

Minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting and Election
Chisago Lake Township
March 11, 2025

The polls opened at 10:00 am for the purpose of electing one supervisor for a three-year term and one Treasurer for a two-year term. The election judges were Judy Nelson, Bev Sandgren, and Jeanette Peterson. After the polls closed at 8:00 pm the ballots were counted, and results were reported later in the meeting.

The Annual Meeting was called to order at 8:15 pm by Clerk Peterson. Peterson then led the group assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

The Clerk then asked for nominations from the floor for a moderator. Wayne Houle made a motion, seconded by Jim Froberg, to nominate John Nelson. No other nominations were made. The motion was made by Wayne Houle, seconded by Jim Froberg, for John Nelson as moderator. Motion carried.

Clerk Peterson then turned the meeting over to moderator John Nelson.

Next Moderator Nelson asked for a motion to approve the 2024 Annual meeting minutes as presented and waive the reading of the minutes. A motion was made by Wayne Houle, seconded by Dave Reed, to approve, and wave the reading of the 2024 Annual Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Judy Straub, with a starting balance of \$3,035,584.27 as of January 1st, 2024, total Receipts for 2024 of \$2,415,509.14, and total disbursements for 2024 of \$2,380,949.52 leaving a balance of \$3,070,143.89 as of December 31, 2024. A motion was made by Wayne Houle, seconded by Bill Straub, to approve the Treasurer's report as presented and wave the reading of all receipts and disbursements. Motion carried.

Road Maintenance Report – Jeanette Peterson gave a 2024 Road Maintenance report prepared by Road Maintenance Supervisor, Matt Wikelius. Chisago Lake Township has two full-time maintenance employees and one part-time employee. They maintain 40 miles of blacktop roads and 40 miles of gravel roads.

- In 2024:
- Limestone was added to: Panola Dr, 250th St, Kipling Ave, 340th St, 345th St, 346th St, and 350th St.
- Reclaim and repave of blacktop roads included: Nueman Trl, Nueman Ct, Nueman Cir, and 253rd St.
- Walmark Lake Dr was micropaved.
- Lake Ln was scrub sealed.
- All streets in the Vibo Meadows plat were crack sealed.
- Tree trimming and removal was done on the right of ways of: Nathan Ln, 279th St, and 240th St.
- The township replaced the 2003 Caterpillar motor grader with a new Caterpillar motor grader.

2025

- Trees are being trimmed and removed from the right of ways of: Nueman Trl, Nueman Ct, Nueman Cir, 322nd St, Herberg Ct, Nottingham Ct, Northland Trl, Vibo Trl, 288th St, Lakelawn Dr, Mindy Ct, Linden Ave, 285th St, and 282nd St.
- Plans are being put together by Stantec Engineering for possible reclaim and repave of: North Lakes Ln, 347th St, Northbrook Ave, 346th Ct, 344th St, Novak Ave, Leah Ln, Leah Ct, 275th St, and 276th St.
- The process has started to purchase a new Mack plow truck, to replace the 2005 Freightliner.

Clerk Peterson reported on other happenings in 2024:

- Approved 7 Variances and 1 Preliminary Plat
- Adopted a Resolution Extinguishing a Right of Way and easement for a Private Roadway
- Adopted a Resolution to delegate our administrative powers and registration authority relating to the registration of cannabis retailers and hemp businesses to Chisago County.
- Adopted a Resolution for Governing Write-in vote Counting
- An Eagle Scout installed a flagpole for us at the Townhall Building
- Working on a new Fire Contract with the City of Lindstrom
- A total of 342 building permits were issued within the Chisago Lake Township in 2024
- 15 for new homes, 185 for additions/alterations, 44 for Mechanical, 24 for accessory, 1 for commercial, 27 for septic systems and 46 for septic certifications

The levy for 2026 was next on the agenda. Jeanette Peterson reviewed with the assembly, the proposed levy for 2026.

General Fund – \$90,000; Covers general building expenses; gopher bounties; Moody Lake Park portable toilet and mowing; election judge salaries; town board stipends; legal services; accounting and service contracts. Increase of \$1,000

Fire Contract Fund - \$205,000; Covers fees charged by four different fire departments to provide fire protection services within the township. Same as 2025.

Road & Bridge Fund - \$480,000; Covers upkeep of existing roads within the township; equipment insurance; gravel, limestone, and stabilization chemicals; salaries of maintenance employees; rental and repair of equipment. Increase of \$40,000

Black Top Repair – \$840,000; Covers resurfacing of existing blacktop roads. Increase of \$40,000

Through Road Blacktop Fund - \$85,000; Township pays 75% and landowners pay 25% when converting from gravel to blacktop. Same as 2025.

Dead-End Blacktop Fund - \$40,000; Township pays 25% and landowners pay 75% when converting from gravel to blacktop. Same as 2025.

Equipment Fund - \$50,000; Money being set aside for new equipment such as truck/snowplow/road grader. Same as 2025.

Library Operating Fund - \$15,000; Township participates in Joint Powers Agreement to cover facility operations at the library. Same as 2025.

Capital Project Fund - \$5,000; Used to cover unexpected expenses or shortfalls. Same as 2025.

The Proposed Levy for 2026 was presented at \$1,810,000 with a 4.7% increase from 2025. Jim Froberg suggested we increase the Blacktop Repair Fund more because the new homes that were built in 2024 would absorb the increase. That will be decided by the Board at the reconvened meeting in August. After some discussion a motion was made by Jim Froberg, seconded by Wayne Houle, to set the Proposed Levy for 2026 at \$1,910,000. Motion carried. This will be reviewed and set at the reconvened annual meeting in August.

Steven Sicheneder, representative for the Chisago Age Well Coalition presentation. This is run by all volunteers, and they operate on about \$12,000, strictly by donation. They offer various events throughout the Chisago County region.

Contracts with Health, Recreational and Service Organizations requesting funds by mail were Chisago County Fair, Seven County Senior Federation: Chisago County Historical Society, New Pathways Shelter & Support, and Chisago Age Well Coalition. A motion was made by Wayne Houle, seconded by Dave Reed, to contract the Health, Recreational and Service Organizations for up to \$5,000 with the Board to decide, later, the amount to be given to the various agencies. Motion carried.

Gopher bounties were next on the agenda. A motion was made by Wayne Houle, seconded by Jim Froberg, to keep the amount for pocket gophers at \$3.00 and keep the striped gophers at \$1.00. Motion carried.

The next annual meeting time and place was set for March 10, 2026. A motion was made by Jim Froberg, seconded by Dave Reed, to set the next annual meeting for the 2nd Tuesday in March 2026, which will be March 10, 2026, at 8:15 pm at the Chisago Lake Town Hall. Motion carried.

Report of Annual Election and Certification by Election Board.

Total number of votes cast – 27

Supervisor for Three Year Term:

Candidate – Wayne R. Houle 27 votes

Write-ins 0

Undervotes 0

Treasurer for Two-Year Term:

Candidate – Judy L. Straub 27 votes

Write-ins 0

Undervotes 0

Following the report of election results, motion by Wayne Houle, seconded by Lyn Regenauer, to recess the meeting until August 19th, 2025. Motion carried.

Moderator John Nelson announced that the Board of Canvas will meet immediately following the Annual meeting.

John Nelson, Moderator
Chisago Lake Township

Jeanette Peterson, Clerk
Chisago Lake Township

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