

TOWN OF CHICOG
Town Board Meeting
September 14, 2022

1. Verify Legal Posting Notice
2. Call Meeting to order.
3. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
4. Roll Call: All Board members present.
5. Approval of the previous minutes as posted on our web site. Motion made by Steve Loiselle and seconded by Sue Kowarsch to approve the posted minutes. Motion Passed

6. Treasurer's report was given as follows all balances as of August 31, 2022:

Checking Account: Beginning balance - \$35,009.91 includes interest of \$3.38, outstanding checks - \$2,262.72 Final working balance: \$32,747.19
Money Market Account: \$148,382.27, includes interest of \$140.35
Highway Equipment Maintenance Account: \$4,247.12
MMA Equipment Replacement Account: \$33,515.86 includes interest of \$26.80
MMA Grant Account: \$24,813.54 includes interest of \$20.17
Tax Account: \$302.00

Motion made by Steve Loiselle and seconded by Sue Kowarsch to approve the Treasurer's Report.
Motion passed

7. Chairman's Report:

a. 9-11-2001 what has come to be known as Patriot's Day. The remembrance of the 2,997 fallen in the attack against our country. Let us not forget also of the courageous acts of all the individuals who braved their lives to search for and help these victims. The numbers of victims will continue to rise in health related issues to 9-11 for decades to come. Do you remember where you were on this day?

b. August 24th 5pm the comprehensive Planning Committee was reestablished and convened in an informal meet and greet meeting and set forth developing the platform of board leads and meeting schedules. A discussion of priorities' to address first was the SWOT analogies (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats). The next meeting will have met Sep 7 at 5pm here at the town hall.

c. Labor Day weekend and I hope all enjoyed the fantastic weather that was provided to us. I couldn't begin to estimate the numbers that were enjoying our area. I did hear from the Sheriff's department and the DNR (Game Wardens) that they were in our area patrolling. I was informed also that many a fine was handed out to ATV/UTV operators. Citations issued that I was made aware of ranged from lack of seat belt usage, lack of trail passes and riding on the state highway right of ways. I spoke with Officer Brain Jelick about ATV/UTVs operating on Highway 77. He informed me that it is totally illegal for these machines to operate on any state or interstate highway and if at all possible to get evidence of such activities.

8. Correspondence:

a. Several contacts about the town debris site.

- b.** Dean Sukowatey: asking emergency request, if the town could grade the private portion of Lodge rd. due to all the washouts. Dean was directed to a business with equipment that was more suitable for his situation.
- c.** Alana Wynne: would like proceedings to start on discontinuance of Robeke Rd. Alana and her family have a vested interest in our town and she extends the hand of her services to us if and where needed.
- d.** Kathy Bartilson: The Washburn County Lakes & Rivers Association is applying for a shoreline restoration grant for 2023. This will be to help land owners interested in improving their shoreline health. If interested please contact Lisa Burns by Sep. 30 at lburns@co.washburn.wi.us or 715-468-4654. Visit <https://healthylakeswi.com> for more information on the healthy lakes grant program.
- e.** False information has made its way to my ears! Rumors of the Fire Department dissolving, not being viable, Rumors are destructive. Jim Frasheski your Fire Chief and I made contact with isomitigation.com, 888-444-4554 to inspect our fire departments rating. On a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being the worst score and 10 being the highest score, Chicog Volunteer Fire Department rates a 9 - 10 for our area. We lack a city water supply system (hydrants etc.).
- f.** On that note Chicog Volunteer Fire Department is always looking for recruits to our force. Recruits that are dedicated and committed to service. This is not just where you get a pair of turn out gear and jump on a hose and put the wet stuff on the red stuff. This requires Fire Fighter 1 & 2 technical training/schooling, two meetings a month one being a board meeting and equipment maintenance meeting and the other one being a training night, with continuing training on equipment and procedures. Tragedy can strike at any time, on any day and in any weather and when the bell sounds commitment is of our utmost importance.
- g.** Received a request from Washburn County Area Humane Society (WCAHS) about several of their programs including a new one called No Empty Bowls Food Pantry and a request for funds. Motion made by Steve Loiselle and seconded by Sue Kowarsch to donate to the WCAHS. Motion passed.
- f.** Call on an easement conflict on Piety Lane.
- h.** Mike Daugherty would like the Town to see if we can do an agreement with the Minong Transfer Station for trash.

9. Roads & Road Work:

- a. Construction:** Bramer Road project is waiting for asphalt, Monarch Paving is scheduling for the first week of October. Lower McKenzie Landing Road is still on at a standstill.
- b. Maintenance:** Spring Maintenance, patching and road grading with mowing in progress.
- c. Purchases:** none

10. Mid-State Truck Service Inc. – Rob Standeven: discussion of options.

The warranty is currently due to expire on the current Dump Truck. The Town's options are:

1. Extend the warranty with a NTP warranty for 36 months/400k miles for estimate price of \$14,000.
2. Order a new truck now for delivery around Jun 2024.
3. There is a truck available right now that is similar to the current one that we can buy. The trade-in value at this time would be greater than if we wait till 2024. Finance options available.

Motion made by Steve Loiselle and seconded by Sue Kowarsch that the Town is interested in buying this vehicle and would like to have Mid-State put together an estimate of cost. Motion passed

11. Dale Kess on ATV Trail:

The current ATV trail is causing a problem over on Atherton Rd. Is there a possibility to change the trail route? Discussion follows. The final outcome is that there needs to be a meeting set up between Washburn & Burnett County ATV clubs, Forestry Department and affected Townships to discuss what can be done.

12. Part-Time Highway Maintenance position:

The Town needs to add another employee for the highway department. Discussion followed. Before a decision is made the Board will need to see if the budget for 2023 will support this and needs to find out what is considered part-time hours, i.e. how many hours a week before it is full time.

13. Resolution of adoption of the Lodge Road CSM

The Town was presented with a Certified Survey Map of Lodge Road with a request to approve the new ending. Motion made by Sue Kowarsch and seconded by Steve Loiselle to approve. Motion passed.

14. Discontinuance request for Robeke Rd.

The Town has received a request to discontinue Robeke Rd. from the property owners on that road. Motion made by Steve Loiselle and seconded by Sue Kowarsch to discontinue Robeke Rd. Town Clerk to forward request to the Town's attorney.

15. Picnic table replacement:

The picnic tables outside need to be replaced or fixed. Sue Kowarsch asked who owns the tables. Tables are shared between Fire Department, ESG & Town. Sue Kowarsch recommended that we have meeting with all parties to discuss this.

16. Committee Reports:

- a. **Hunter's Feed** – Sue Kowarsch – We have come up with a total of 30 prizes this year's raffle.
- b. **Fire Department**-Brad Harrison: the new fire numbers that the County contracted to put up are still not in good spots. Some were put up in the same spot and some were changes. Please make sure to clear away any brush from around the numbers.

17. Public Input:

- a. Brad Harrison: The Minong Transfer Station's cost for trash is up to at least \$6 per 40 pounds. They are weighing everything so dump all of your recycles first.
- b. Sue Kowarsch: Didn't we discuss having an ordinance or resolution on the town's debris site? Town Clerk doesn't have it in the minutes. Will be an agenda item for the next meeting..

18. Date of the next meeting: October 12, 2022

19. Payment of Bills:

Motion made by Steve Loiselle and seconded by Sue Kowarsch to approve the payment of the following bills/checks: -2322 thru -2422 and 11961 thru 11985. Motion passed

20. Motion made by Steve Loiselle and seconded by Sue Kowarsch to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

21. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.