CHASSELL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
October 14th, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Lynn Gierke
PRESENT: Lynn Gierke, Andrea Aho, Curt Judson and Dan Palosaari.
MINUTES: Motion by Dan Palosaari to approve the September minutes supported by Curt Judson. M/C.
TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion by Curt Judson supported by Lynn Gierke to approve the Treasurer's Report with review of and updated loan amounts on report. M/C.
AGENDA: Motion by Lynn Gierke to approve the agenda, supported by Andrea Aho, M/C.
PAYMENT OF BILLS: Motion by Curt Judson to approve payment of the bills, supported by Dan Palosaari, M/C.
PUBLIC COMMENTS: Lynn Gierke received a comment about residents parking on the street scape brick pavers downtown. Discussion. No action.
CORRESPONDENCE: The Houghton County Veterans Affairs Board thanked Chassell for participating in the Veteran Recognition Banner Program.
SUPERVISOR: Lynn Gierke attended the HCRC monthly meeting. Working on a deficit elimination plan with the Department of Treasury that was caused by the USDA loan payment not be received until after our fiscal year that ended 3/31. Cybersecurity Grant submitted for $130K for water plant generator. USDA Water Improvement Application submitted. Spoke with MDOT about the Copper Country Scenic ByWay program and grant opportunities. Meeting with DNR/UPEA and Pike River Bridge plans. Meeting with local Emergency Officials for contingency planning and incident management for Chassell for large events such as Strawberry Festival and K-Day.
CLERK: N/R.
TREASURER: Andrea Aho she will be working on Winter Taxes. During the first day for the new assessor she was greeted by many residents and happily took questions from them.
FIRE DEPARTMENT/FIRST RESPONDERS: Curt Judson reported that they had 3 calls with a 40 year-to-date . The 2nd car/bear accident, Side by Side rollover and gas leak. Curt also reported that the Sig Rho's annual Golf outing benefit for the Chassell Emergency Services Fund was a success and they raised $2,671. He requested from the township a letter of support for Giving Tuesday. The FD will be doing a Rural Aviation Incident with 4 departments. Curt reported that the First Responders received 11 calls with a 91 year-to-date.
TOWNSHIP MAINTENANCE: Julie Judson, W/S clerk reported that she has been working with a resident that had a new meter installed on 10/8/25. Several issues were discovered on their account. The multiplier was populating incorrectly, the online bill pay then was incorrect and the customer was not charged the installation fee W/S of $500 for each. Discussion, Motion by Curt Judson supported by Dan Palosaari to send letter to customer detailing issues and only charge actual costs for water/sewer installation. M/C.
Craig Austin reported that the kayak launch will be pulled this week. Working on installing the new Ice Rink boards. Dan Palosaari is working on the warming shack and will get a quote for an electric heater. Craig said the backup mower was offered to the Chassell Recreation Committee to purchase for $2K. Discussion. Motion by Dan Palosaari to sell the Rec Committee the mower for $1 supported by Andrea Aho. M/C. The bucket truck has been purchased and is in service now. Craig asked the board for their opinion on where to store the new Aluminum park dock so it won't get vandalized. NON-Flushable Wipe Policy-Craig reported that he and Brandon spent over 6 hours repairing a grinder pump that was clogged with a NON-Flushable Wipe(s). Discussion. Prepare a letter for the board to approve at the next month's meeting to be sent to all sewer customers with a grinder pump with a fee schedule. Craig asked the board to get bids to convert the block bathroom by the boat launch into a Shower/Changing Room. The burgundy truck should be back from Lakeside Auto with a plow mount.

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ZONING: The new zoning report will be presented at the November meeting.
ASSESSOR: Rebecca Hernandez introduced herself. She came on board October 12th. Her office hours will be every Monday from 9-3:30. She has 6 years experience and has her MCO assessor license .
PLANNING COMMISSION (PC): Keith Meyers asked the board to approve a three year term for Doug Hamar to 8/10/29. Motion by Lynn Gierke supported by Curt Judson to renew the 3 year term. M/C. The PC members will be updating the 5 Year Plan for the Road Commission using Paser Guidelines. Make a Difference Day they will be moving the Horizontal Ladder on the Exercise Trail. Jeff Ratcliff and the Land Bank will be putting up for sale signs on properties 42291 & 42299 N. Hancock St. The township needs to provide an estimate of expenses for these properties to determine lot prices.
WEBSITE: The Fire Department page needs to add a picture of the new truck!!
OFFICE BUILDING: None.
ENGINEERING: Cole Ruohonen reported that the RD Wastewater project is submitting the approval of the 3rd Draw on the construction loan for $252,663.90 to B&B Contracting. Motion to approve the resolution for the payment to B&B Contracting made by Andrea Aho supported Dan Palosaari. M/C. Crane still needs to install the new flow meter and MJO will install the generator in December. The pad should be poured in 2 weeks at Lakeshore Dr. Lift Station. RD Water application is in process. The SPARK grant deficiency will be taken care of in the Spring. Pike River Bridge meeting with Jared Hyrkas-UPEA, Carly Graff and Bryce LeBrun-DNR, Keith Meyers and Lynn Gierke-Township met on October 13. Specs, permitting and funding were discussed. It is now in the DNR hands to find out if it will get funded in the 2027 or 28 Fiscal year.

Lagoon Monitoring: the 5th well has been installed and surveyed and UPEA is ready to work with EGLE for discharge permits. Pike River Bridge: UPEA is currently waiting on an update from their structural team.
REVIEW BUDGET: N/R
OLD BUSINESS:

A. Pavilion curtains-look at a long term plan for curtains. Maybe apply for a grant with Copper Shores like Alston did?
B. Zoning Ordinance approval will be at the November meeting. Need to update the map.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Google Work Space Emails-recommendation per our Cyber Security report. The cost is $8/mo./User. Discussion. Tabled.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 per motion by Dan Palosaari, supported by Andrea Aho, M/C.

Lynn Gierke, Supervisor_____Bethany Baetsen, Clerk_____

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