

CHASSELL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
June 10th, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Lynn Gierke

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

ABSENT:

MINUTES: Motion by Bethany Baetsen to approve the previous month's minutes, supported by Lynn Gierke. M/C.

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

AGENDA: Motion by Lynn Gierke to approve the agenda with the addition of New Business 4. Cardboard supported by Bethany Baetsen, M/C.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

SUPERVISOR: Lynn Gierke has been working on the annual audit as well and coordinating donations for the fish cleaning station. She has also been investigating Chassell alleyways in regards to ownerships and right-of-ways. She attended the HCRC monthly meeting and a Department of Treasury webinar.

CLERK: Bethany Baetsen informed the Board that Election Inspector training will be held on Monday June 15th at 6 PM at the Fire Hall. She has also been working on the annual audit reports as well as assisting with Utility Billing issues in the W/S office.

TREASURER: Andrea Aho has been dealing with database issues from the Assessor, Mark Maki but currently the issues are cleared up and the database is ready for summer taxes. She also informed the board that Sewer rate notices went out to the public. She reported that online bill pay usage has been steadily increasing.

FIRE DEPARTMENT/FIRST RESPONDERS: Curt Judson reported that the Fire Department had 2 calls since the last meeting and 15 year-to-date. He requested board approval for two new firefighters, Brendan Flannigan who is certified with Fire 1 and Jackson Levijoki, who is EMS trained. Bethany Baetsen made a motion to approve both new members, supported by Andrea Aho, M/C. Curt also mentioned the RFP for the Fire Hall renovations was pushed back to June 29th at 3 PM. Matt Moore reported that the First Responders received 5 calls since the last meeting and 45 year-to-date.

TOWNSHIP MAINTENANCE: Craig Austin informed the Board that Michigan Rural Water will be here next week Tuesday-Thursday for smoke testing. He let the Board know that the lagoons are dumped, the CCR has been compiled, submitted to EGLE, and will need to be posted in town, on the website and notices sent to residents. In regards to the park, the Gazebo has been moved and placed near the dock. The new dock is also installed but needs two more cleats and the cement pad has yet to be poured. Craig mentioned that MDOT has completed street sweeping. He has also noted some erosion issues on the side of Chassell Painesdale Rd. catch-basin. He spoke with the HCRC and they said it is not their responsibility. Also the Hamar Marinette St. drainage needs ditching. Craig is still looking for help with adding Township infrastructure data to Silversmith. He updated the Board that the dust control application will be completed next week from the 15th-17th. In addition no one has shown any interest in the salt truck but Curt Judson said he would inquire at the next fire meeting.

ZONING: None

PLANNING COMMISSION (PC): Cindy Cowell informed the Board that the zoning amendments are complete and requested that the board decide on a public hearing date. The Board decided to plan for August 6th at 6 PM before the August PC meeting. Cindy requested the Board approve \$8,200 from the Recreation Millage to complete the engineering study for the Pike River Bridge project. To date \$3,200 in

pledges have been solicited. She also requested approval to award the project to UP Engineers and Architects for \$11,500. Lynn Gierke made a motion to approve both the \$8,200 from the Rec Millage and to award UPEA the proposal at \$11,500, supported by Dan Palosaari, M/C.

ASSESSOR: Lynn Gierke let the Board know that the Board of Review is still looking for one new member. The next meeting will be held on July 23rd at 5 PM at the Fire Hall.

WEBSITE: Lynn Gierke mentioned that the township needs to add the Fire Department to the website. Nathaniel Maki will get some pictures from Curt.

OFFICE BUILDING: The roof replacement is set to begin on July 2nd.

ENGINEERING: Chris Holmes informed the Board that revisions for the Centennial Park Study are in progress. He mentioned that B&B's subcontractors are currently boring. He also let the Board know that B&B has two grinders still left to install on Lakeshore Dr. as well as a new manhole cover. Chris said he will ask B&B and MJO about the generator as well as the HCRC about patching on Lakeshore Dr. and 4th St. UPEA is still entering info online for the water project. Chris inquired with the board on whether or not the township wants to pursue grant only or loan only funding options with the understanding that it depends a lot on happenings at the federal level. He said the Board did not need to decide at the current meeting. As far as completing the SPARK grant, UPEA will be uploading photos for the final approval. Chris also mentioned getting a chunk of culvert from the DNR for the rail-trail dip.

REVIEW BUDGET: None

OLD BUSINESS:

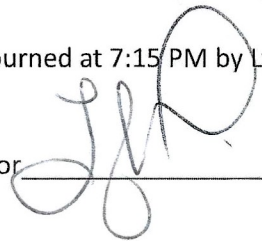
- A. MRWA will be smoke testing June 16th-18th .
- B. Craig will look into getting quotes for individual sections of the pavilion from Roll seal and Keweenaw Overhead Doors so that the township can begin replacing sections annually.
- C. Keith Meyers will coordinate a meeting with UPEA to discuss the Draft Centennial Preliminary Report.
- D. The Board is continuing to compare options for obtaining a radar machine for the township.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Craig Austin got 3 very different quotes for the Fish Cleaning station replacement. The Walleye Association has donated \$1,500 for its replacement. Per motion by Bethany Baetsen, the Board decided to go ahead with purchasing the similar model from Amazon, supported by Andrea Aho, Dan Palosaari- Nay, M/C. Any donations received for the fish cleaning station will go towards its repairs and maintenance estimated at \$2,000 annually. The Board will discuss how to manage access to the fish cleaning station so as to limit vandalism at a future meeting.
2. Jessica Lawson from Superior Sips requested having a food truck at the park for the two weeks around the Strawberry Festival. The Board agreed to let her test-run the idea before developing a fee or a permit process. Craig Austin will direct her where she can park.
3. The Water Sanitary Survey report will be given to the township in the next week or so. There will be something about well-encroachment in it. The Board agreed per motion by Bethany Baetsen all future construction on Township property must consult with the Township Operator in Charge or the DPW Lead regarding proximity to/impacts on water/sewer infrastructure, supported by Curt Judson, M/C.
4. Craig Austin will obtain quotes for a shed for the cardboard baler when the Fire Hall renovations begin.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM by Lynn Gierke, supported by Bethany Baetsen, M/C.

Lynn Gierke, Supervisor



Bethany Baetsen, Clerk

