

CHASELL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
February 11th, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 PM by Lynn Gierke

PRESENT: Andrea Aho, Lynn Gierke and Curt Judson

ABSENT: Bethany Baetsen and Dan Palosaari (attended via phone)

MINUTES: Motion by Curt Judson to approve previous month's minutes supported by Andrea Aho. M/C.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion to approve the January Treasurer's Report by Curt Judson supported by Lynn Gierke. M/C.

AGENDA: Motion by Curt Judson to approve the agenda supported by Andrea Aho. M/C

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: no comments

CORRESPONDENCE: Received email from MTU- Keweenaw Invasive Species Management Area (KISMA) group has received funds to install an educational sign to remove Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) at the Park boat launch at no cost.

SUPERVISOR: Worked the past month updating the Chart of Accounts, closing out the grants for the FEMA 4th Street and SPARK project, attended the monthly HCRC meeting and helped with finding the next of kin for local resident that passed away in the fall.

CLERK: no report

TREASURER: Andrea Aho reported that the property taxes went out in December. About 3.5% of bills are being paid using Online Bill Pay. There has been a big issue with the US Postal Service being slow. Some residents' payments have taken 1 month to be delivered to the township!

FIRE DEPARTMENT/FIRST RESPONDERS: Jason Schaaf reported that there was 1 call with 4 the year to date. Curt Judson reported that Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly reached out to see if Chassell would "host" a Firewood Program that will provide safety information, smoke alarms, ash buckets and chimney sweeps in April. The Fire Department is waiting for a final approval letter for 501(c)(3). Also they are recommending 2 new members to the FD. Jadon Prokepetz and Addison Gmarich who are MTU students that are trained. Motion by Lynn Gierke supported by Andrea Aho. M/C. Mat Moore reported 6 calls with 15 to date. He also wanted to comment that 5 of the FR work at MTU and carpool to emergencies.

TOWNSHIP MAINTENANCE: Craig Austin reported the salt truck is still for sale. As reported last month the Main LS generator doesn't run enough and needs protection to prevent condensation issues. Quote received to insulate the generator for \$4,200. Discussion. Generator is less than 20 years old. Insulating is recommended by the manufacturer, Cummins. Motion by Andrea Aho supported by Curt Judson. M/C Craig Austin will work on reserving a By Pass pump for the Spring since the forcemain project isn't completed. No snow bucket for skid steer found for auction. Dan Palosaari will keep looking. The borrowed one has been great for removing snow more quickly around fire hydrants and at the parking lots. Craig confirmed with MDOT that we can remove snow at intersections if necessary. Grinder Pump/Lift Station Upgrades- this year it is recommended that we budget for 2 LS on Lake Shore Drive. Estimated cost will be \$15,500 each. Last year 9 were replaced on Half Moon Beach. One complaint about snow removal downtown. FH ADA sidewalk repair quote is for \$6,000. Wait till summer to replace. Ice rink is getting used. Burgundy Truck plow, was repaired and now is broken again. Discussion about replacement. Again look for new or a "good deal".

ZONING: The PC subcommittee has met 3 times to review any amendments.

ASSESSOR: BOR meeting organizational meeting will be March 5 from 5-6:30 pm. Appeal Hearings will be Monday, March 9 from 3-9 pm and Thursday, March 12 from 9-3 pm.

PLANNING COMMISSION (PC): Keith Meyers reported that the PC is reviewing the Preliminary Park Engineering Report and will send updates to UPEA. Pike River Bridge-no updates since last month. MTU Wetlands Club suggestions for signage along the Historical Trail have been submitted to Industrial Graphics for a quote. The MTU Women in Natural Resources Club have provided designs for plant identification along the Fitness Trail/ski trail that will be given to the Chassell School to make.

ENGINEERING: Chris Holmes presented a certificate for the RD loan for the Wastewater System Improvements. Also a Change Order #2 for the 7th Street Main Lift Station to include BABAA compliance. Motion to approve by Andrea Aho supported by Lynn Gierke. M/C. We are still waiting for BABAA certificates from MJO. The LSD generator provided by KPL is not in compliance and they need to correct. Also, KPL needs to "cut a hole in panel" of battery to make more user friendly. We need a letter of Engagement from our auditor for RD. Chris reported that he sent to Craig the Water Improvement water study. With the State of MI we need to contact Senator Bergman to recommend RD Grant money. No report from Lowell about the dock.

REVIEW BUDGET: Curt Judson made a motion to approve the budget amendments, supported by Andrea Aho, M/C. See attached.

WEBSITE: The Deputy Clerk, Ann Vollrath is helping with website updates.

OFFICE BUILDING: DPW removed snow from the building eaves.

OLD BUSINESS:

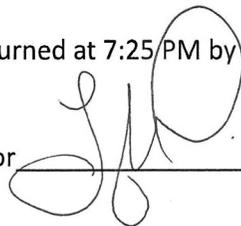
- A. MRWA-Training Session, Asset review May 18-22. Smoke testing will be done in June. John Holland submitted rate studies for both Water and Sewer. He will be available by Zoom at the March board meeting to answer questions.
- B. Pavilion Curtains-UPEA provided an agreement for MISC Engineering Services for 2026. Board tabled till next month.
- C. Silver Smith Asset Software-It is recommended to discuss at the Budget Review meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Draft Centennial Preliminary Report Review-Discussion. Send comments to Chris Holmes for revisions.
2. Resolution for MI Twp Par Plan Grant for Speed Radar Machine. Motion by Andrea Aho supported by Curt Judson to submit a grant contribution of \$5000 towards the cost \$12,678.
3. Hiring Part Time DPW position-opportunity advertised on Indeed and word of month. Interviews set for this Thursday and Friday. A special meeting will be set to review and hire.
4. RFP-Chassell Twp/Emergency Services Renovations. Discussion. Motion by Lynn Gierke supported by Andrea Aho to seek out a Request for Proposals (RFP) for renderings and feasibility for renovations for a FH complex at current location. M/C.
5. MERS-\$10/month fee-was discussed and will stay with MERS for now.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM by Lynn Gierke, supported by Curt Judson, M/C.

Lynn Gierke, Supervisor



Bethany Baetsen, Clerk

