

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY
MEETING OF THE CHISAGO LAKE TOWNSHIP BOARD
TUESDAY, April 18, 2023**

The regular monthly meeting for April 18, 2023, was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair, Stirling. All Board members were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by the group.

Chair, Stirling, asked the Board for an approval of the minutes from the March 21, 2023, regular monthly meeting. A motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to approve the minutes as presented and wave the reading of the March 21, 2023, minutes. Motion carried.

Additions to Agenda and Approval of Agenda

Chair Stirling asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. A motion was made by Reed, seconded by Houle, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Variances, Plats and Conditional Use Permits

- ❖ Ian Jorgensen requested to add a second entrance to his property off from 270th street. After reviewing a motion was made by Houle seconded by Reed to approve adding a second entrance to his property off 270th street. Motion carried.
- ❖ Teri Meads, from Abella Venue requested approval for an On-Sale Liquor License application. After some discussion supervisor Houle made a motion, seconded by Reed, to table this application until next month to allow the Board more time to decide. Motion carried.
- ❖ Variance Request – John & Cassandra Clements-14824 310th St (PID 02.00751.20) to exceed the maximum allowable amount of accessory storage space. Homeowners are concerned about the security of equipment. After discussion a motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to approve this variance, because it is not out of character with neighboring parcels, and needs to be sure bldg. meets setback requirements. Motion carried.
- ❖ Variance request – Louis & Angela Biondo-13xxx North Lakes Lane (PID 02.01271.51) to construct a dwelling with attached garage closer to the township ROW and Top of Bluff than required and to install a second septic system closer to the Top of Bluff than required. Primary septic meets code. The builder plans to do an infiltration system to help mitigate erosion. After discussion a motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to approve the variance. Motion carried.
- ❖ Variance request – Max & Mary Gustafson – 11890 Mentzer Trl, (PID 02.01619.00) to expand a legal non-conforming structure which is closer to the (OHWL) than required and to exceed the maximum allowable amount of impervious surface coverage. After discussion a motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed to approve the variance. Motion carried.
- ❖ Variance request-Kenneth &Mary Evanoff – 32740 N Center Ct (PID 02.01080.00) seeking a variance for the existing full basement to add a floor, no lower than 903.2 which is 3 feet above the existing high watermark. This will also increase the height of the cabin within the required footprint of the existing structure on a non-conforming lot. After discussion a motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to approve the variance, and extend original variance request approved on July 19, 2022. Motion carried.

❖ Neil & Donna Denen – requesting to vacate a 20 ft strip of Melody Lane. Neil stated that County zoning informed him that his property he currently owns is non-buildable, but if the township was to vacate the 20ft strip of Melody Lane (which is considered a Lake access) and he were able to purchase this from the township and add it to his lot and a half that would make his property buildable. Chair Stirling stated that she also checked with County Zoning, and they stated to her that even by adding this 20 ft strip to Denen’s property it would not make it a buildable lot, she also states that originally this development was built in 1919, and this strip was a Lake access road. To clear things up before the township begins the process of possibly vacating this strip of land, Supervisor Houle suggested that Mr. Denen go back to the county and gets a document stating that if this strip is added to his property, it would make the property buildable. No action was taken at this time.

Old Business

❖ Paradise Woods Update – Matt Wikelius informed the Board that he spoke with our Engineer Dan Boyum, and he is in conversation with Paradise Woods engineer, and they are starting to come to some agreements, but the developer needs to address the wetland regulation. Chair Stirling also wants to make it clear that the driveway must be separate from the hammerhead. Treasurer, Straub informed the board that the escrow account has not been replenished. Treasurer Straub mailed them an Invoice on 2/27/2023 stating that they have no remaining money in the Escrow account. Supervisor Houle suggested Clerk Peterson draft a letter informing them that the project will be ceased as of April 30, 2023, until the Escrow account is replenished.

❖ Birch Lake HOA – Schedule Public Hearing on Vacating selected out lots of west ends of 250th Street. A motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed to schedule a Public Hearing on Vacating selected out lots of west ends of 250th street on May 16, 2023, after our regular schedule meeting. Motion carried.

New Business

❖ Moody Lake Park – Mowing & Portable Restroom for 2023. A motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to hire T.J.C., for the mowing service (for all properties) at the same rate as 2022 and hire Air Fresh for Portable Restroom Service for the Portable Restroom service at Moody Lake Park. Motion carried.

Road Report

- ❖ Matt Wikelius informed the Board that:
- We have a few minor issues with the thawing, a few frost boils, and some potholes, but grading is improving the roads.
 - We had a culvert blow out on Quinlan Ave., which will need replacing, is a shared road with Shafer township. Matt will take pictures and keep them on file so if we need to, we can turn it into Emergency Management & Homeland Security for flood damage.
 - Last month Matt informed the Board that Bjorklund’s cost to haul limestone would be \$7.80 a ton and we are looking at needing approximately 4,500 tons totaling approximately \$34,100.00. A motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed to approve hiring Bjorklund’s to haul limestone. Motion carried.
 - Chair, Stirling informed everyone present that the MN House passed the Transportation Funding bill, the Senate has yet to act on it. This is the bill that contains funding for the Local Road Improvements Grant Funds.

- VJ Polkus from Ziegler/CAT presented a quote for a new Caterpillar Motor Grader with Snow Wing for \$319,540.00 after trade in. After reviewing a motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed to approve purchasing a new road grader. Motion carried.

Information for Officials

- ❖ Clerk Peterson informed the Board of the following:
 - CCATO meeting for April 26th, 2023, is at Nessel Township
 - Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting is Thursday, April 20th, 2023, at 1:30pm
 - Melissa Wolf from Midco is scheduled to attend the meeting June 20th, 2023,
 - Hall Rental Report

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 \$2,406,658.41 and pay the bills – Claim numbers 2574 - 2592 in the amount of \$15,964.26. Motion carried. 3 Yes 0 No.
- ❖ Treasurer Straub presented a Pay Equity report that needed to be signed by the Chair and posted.
- ❖ Treasurer Straub informed the Board that Lindgren & Associates has overseen paying our monthly taxes but has been late paying them the last 6 months which has incurred late charges with the Minnesota Dept. of Revenue. After some discussion a motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to terminate our relationship with Lindgren & Associates regarding the accounting services and have Treasurer Straub take over these duties. Motion carried.
- ❖ A motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed to move the ARPA money in the amount of \$532,313.78 into the Road & Bridge account. Motion carried.
- ❖ A motion was made by Reed, seconded by Houle to pay \$56,000.00 toward the 325th Bond. Motion carried.
- ❖ A motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed to move our checking and saving accounts from MidWestOne Bank to Security State Bank of Marine, making this our primary bank and giving the Clerk and Treasurer permission to move CD's. Motion carried.

Re-Organization of Board for 2023

- ❖ Clerk Peterson asked for nominations for Chair. Stirling was nominated for Chair. A motion was made by Houle, seconded Reed, for Stirling to serve as Chair for 2023. Motion carried.
- ❖ Clerk Peterson turned the Chair over to Chair Stirling. Chair Stirling asked for nomination for Vice-Chair. Reed was nominated as Vice-Chair. A motion was made by Houle, seconded by Stirling, for Reed to serve as Vice-Chair for 2023. Motion carried.

- ❖ Chair Stirling asked the Board to adopt a schedule for Board regular monthly meetings, designate an official newspaper, designate a posting location for official notices, and designate banks as town depositories. A motion was made by Houle, seconded by Reed, to Adopt a schedule for Board regular meetings to be held on the third Tuesday monthly, designate Chisago County Press as our official newspaper, designate the lobby of Town Hall for posting locations for official notices, and designate two of the same banks we are currently using as town depositories. (First State Bank of Wyoming, and Security Bank of Marine) and continue with MidWestOne until all transfers are completed. 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 9:11 pm. Motion carried.

Sherry Stirling, Chair
Chisago Lake Township

Jeanette Peterson, Clerk
Chisago Lake Township