

**TOWN OF CHICOG**  
Town Board Meeting  
November 8, 2023

1. Call Meeting to order at 6:30 pm
2. Verify Legal Posting Notice.
3. Roll Call: All Board members present.
4. Approval of the previous minutes as posted on our website. Motion made by Sue Kowarsch and seconded by Brian Berg to approve the posted minutes. Motion passed
5. **Treasurer's report** was given as follows all balances as of October 31, 2023:
  - Checking Account:** Beginning balance - \$62,361.48 includes interest of \$14.75, outstanding checks - \$826.57 Final working balance: \$61,534.91
  - Money Market Account:** \$228,879.48, includes interest of \$250.48
  - CD Account:** \$47,000.00
  - Tax Account:** \$302.00

Motion made by Sue Kowarsch and seconded by Brian Berg to approve. Motion passed.

**6. Chairman's Report:**

- a. LRIS Grant application to be submitted by November 15<sup>th</sup> for Hoinville road.
- b. The Minnesota Catholic Youth Partnership plans to purchase the Heartwood Resort. Plans are to close on the property in mid-January. Currently, we have not received any formal plan from the Heartwood management. I will advise as the sale proceeds. Meeting to be held tomorrow, 11/9/23 with Heartwood and the new operations group.
- c. Washburn County Transportation coordination planning meeting to be held in Shell Lake in the board room on Thursday, 11/16/23 from 1PM-3PM. They will discuss transportation options available for people in the town of Chicog.
- d. We conversed with our logger yesterday on how the town timber cut was progressing. He indicated to us that they anticipate being completed sometime late next week.
- e. With gun deer season just around the corner please be careful, we want to see all your smiling faces for years to come.
- f. Lastly, we all want to wish you and your family's a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

**7. Roads and Road Work – Joe Norton**

- a. Misty Bog/Deeper Lake Rd. Paving and shouldering complete.
- b. New road signs installed on several roads that were missing.
- c. Washburn County paved patches on Chicog Lake Rd.
- d. Mowing of grass for the year is done.
- e. Salt/Sand hauled in.
- f. Grader/Dump Truck/F450: plow, wing, sander are winter ready
- g. Dangerous Tree on Chicog Lake Rd has been removed, Thanks to Norms Tree Service!
- h. Upcoming:
  1. The paving of Byrkit Road – as of this afternoon is done.
  2. Winter Maintenance, Snow removal, Sanding, Brushing, Burning of brush site

## **8. Fire Department/Fire Board Report:**

**a. Jim Frasheski** – With the winter approaching there are several things to be aware of:

1. Furnaces: have them cleaned & checked.
2. Intake/outtake vents – Make sure you keep them clear.
3. Outside wood burners – Keep wood & used ashes away from structures
4. Chimneys – keep them clean of build-up.

**b. Fire Board – Brad Harrison** – the Fire board met with the Town Board and discussed several areas. The Fire Board will be meeting once a month.

## **9. Correspondence:**

**a. Sue Kowarsch** – Mathews Lake Association met with Sheriff Stuart on what needs to be provided to the Sheriff's Department to have citations issued for individuals not following the decontamination rules for lakes with decontamination stations. According to Sheriff Stuart the current individual responsible for this is leaving the Department and the new individual will be fully briefed on the problem.

**b. Report from Brian Berg on Washburn County Board Meeting:**

1. There was an update from Mosaic Technologies on where they are at with the Broadband.
2. The County has no problem with giving us a one acre parcel for a salt/sand shed. The acre that we had requested will not work due to setbacks. We are looking at other sites.
3. A resolution was passed to change the Interest & Penalty rate on delinquent Taxes. It was approved to raise it from 1% to 1.5%.

## **10. Review/approve proposed ambulance contract from Minong:**

Contract was reviewed. Motion made by Sue Kowarsch and seconded by Brian Berg to approve the Minong Area Ambulance Contract of \$20,314.02. Motion passed.

## **11. Review/Approve formal request to abandon Roebke Road**

Formal request was presented to the Board with discussion following. Motion made by Scott Pahos and seconded by Brian Berg to approve the request once all legal forms and notices have been filed and published. Motion passed.

## **12. Review/Discuss Salt/Sanding of Driveways. Cost increase from \$35 to \$45 (Min)**

**a.** Due to the increase in the cost of salt/sand and fuel we need to raise the cost of salt/sanding driveways. Discussion by Board

Motion made by Brian Berg and seconded by Sue Kowarsch to set the minimum fee at \$45, with longer driveways costing more. Motion Passed.

**b.** Please remember that we here at the Town's Highway Department only work the following dates/times: Monday – Thursday, 6:30 am to 4:30 pm. Please call 715-466-4525 and leave a message. We will salt/sand on non-work days in an emergency.

## **13. Committee Reports:**

**a. ESG \_ Terri Corrie** – At a previous Town Board Meeting the board approved several items from the Comprehensive Planning Committee, the one dealing with changing to all biodegradable products will be a problem for us in two areas; 1. Silverware for function like the Hunter's Feed and Funeral Luncheons, the only way to change this is to go to regular silverware. We can buy up enough sets to feed however many, but then you are dealing with washing all the silverware. 2. Two ounce portion cups for the cranberries. As of right now they aren't

making them that small, by the time we need them they just might. In all other areas we will comply once our current inventory is depleted.

**b. Hunter's Feed** – Sue Kowarsch – There has been a great response to all of our calls. We have all the food donations and workers set. Please come out and join us.

**14. Public Input:**

**a.** Louie Columbus: Chicog Community Lakes Committee is in the process of getting organized. We would like a representative from each lake on this committee. We would also like some non-lake residents too. If you are interested please contact Kent Shifferd at [kentshifferd@gmail.com](mailto:kentshifferd@gmail.com)

**b.** Jack Mulligan: On the budget why is the revenues and disbursements so far different? We have monies left at the end of the year so we don't need to levy as much.

**15.** Date of the next Meeting: December 13, 2023 at 6:00 pm

**16. Payment of Bills:**

Motion made by Brian Berg and seconded by Sue Kowarsch to approve the payment of the following bills/checks: -2123 thru -2223 and 12391 thru 12419. Motion passed

**17.** Motion made by Sue Kowarsch and seconded by Brian Berg to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

**18.** Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.