

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY
MEETING OF THE CHISAGO LAKE TOWNSHIP BOARD
TUESDAY, June 16th, 2020**

The regular monthly meeting for June 16th, 2020 was called to order at 7:00pm by Chair Stirling. All Board members were present. Pledge of Allegiance was said by group.

Chair Stirling then asked the Board for an approval of the minutes from the May 19th, 2020, regular monthly meeting. A motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to approve the minutes as presented and wave the reading of the May 19th, 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

Additions to Agenda and Approval of Agenda

Chair Stirling asked if there were any changes or additions to the Agenda. Monica Root requested to be added to the Agenda. Monica Root was added to the Agenda under Road Report. A motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to approve the Agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Variances, Plats and Conditional Use Permits

- ❖ Preliminary Plat-Glenn & Krista Carlson – came before the Board, along with Kelly Jordan, the Land Surveyor, to present a Preliminary Plat for approval to split a Twenty acre parcel into two Ten acre parcels in Oasis Estates. Kelly informed the Board that the wetland and perk tests have been completed. After review, a motion was made by Reed, seconded by Houle, to approve the preliminary plat as presented. Motion carried.
- ❖ A representative from the IPS Solar came before the Board to request an IUP to construct and operate a one megawatt community solar garden on 8 acres, (the W ½ of the NW ¼ of the NE ¼ of S 34 T 36 R, 20, Chisago County) that is located within ¼ mile of an existing solar array. Plans are to plant a second row of trees and move them closer to the road to address neighbor's concerns. After review, a motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to approve the IUP as requested. Motion carried.
- ❖ Richard Eitel, 30015 Glader Blvd., came before the Board to request a Variance for a setback to allow for garage within 10' of property line. After review, a motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed to approve the Variance. Motion carried.
- ❖ Jon Peterson came before the Board to present a Preliminary Plat & Road Installation & Maintenance agreement for The Shores of Little Lake Development. After review, a motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to approve the Preliminary Plat and the Road Installation and Maintenance Agreement for The Shores of Little Lake. Motion carried.

Old Business

❖ John Olinger, Lindstrom City Administrator, and Kay Mattson, City of Lindstrom Finance Director came before the Board to discuss the City of Lindstrom Estimated Fire Bill for 2020. Chair Stirling wanted to know why the increase of almost \$9000 from 2019 to 2020. Administrator Olinger informed the Board that one of the reasons for the increase was to replace the Svc packs, due to the current packs being obsolete. There was discussion to setup an annual meeting between the Township and City of Lindstrom in October to prepare us for increases. Administrator Olinger informed the Board that they are planning to build a new fire station within the next two years, so we will be seeing an increase in the Facility Rental Fee per year from \$7,500 to approx. \$13,000. No action was taken.

New Business

❖ CTC Broadband Application - Chair Stirling informed the Board that CTC is going to put in a request for a one million dollar grant for 2020. We applied for the Grant in 2019 and was denied. We will do a joint grant application with Franconia again, due to some of the hubs needing to go through Chisago Lake to server residents in Franconia. After discussion a motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to approve the submission of the grant. Motion carried.

❖ Discussion on Speed Limits on Township Roads. Chair Stirling informed the Board that residents that live on Malmberg road would like the speed limit reduced. The Sheriff's department did a study beginning on 6/8/20 to 6/14/20 and the average speed was between 30-40 mph, which did not result in excess speeding issues. The speed limit on that road is 55 mph but the Township and residents feel that is too fast for a gravel road. Residents present said the road is a hazard due to the sharp curves, gravel, and deep ditches, and they would like to see the speed limit lowered. Wikelius informed the residents present the Township is very limited on being able to lower speed limits. By law MN DOT has to prove the road is hazardous before the Township can lower the speed limit on a road. Chair Stirling informed the residents present that we have contacted MN DOT requesting a speed study to be done on this road and we are waiting to hear back from them.

❖ Clerk Peterson presented the Board with a list of Elections Judges for the 2020 Primary Election for approval. After review, a motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to approve the list of Election judges presented for the Primary Election. Motion carried.

❖ The Board reviewed the proposed Short-Term Rental Housing Ordinance presented from the Environmental Services. After review, the Board had no changes to the proposed Short Term Rental Housing Ordinance presented.

❖ The Board received information from Chris DuBose, Chisago County Commissioner informing them that the four legislative caucuses have reached an agreement on a bipartisan bill to distribute \$841 million in funding to local governments under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The local funding components is known as the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF). These numbers are preliminary and subject to change, however the current estimates is that Chisago Lake Township is expected to receive is \$117,675 in CRF funding. Funds must be distributed to local governments by June 30, 2020, and any unused funds at the end of the year are returned to the federal government. The CARES Act is very clear that CRF funding MUST be COVID-19 related.

Road Report – Matt Wikelius

- ❖ Matt Wikelius informed the Board of the following:
 - The maintenance department is done spraying, and have been out grading and mowing
 - Monica Root, came before the Board requesting Township to stop using herbicides in the right-of-way to clear noxious weeds, brush, and trees. She was informed that it is our responsibility to keep the roadways safe and maintainable for public use. She was informed that the Township of Chisago Lake has chosen to allow property owners of land adjacent to its right-of-way to opt-out of spraying the roadsides adjacent to their properties by putting up “NO SPRAYING” signs. By choosing this you the adjacent property owner becomes responsible for removing any noxious weeds, brush, or trees from the right-of-way. If the Township of Chisago Lake determines it is necessary to remove weeds, brush, or trees from these right-of-way’s in the future you the adjacent property owner will be assessed for that cost.

Information for Officials

- ❖ Clerk Peterson informed the Board of the following:
 - A total of 5 Building Permit Applications were issued in May – 3 for other home improvements, 5 for Garages/Pole Sheds
 - Spoke with Sharon and they are still not sure if they can have a CCATO meeting in June or not, will keep you posted
 - Hall facility is still closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Election Update – Polls will be open for Primary Election August 11th, 2020. Training will be online only. Registration will open June 15th and Training will begin July 6th. PNP recap – 5,780 people voted at the March 3, 2020 election (16.6% turnout). Total reimbursement for Chisago County was \$59,706. We received our reimbursement for \$2,173.50. There was no indication from the State that they will not continue with presidential primaries in the future and reimbursement for costs in the future is unlikely.
 - Clerk Peterson and Treasurer Straub will work on a COVID-19 Plan for the Township

Financial Report

- ❖ Treasurer Straub gave the Treasurer report. After the Treasurer’s report was presented a motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to approve the Financial Report with a balance of \$642,461.32 and pay the bills – Claim numbers 1762-1783 in the amount of \$18,942.84. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Chair Stirling asked if anyone had any other business.

There being no further business a motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to adjourn the meeting at 8:47pm. Motion carried.

Sherry Stirling, Chair
Chisago Lake Township

Jeanette Peterson, Clerk
Chisago Lake Township