as it was inconclusive

New Business

1. Leslie and Bud asked Council to think about selling some of the properties that they own in the Village and do we really want to keep them and why keep them if we gain no financial benefit and are paying property taxes on properties that are unbuildable, landlocked, etc.
2. Leslie stated that it seems the mowing contractor is not doing a good job like they used to do and the Village looks bad and burnt with round-up
3. Ken said yes, less round-up and more weed whacking – he will reach out to contractor and if others see areas being impacted around the Village send Ken the locations involved
4. Bob reported that the next Porch Rocker will take place on July 31st at Point Park and they are now looking at other venues – also expressed a concern with the electric scooters along Beachside late at night – a discussion took place that included comments that much of it is a parenting issue, concerns with injuries and/or damage to vehicles, classifications of vehicles and enforcing limitations, etc.
5. Allan showed a Plot Map of the original Village before it was a Village and it was called the Community Club it's a historical document and he offered to donate it to the Village which the Village gladly accepted

There being no further business Barb motioned to adjourn at 8:55 PM, seconded by Leslie.

Mayor Joanne Dodaro

Fiscal Officer, Gary Harris