

VILLAGE OF CHIPPEWA LAKE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES –August 10, 2026

Mayor Joanne Dodaro called the meeting to order at 7:00 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, Alison & Andy Weimer, Howard Wolff, Lisa Krosse, Mark Reuter, Claire List, Tom Melter, Craig Smith, Bob Frechette, Jennifer Stevens, Greg Stanislawski, Barb & Jeff Komjah, Ric Benninger, Ed Stevens, Jill Heck, Ed Nagy, Deputy Harhay and Acting Fire Chief Robert Haas

Mayor Dodaro thanked Tamitha and Debbie for the Kid's Water Fest that had a great turn-out and all attending had great fun and the Fire Department did a great job being there and controlling the water spraying

Mayor Dodaro asked if everyone read and agreed with the July Regular Meeting Minutes and asked if there were any corrections, questions or comments – no corrections were offered

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

Mayor Dodaro asked if everyone read the August Bill's for Approval and asked if there were any other changes, questions or comments – Gary confirmed that there were three additions to the bills as issued and Council asked what the changes were – Gary reported that \$1,188.39 was paid to Al Horning for the Speed Bumps, H/W, GFCI and replacement Spring for the fountain, \$1,837.50 was for Kies Knollbrook for the July Mowing, trimming and spray and \$382.12 was paid to Ohio Edison for a revised total of \$24,490.17

Tamitha made a motion to approve the revised August Bill's for payment in the amount of \$24,490.17, seconded by Barb. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

Council Reports:

Safety

Tamitha Reporting:

1. thanked Acting Chief Haas for their assistance and presence at the Village Kid's Water Fest event and asked him to present the July Fire Department Report - reported that for July they had 55 calls, EMS was 37 and Fire was 18, confirmed meeting with ODOT about a "roundabout being considered at SR3 and SR 162 and confirmed that a new boat for use on Chippewa Lake has been approved – Mayor Dodaro asked Acting Chief (AC) Haas to provide information on the failed water main issues in the Village – AC Haas reported that he spoke with Mr. Sinko, with Medina County Sanitary Engineers and the cause was that the high pressure northwest system was being used to fill the lower pressure southwest system that exceeded the capabilities of the southwest system and its aged system – AC Haas reported that as a result of the low water pressures and spotty outages, his department has brought in more tanker trucks – AC Haas asked Council and the audience if they have any questions – one resident asked if the lines are so old, when will they be replaced, AC Haas responded that as OPWC Grants are awarded to the Village, the County signs on and does replace those lines for the street(s) awarded these Grants

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– another resident asked who is in charge of these lines and the response was Mr. Sinko with the Medina County Sanitary Engineering Department – another resident asked who on Council coordinates with the County on such issues – Mayor Dodaro stated that Al will be attending a meeting tomorrow with the County Commissioners where this water issue will be discussed and also stated that whenever we do an OPWC project, water lines are now being replaced – AC Haas confirmed that the new Chief should be named over the next two months, there are 11 applicants and AC Haas is one of them

2. Tamitha welcomed back Deputy Harhay who gave an updated report on the condition of the injured Deputies who had responded to the incident in Rittman – Tamitha reported that the Sheriff Department worked 84 hours and the requested hours were 100 for July - read from the Activity Report that had 96 Total Activities for July – asked if there were any questions from Council or the Audience – a resident asked how their staffing levels are – Deputy Harhay stated that they are required to always have four Deputies on the road at all times and they are meeting that requirement, they have seven new Deputies in training at this time – Tamitha reported that she is investigating the possibility of paying double time to Deputies when they work Major Holiday's as they now don't receive such compensation when working on Major Holiday's – reported that she got approval from Mayor Dodaro to pay the Deputy who was on duty in the Village on July 4th double time so he worked 4 hours that day and was paid for 8 hours – Allan said we need to amend the contract if this is going to become the standard and Tamitha responded that she is still researching and plans to have information to present at next month's meeting – Allan stated that any change will require a Motion to revise the contract

Zoning

Leslie & Bud reporting:

1. Bud distributed the August Zoning Report to Council – he and Leslie are still working on the short-term rentals issue and that he is working on a Handbook for Zoning Inspector's and that he will be sending it to Allan for his review – he asked if there were any questions from Council or the audience – a resident asked about the status of 9 Parkway Path – Bud stated that there is a cost benefit to consider – the Village can demolish it at a cost of \$10-15,000, it has an \$80,000 mortgage and if the property sells there may not be enough left over to reimburse the Village – Tom reported that he has researched the legal side and is going to send them to Allan for his review

Community Relations

Debbie reporting:

1. confirmed that Aqua Doc did do the second weed control application on August 5th and the Milk Foil and Spatterdock are disappearing but Eel Grass is now appearing so they will treat that on their next application as well as for Lilly Pads – because the waters are so shallow around some of the docks they cannot use their boat to apply treatments and will now need to walk on private docks – Debbie asked that if anyone has an issue with them on a private dock to let her know also, the last application should take place by the end of this month
2. confirmed that the Pride Party will take place on August 16th and asked for volunteers to assist and donations are still be accepted and that the Fall Festival is scheduled for September 19th

Buildings and Utilities

Barb reporting:

1. reported that the front door to the Community Center is not latching unless you push the door

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closed and confirm that it has latched and asked that all using the Community Center keep this in mind before leaving

2. reported that the Shed key is missing from the Lock Box and asked everyone to check their keys and return it to the Lock Box
3. confirmed that all documents were sent to the Board of Elections for the upcoming election
4. reported that the sidewalk in front of the Community Center is heaving and is a trip hazard – she reviewed the bid to do repairs on that plus repairs on the wall – the sidewalk will cost \$1,160 and the wall repair will also cost \$1,160 – Allan stated that he is OK with the COI sent to him by Gary but that the contractor needs to add the Village as a Certificate Holder – Gary stated that this needs to be received before any work begins on that project – Ken offered to absorb 50% of the wall repair in his department – Barb asked Gary about the sidewalk and Gary confirmed that the PEP Grant will cover \$1,000 of that repair
5. **Barb made a Motion to award the work to repair the sidewalk and wall to Seymore and Sons at a cost of \$2,320, seconded by Ken. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**

Parks

Ken reporting:

1. confirmed the need for another truck load of sand but that he is going to hold off until Spring of next year to add the sand
2. Mayor Dodaro asked him to send her the combination for the locks at the Beach as she never received what Ken sent out
3. confirmed that he sent pictures of Reece's Pond to The Pond Guy who said that we are treating for Duck Weed but it appears that we have Water Meal and algae blooming – they will send "Knock Down the Fence" to control those items and Ken said he will delay adding it to the pond until we get some dry weather
4. reported that he and Al repaired the anchor for the Platform by attaching a 100# steel chain
5. reported that the Beach Attendants will be returning to school in mid-August and there will not be any Beach Attendants after that occurs – stated that the Beach Umbrellas purchased by Debbie worked great – a resident reported a dead tree at the Beach Parking Lot
6. confirmed that he spoke with Kies about easing up on the use of Round-Up, the need to do more with Weed Whacking and to lower the discharge chute on the lawnmowers while mowing
7. replaced the sign at the Shuffleboard today
8. earnings through last week for the Beach & Lake Access amounted to \$6,497 and Watercraft were \$11,025
9. a resident reported green slime at the first dock north of the Beach on the south side – Debbie will ask Aqua Doc to investigate

Streets

Al reporting:

1. Phase 10 confirmed that he sent out letters to residents who are in the work area about changes in access to driveways and where to park as well as the temporary mailbox locations and he is waiting to hear back from the contractor as to trash placement locations – the actual start date is in the process of being updated – Omni must relocate their lines before construction can begin – Bud told them to proceed with relocating of the lines without a Permit but that a Permit will be required in the future as well as from Frontier – Bud reported that he has never had a return call from Frontier – Allan to revisit this issue

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2. he had Buckeye Sealcoating look at the drainage issue at the Beach Parking Lot and they stated that the only fix is to remove and replace the existing Parking Lot
3. **Al made a Motion to contract with Buckeye Sealcoating for 27 street repairs at a cost of \$7,035, seconded by Ken. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
4. reported that he installed the speed bumps on July 31st and traffic has definitely slowed down – he asked for any comments from the audience – one resident stated that they had the same problem in Florida, they installed speed bumps but had a large number of complaints about noise so they removed them and the solution was ticketing those speeding – four other residents praised the installation of these speed bumps as really slowing down traffic and no noise issues at this time – residents asked that speed bumps be considered for Longacre, Bass Bay and Briarwood – one resident shared the fact that speed bumps in another locality caused her to have to have her car repaired over time in driving over speed bumps – another resident suggested the use of Speed Tables that reduce the noise factor and suggested 15 mph in areas with speed bumps or tables – several other comments were made along with a suggestion that Allan review the Traffic Development Manual that offers suggestions on these matters – Allan to look into this and the 15 mph suggestion
5. Ed reported a sewage break issue at 418 Northvale – Al to check this out

Legal

Allan reporting:

1. one case of domestic violence that has a pre-trial conference scheduled for August 12th

Finance

Gary reporting:

1. confirmed that he distributed the July 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 July 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 July 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 July signifying Council's review and agreement with the expenditures, so moved by Barb, seconded by Debbie. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays**
5. 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
6. Cyber Security – since our last meeting, Gary contacted his home internet provider where he has his office that has the two Village computer systems one for Chippewa Lake and one for Burbank asking them about the need to have an isolated internet for each Village as required by the Auditor's Office – the current cost estimate is \$59.95 per month for the Business Class Internet plus \$10 per month for the extra modem plus \$120/month for the Firewall and an installation cost of \$79.95 – as all costs will be split between the two Villages, Chippewa Lake's monthly cost will be \$119.90 per month plus a one-time installation cost and Chippewa Lake's share will be \$39.98 – Gary stated that he will continue working on the other two sets of Cyber Security documents and hopes to have all sets ready to submit to Council by the end of this third quarter or by mid-4th quarter at the latest - he asked if there were any questions –

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none were offered

7. Gary asked for a Motion authorizing the Fiscal Officer to proceed with this installation of the mandated cyber security system and approving the monthly costs of \$119.90 that cover the costs for the Business Class Internet, Firewall and equipment and to reimburse the Fiscal Officer for the installation costs that will be \$79.95 in total split between Burbank and Chippewa Lake at \$39.98 for Chippewa Lake, so moved by Barb, seconded by Tamitha. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays
8. 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
9. recommend that Al contact Lafayette Township to see if they will be plowing and salting this winter – if they aren't, we will need to go out for bids and be ready to sign a new contract at the October Meeting
10. as of the end of July, the balance in the Primary Checking Account was \$474,145.11 and \$210,914.55 in the Money Market Account and \$119,199.62 in the Star Ohio Account for a total of \$804,259.28 – he asked if there are any questions or comments – none were offered

Old Business

Nothing to report.

Public Participation

1. Mark – reported that the volume on the Owl Video system that records the monthly Council Meetings is “bad” – he also feels that the monthly Zoning Report should be handed out to the audience at each meeting
2. Jill feels that the Village needs to have an Emergency Management liaison to work with the Sheriff's department and this most recent water issue in the Village supports such a request – many comments were made about the water issue, Facebook comments from people living outside of the Village and who to contact - Leslie reported that residents can sign-up to receive Medina County alerts through the Medina EMA
3. Deb reported that the Chippewa Lake Ski Team placed 12th in the nation and they represented the Village of Chippewa Lake, she also thanked everyone who supported and continues to support the Chippewa Lake Ski Team
4. Howard stated “good meeting”
5. Ed thanked Council for their work which is challenging

New Business

Nothing to Report.

There being no further business Barb motioned to adjourn at 8:50 PM, seconded by Leslie.

Mayor Joanne Dodaro

Fiscal Officer, Gary Harri\$