

**TOWN OF CHICOG**  
Town Board Meeting  
August 9, 2023

1. Call Meeting to order at 6:00 pm
2. Verify Legal Posting Notice.
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 Sue Kowarsch and seconded by Brian Berg to approve the posted minutes. Motion passed

**6. Treasurer's report** was given as follows all balances as of July 31, 2023:

**Checking Account:** Beginning balance - \$33,053.99 includes interest of \$8.43, outstanding checks - \$3,358.16 Final working balance: \$29,695.83

**Money Market Account:** \$186,175.46, includes interest of \$217.97

**MMA Equipment Replacement Account:** \$23,770.73 includes interest of \$25.21

**MMA Grant Account:** \$25,066.66 includes interest of \$26.58

**Tax Account:** \$302.00

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

**7. Chairman's Report**

**a.** Town budget- We are currently on track to stay within budgeted amounts for 2023 except for fuel, which is projected to exceed our limit for the year. This is a result of heavy snow removal this year coupled with rising fuel costs.

**b.** We have completed our new records retention room in the maintenance shop which now has both heat and air-conditioning. Thanks to Brian and Shannon Berg for the donation of the air conditioner.

**c.** We have also purchased a new computer and monitor for our Road Supervisor, Joe Norton so we can now utilize digital records in the place of hand written notes and documentation. Darcie and I have purchased this equipment and have donated it to the town.

**d.** We are currently on our second beaver control contract for the year. With low water this year beavers are very active at damning culverts.

**e.** We will be installing the new block retention wall at the cemetery in the next month.

**f.** We will be ordering new road signs this next month.

**g.** Our new mower tractor is now estimated to be delivered sometime in the next 2 weeks.

**h.** We did conduct an emergency board meeting to approve the purchase of a used truck for the fire department replacing a truck that had over 300,000 miles on it. The fire department will pay for this truck out of their budget.

**8. Correspondence:**

**a.** Scott received calls and emails on "No Wake" policy and Atherton Rd reference the Trail.

**b.** Sue received calls and emails on the problem in Mathews Lake with Hybrid Eurasian Water Milfoil.

## **9. Roads & Road Work:**

- a. Ditching and culvert work on Bridge Rd and Missy Bog Rd. Will be talking with the Town of Minong on how soon they are going to be blacktopping their part of Missy Bog Rd. will try to get ours done at the same time.
- b. We have received calls on ATV damages to the roads

## **10. Discussion on Money Market status**

A question was asked if we could do something else with the Money Market account (MMA). The interest is not the best. The Board, Clerk and Treasurer discussed why we had the MMA and what we can possibly do.

Motion made by Sue Kowarsch and seconded by Brian Berg to look at the financial accounts to see if there are ways to improve on our interest within State Statutes. Motion passed

## **11. Kent Shifferd discussion on Comprehensive Town Plan and committee oversight.**

Mr. Shifferd would like to know what the Board thinks is important and which recommendations they plan on implementing from the plan? Also, can we have the new one put on the website?

Scott Pahos: To be honest we have not looked at the Plan since it was given to us. Right now, I recommend that the Board gets together to discuss it. We will get a meeting date set and inform the Comprehensive Planning Committee. Yes, we will post the plan on the website.

## **12. Discussion on findings on Mathew Lake**

Richard Howard, President and Eric Lindberg, Vice-President of the Matthews Lake Association presented the following:

- a. There is a very high possibility that Matthew Lake has been infested with Hybrid Eurasian Milfoil (HEM) or *Myriophyllum sibiricum*. Testing is currently being done.
- b. Mathew Lake Association has approved a Comprehensive Plan on how to deal with this and is presenting it to the Board for their information.
- c. Are requesting that buoys be placed along the landing and shallow water areas to keep boat traffic out of low water areas.
- d. Would like to have the Town host a meeting with all of the Chicog Lake Associations to discuss Aquatic Invasive species.
- e. Is there any grants the Town can apply for to help out the Lake(s) combat this problem.

The Board will look at the possibility of hosting a meeting and look into grants.

## **13. Discussion on "No Wake" ordinance on town lakes between the hours of 5pm to 10am**

We have looked for this ordinance and cannot find it. We do know that one was done at some point in time.

Question from the electors: Why do we have this ordinance?

Mostly for the fishermen and also safety issues for smaller water crafts.

Comments from the electors that they would like to see the Board reinstate this ordinance.

Motion made by Brian Berg and seconded by Sue Kowarsch to adopt a No Wake ordinance for all Chicog Lakes from the hours of 5pm to 10am. Motion passed

## **14. Discussion on ATV/UTV traffic on Atherton Road. Potential solutions**

There has been numerous calls concerning Atherton Road with ATV/UTV problems. Scott opens this discussion up to the audience at this time. After all comments were discussed this board

will be looking into the matter. At the moment the Town will be building up the road, re- gravel and sealing it. We will be getting with the Club that has the sign in the right of way to have it moved.

**15. Discussion on rejuvenation of our Fire Board.** Expectations.

A discussion was conducted about the Fire Board. The Fire Board has not meet in accordance with State Statutes

**16. Review/approve or disapprove quotes** for 2 new windows and 1 door in the new office.

Quotes as follows:

1. \$12,000.00
2. \$3,500.00

Motion made by Sue Kowarsch and seconded by Brian Berg to approve the buying of the 2 windows and 1 door separate from the contractor and to have contractor (to be determined) install them. Motion passed.

**17. Discussion on sending out bid information for potential blacktop projects this year.**

Board discussed getting bids for 2 roads. Clerk to publish the bid notice in the Spooner Advocate for opening at the next meeting.

**18. Set the date for the Budget Meeting:**

Meeting is set for August 16, 2023 at 10am at the Town Hall. This will be the first of many budget meetings.

**19. Committee Reports:** None

**20. Public Input:**

**a. Terri Corrie:** Has the phone system here at the Hall been straightened out? We need a working phone here is the Hall part of the building for several reasons also needs to make sure whatever number it is it is put out so people know how to get hold of us especially during elections. Scott will take care of it.

**b. Jim Marchio** – Pleasure to work with a Board who is listening and trying to fix things. Please don't get rid of Joe, he is an excellence worker & needs a raise.'

**21. Date of the next Meeting:** September 13, 2023

**22. Payment of Bills:**

Motion made by Brian Berg and seconded by Sue Kowarsch to approve the payment of the following bills/checks: -1323 thru -1623 and 12301 thru 12337. Motion passed

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

**21.** Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.