

**Chesaning Township
Board of Trustees
Approved Minutes
Regular Meeting
September 1, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m.**

Regular Meeting: Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge was led by the Board of Trustees.

Members Present: Supervisor Joe Ruthig, Treasurer Cathy Gross; Trustees: Peter Hemgesberg, Ken Hornak, and Bill Hedrich.

Members Absent: Clerk Julie Paulson; Trustee Kevin Carlton

Approval of Agenda: Agenda was presented for approval. Motion by Hedrich, support by Hemgesberg, to approve the agenda, as presented. Vote: All yeas. Motion Passed.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 4, 2022 were presented for approval. Trustee Hemgesberg noted a change to be made in the Supervisor's Report regarding the mowing of the grass triangle at the corner of Main Street/M-57 and Corunna Road which would be done by the State (MDOT) not the County. Motion by Hedrich, support by Hornak to approve the August 4, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes with the change. Vote: All yeas. Motion Passed.

Presentations: None

Correspondence: None

Public Comments: None

Committee/Board Reports:

County Commissioner – No one present to report.

County Road Commission – No one present to report

SCTOA – No meeting. Hornak reported that information about the Christmas Party should be forthcoming.

Cemetery – Trustee Hedrich reported that the mowing maintenance is not satisfactory. Supervisor Ruthig commented that he has been in contact with the cemetery maintenance people, 42 North, to let them know we are not happy with the job they are doing on either the cemetery or at the township hall yard. The Township will be seeking bids for lawn maintenance people for 2023.

Building Official – No report

Ordinance Enforcement Officer – No report.

Rehmann Health Center – Treasurer Gross reported the Mobile Dental Clinic was full in August and the next clinic is scheduled for September 26th. WIC continues to operate remotely. The old Rehmann building next door to Rehmann Health Center was torn down and a new building has been erected in that place.

Fire Board – The last meeting was held on August 10, 2022. There is work continuing on painting Station #2 in Oakley. Retired Lieutenant Darren Horger passed away after serving the Chesaning Brady Fire Department for 11 years. Darren's name will be added to the Firefighters Memorial in Roscommon. A Grant has been approved for \$75,000 from Saginaw County ARPA Funds. Money will be used to purchase 20 sets of turnout gear. Hats, gloves, helmets, boots, coats, and pants will be purchased. Thank you to Mark Schramke of Schramke Fireworks and Night Flight Fireworks for a donation of a \$1,000 foam nozzle. The new washing machine has been installed at the fire station and is working well.

MMWA – Trustee Hemgesberg asked Trustee Hornak to mention at the next Mid-Michigan Waste Authority Meeting about Waste Management trucks having trash that blows out of their trucks quite frequently and the drivers should pick up the blowing trash. It was also noted that due to the Labor Day holiday, the trash and recycling pick-up will be delayed one day the first full week of September.

Task Force – Supervisor Ruthig attended the last Task Force meeting. The meeting was in full attendance. Dale Tithof spoke to the group and advised he would still Chair the meeting but he does not want to send out the agendas. Supervisor Ruthig volunteered to take over creating the agenda and sending it out. Dave Richardson will still take Minutes.

Parks and Rec – The 5-year plan still needs to be finalized and printed.

Board Officials Reports:

Supervisor: Saginaw County Road Commission will be putting in a cross culvert on Ditch Road East of Amman Road. The North side of Ditch Road will then be cleaned from there to Amman Road to help move some water to the West. Hot patch should be done as of now. The Township is still waiting on DTE to present an updated site plan on their proposed Solar project, if they plan to move forward. Supervisor Ruthig spoke with the owner of the new Sunoco Gas Station/Party Store which is under construction on Brady Road where Burger King used to be. The owner said he plans to be open before Christmas. Beer, wine and other groceries will be sold there also. A food take out only restaurant, Crispy Crunchy Chicken, will also be in operation. Hours are planned for 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. week days, and 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. weekends. The Military Classic football game will be held on September 23rd at the Chesaning High School. James Wickman, the current Village Manager, turned in his resignation on August 24, 2022. Installation of the new siding for the Township Hall should start the week of September 12th.

Clerk: Clerk Paulson was absent. However, she has reported that the August 2022 Primary Election went well and the Board of Canvassers has Certified it. Work on the November election continues.

Treasurer: The 2022 property tax season continues. Summer taxes are due September 14th without interest. On September 15th 1% interest will be added and another 1% will be added each month thereafter until March when the taxes become delinquent and will go to the County. The Treasurer will be in the office all day to collect taxes on Wednesday, September 14th. A State Revenue Share check in the amount of \$40,578.00 was received for the July 2022 payment. That payment is up by \$5,160.00 compared to the payment received in July 2021.

Unfinished Business:

a. Consider Purchase of New Township Flag

Supervisor Ruthig presented a quote from Carrot-Top Industries for a new Township Flag. The quote is for a white flag with gold fringe similar to our Michigan flag but will include the new Township Logo and will be one sided. Total cost would be \$293.69. Motion by Hemgesberg, support by Hornak to purchase a new Township Flag from Carrot-top Industries at the cost of \$293.69. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Hedrich, Hornak, Hemgesberg, Gross, Ruthig. Nays: None. 5 yeas, 0 Nays. Motion Passed.

New Business:

a. Review Groundskeeper Duties and Contract and Consider Putting Out for Bid

The current Grounds and Maintenance Agreement for the Cemetery and Township Hall was presented. Supervisor Ruthig asked the Board to make comments or suggestions regarding additions or changes to the duties to be included on the Agreement. Trustees Hemgesberg and Hedrich talked about including language that says the groundskeeper is responsible to remove illegal items from the graves. Also, removal of pine cones should be included. Treasurer Gross said we will pull prior Contracts from the file in the office to compare past Agreement language to the current Agreement and make revisions to be approved at the October 6th Board Meeting. After that an ad can be placed for new bids for a groundskeeper for the 2024 Grounds and Maintenance season.

b. Consider Replacement of Service Door on Wildwood Cemetery Barn

Supervisor Ruthig presented two quotes for a Steel Door, 3/0 to replace the service door on the Wildwood Cemetery barn. Swartzmiller Lumber Company quoted \$398 for the door and \$129.99 for a lockset. Self-Serve Lumber quoted \$340.00 for the door and Ace Hardware quoted \$39.99 for a lockset.

Motion by Hornak, support by Hemgesberg to purchase a steel door for the Wildwood Cemetery Barn from Self-Serve Lumber at a cost of \$340.00 and also purchase a lockset from Ace Hardware at a cost of \$39.99. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Hemgesberg, Gross, Hedrich, Hornak, Ruthig Nays: None 5 yeas, 0 Nays. Motion Passed.

Extended Public Comments: Began at 7:28 p.m. Comments were heard from several members of the public in attendance regarding the Solar Farm project. Joe Donovan, a farmer who has leased his land with DTE, commented he would like to hear more about the benefits the Solar Farms will bring instead of all the talk about stopping the Solar Farms. Carolyn Knieper of 7262 Ditch Road responded to Mr. Donovan's comment by asking what the benefits would be to her, as the farms will surround her property on three sides and will also lower the value of her property. She noted that none of the farmers have plans to put the solar farms in front of or behind their own residences. Supervisor Ruthig commented that the Township would receive some tax money from the Solar Farms. Linda James of 7101 Ditch Road said she notes there are approximately 17 houses on the mile near Gasper and Amman Road where Solar Farms are being planned. She thinks this is poor planning to be putting the Solar Farms in such populated areas. Frances Kukulis of 8471 Volkmer Road asked the Board if there were any notes on record regarding the meeting of the attorneys in the July. Comments ended at 7:37 pm.

Township Board Comments: Hedrich mentioned the Crimson Maple trees along the road at the cemetery should be trimmed as well as trees near the barn.

Approval of Bills: Motion by Hedrich, support by Hemgesberg, to pay the bills as presented. Bills totaled \$81,347.48 which also included payment to the Saginaw County Road Commission for roadwork completed. Roll Call Vote – Yeas: Hornak, Hemgesberg, Gross, Hedrich, and Ruthig. Nays: None. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

Adjournment: Motion by Hemgesberg, support by Hornak, to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. Motion Passed

Approved: _____

**Cathy Gross, Treasurer – Acting Secretary
Chesaning Township**

Supervisor Approval – Yes___ No___

Change Requests_____

Supervisor Joe Ruthig_____Date:_____