

CHASSELL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

May 14th, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Lynn Gierke

PRESENT: Andrea Aho, Lynn Gierke, Curt Judson and Dan Palosaari.

MINUTES: Motion by Curt Judson supported by Dan Palosaari to approve the April minutes, Special Meeting for Treasurer Interviews on March 10, 2025 and Public Hearing and Budget Meeting on March 24, 2025. M/C.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion to approve the April Treasurer's Report by Dan Palosaari, supported by Curt Judson. M/C.

AGENDA: Motion by Curt Judson to approve the agenda supported by Lynn Gierke. M/C

PAYMENT OF BILLS: The payment of bills was approved per motion by Dan Palosaari supported by Andrea Aho. M/C

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: Letter from Department of Health and Human Services for Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw Co. asking the board to waive the pavilion fee for the foster family banquet. Motion by Dan Palosaari supported by Curt Judson to waive the fee. M/C. Township letter of support sent to US House of Representatives Jack Bergman for Houghton Co. Sheriff's Department to procure a new law enforcement vehicle. Letter to MI State Police Captain Kevin Sweeney, from Mary Beth Caruso-Mitigation Division Director stating that the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Project, 4381.15 Chassell Township 4th Street Mitigation Project, has been approved and Amended Federal Share is \$364,777.50. Letter from Lynn Artman thanking the township for taking action to repair the Lakeshore Drive Lift Station and concerns about timely maintenance and strategic management of infrastructure.

SUPERVISOR: Portage Entry Rd. light installed, attended HCRC meeting, USDA Annual Water report submitted, MPPS Survey completed, Election Officials Compensation survey completed, SLFRF report completed. FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Quarterly Progress report completed, Letter of Support to Houghton Co. for new sheriff car.

CLERK: No report

TREASURER: Andrea Aho reported that Online Bill Payment should be up and running by June 1st. Discussed check processing in house but not cost effective. Because of voting regulations changing in 2026, video monitoring requirements and new keyless door locks. The clerk will work on an election grant for reimbursement for a wall dropbox to be installed at the building. Also investigating costs to mail 1,700 summer tax bills. She attended a 3 hour training with the County Treasure Lisa Mattila. And will attend additional training on May 22nd on Brownfield Payments and a 3 hour training in June.

FIRE DEPARTMENT/FIRST RESPONDERS: Jason Schaaf reported 5 calls with 9 to date. FR report 10 calls with 41 to date. FD would like the board to approve FR, tech student Nick Detterman to the FD. Motion made by Lynn Gierke, supported by Andrea Aho, M/C.

TOWNSHIP MAINTENANCE: Craig Austin reports Brandon is now on board and will start to work on classes. Discharging the lagoons now. The park is open and hydroseeding will be done. Kayak Launch-silting needs to be taken care of and talk to the manufacturer. Culverts in town that need to be looked at on Hancock St. properties, DeVoe, Savola, Old Ice Rink. Lake Shore Drive temporary pump installed.

ZONING: No report.

PLANNING COMMISSION (PC): Keith Meyers reported splash pad request on hold till water requirement needs can be figured out. Misslitz Field in need of upgrades. PC will provide quotes in June. Hamar Creek site visit with DNR about brook trout restoration. Pike River Bridge-talk to DNR about decking and approach work. Seaking shoreline permit from EGLE for Old McIntyre property. Visit Keweenaw Grant for Pump Trail denied. Will work on other possible funding. Canoe/Kayak Launch-Motion by Dan Palosaari

supported by Lynn Gierke to have porta potty for the summer months. M/C. Curt Judson asked that the PC address the current conditions at the park (basketball court, sand at the volleyball court, ect.)

ASSESSOR: Mark Maki will be attending the county AMAR review this year.

WEBSITE: The website will go live on Monday. We will also start a low cost mass messaging system.

OFFICE BUILDING: See New Business B.

UPEA: Chris Holmes reported that the Lake Shore LS bid opening is on 5/22. It will include the additional gate. Resolution to pay DP Construction #1 Payment request \$87,961.50. Motion by Curt Judson supported by Andrea Aho to pay the bill. Dan Palosaari abstained. M/C. Reported on 4th Street drainage Bacco filled sinkhole, will do restoration, still need to install electrical line that was cut. The Rural Development application for the wastewater project was submitted.

REVIEW BUDGET: None

OLD BUSINESS:

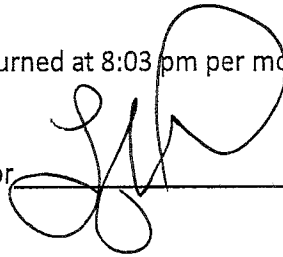
- A. Garbage Collection-Brad O'Connell from Four Seasons Solutions attended the meeting to discuss how the company could help the township. Currently his business services the Chassell area once a week. He is willing to participate in a Pilot Program. The board will create a flyer to hand out during garbage hours and post on the website/social media. UPEA can print 2'x3' posters.
- B. Dust Control Agreement-motion by Dan Palosaari supported by Curt Judson to sign agreement for \$8,000 gallons of sodium chloride at \$21,200. M/C.
- C. Employee Handbook-Lori Burton from Risk Assessment visited the township. The handbook needs to be a top proprietary to be completed by the board.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Resolution to approve purchase of 2010 Ford F-550 Pierce Mini-Pumper-Motion by Lynn Gierke to approve resolution for \$63,000 loan for 3 years at 4.35%, supported by Dan Palosaari. M/C. New vehicle with 5,000 miles will replace the old manual transmission brush truck.
- B. Black top quotes-Two bids received from Superior Polymer and JCS. The proposals were for the office, fire hall/DPW parking lot and park. Motion by Dan Palosaari supported by Andrea Aho to approve the bid from Superior Polymer for \$2,460 to patch only the office and fire hall parking lots at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm per motion by Curt Judson, supported by Andrea Aho, M/C.

Lynn Gierke, Supervisor



Bethany Baetsen, Clerk

