

TOWNSHIP OF CHESANING
APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
February 6, 2025
7:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting: Called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Board of Trustees.

Members Present: Supervisor Joe Ruthig, Clerk Daniel Himstedt, Treasurer Cathy Gross, Trustees Kevin Carlton, Ken Hornak, Scott Mrdeza, and Sarah Tomac

Absent: None

Approval of Agenda: Agenda was presented for approval. MOTION by Mrdeza supported by Hornak to accept Agenda as presented. Motion Passed.

Approval of Minutes: January Board minutes presented for approval. MOTION by Tomac, support by Carlton to approve the January 2, 2025 Board Minutes. Motion Passed.

Presentations: None

Correspondence: None

Brief Public Comments: Public comment provided by 7 residents.

Committee/Board Reports:

- County Commissioner-Dennis Harris
- County Road Commission-Dennis Borchart
- SCTOA-Ken Hornak:
- Cemetery-Daniel Himstedt
- Building Official-Rob Kehoe
- Ordinance and Zoning Enforcement Officer-Pat Olk
- **Rehmann Health Center**-Cathy Gross: Mobile Dental Clinic will be held on February 17. WIC continues to use the center two times a month. Chesaning United shirts will be available for purchase.
- **Fire Board** -Joe Ruthig: Meeting was held on January 8, 2025. There have been 210 runs for 2024 with 13 being in December. Rachel Coss has started as the Fire Hall Custodian and is doing a great job. They are waiting on background check for a new Firefighter. He has worked for Laingsburg Fire Department in the past. As the Fire Chief was compiling the year end reports he wanted it to be known that the Chesaning Brady Fire Department average response time for 2024 was 7:09 minutes. The insurance Service Organization standard is five minutes or less for a full time Fire Department. They do not set a standard for part time Departments.
- **MMWA**-Daniel Himstedt, Ken Hornak. Meeting scheduled for February 10,2025
- **Task Force**-Joseph Ruthig: Saginaw County Ag Society has set the dates for the Saginaw County Fair as July 29-August 2, 2025. Knitting for Teens will be held at the Library on February 18, 2025. Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner was attended by 170 people. The Dri-Tri date is set as September 13, 2025. The fireworks will be June 26 with a rain date of June 27, 2025. The Village is interviewing for a new Police Chief. All of the Air Filtration Systems for the marijuana buildings needed to be in place by the end of January. If not installed they will not receive their license renewals. Chesaning Union School District now has two full time Resource Officers. Teaching Staff is full. There are 400 students at the High School. The next meeting is scheduled for April 22,2025.
- Parks & Rec-Kevin Carlton and Joe Ruthig

Board Officials Reports:

Supervisor: Saginaw County Road Commission held its district 3 Spring Meeting at the Township Hall last week. Lots of discussion about the new millage and how it will work. Chesaning Township will receive approximately \$196,000.00 this year for local roads. This is a six year millage so we should see over \$1,000,000.00 over the next six years. I received recommendation from our district Foreman as to projects and maintenance he recommends for the township. We can talk about those at the budget workshop meeting next week. Sharon Road is a primary road so is no cost to the township it will be resurfaced this year from the Chesaning Village limits north to Gary Road. SCRC is looking for summer co-op help. Applicants must be 18 years old or older, High school diploma or GED, have a valid driver's license, and be able to pass a drug test.

Planning Commission met last night. Wrapping up the Master Plan and starting on the zoning ordinances.

I attended the SAGIS meeting last week. 2025 aerial photo project is scheduled for spring. Need to wait until the snow melts but before the leaves come out. Cost will be \$106,744.00 and the State of Michigan will contribute \$20,850.00. Next meeting will be April 21, 2025.

I attended a Young's County Drain meeting in Shiawassee County last week. We are getting closer. There were three landowners who were contesting the compensation for easements. As of last week, one has signed an agreement, one had made a verbal agreement and is waiting on paperwork to be drawn up for signatures, and the Drain Board agreed to the counteroffer made by the third landowner. Still waiting on permits from EGLE before bids can be accepted for construction. As of now this project has cost a little over \$500,000.00 and a shovel has not hit the ground.

Clerk: In discussions with Saginaw County to decrease Chesaning Township from two precincts to one precinct. Prior to the changes made the voting laws made in 2022 precincts were capped at 3,000 voters, which required Chesaning to have 2 precincts. After 2022 the cap was moved to 5,000 voters which would allow us to move to one precinct. We are currently looking for a place to hold the election which would be bigger than we currently have. We would need fewer election inspectors and we would be able to use our second tabulator in an Absentee Voter Counting Board which would decrease congestion at the polling place. Kyle Bostwick the Chief Deputy Clerk of Saginaw County is willing to come to our April Board Meeting to discuss any question that the board may have.

Treasurer: There are 21 days to pay taxes at the local municipality. After March first you must pay at the county with a late fee attached. The Administrative Assistant is getting up to speed. The Village Manager Tom Ebenhoeh has been extremely helpful in collecting personal property taxes. It is nice to be working hand in hand with the village as opposed to the past.

Unfinished Business:

- **Consider Adoption of the Chesaning Township Anti-Blight Ordinance:** After discussion of ordinance it was suggested to rewrite/update ordinance. **MOTION** by Tomac supported by Mrdeza to form a committee to rewrite the Chesaning Township Anti-Blight Ordinance. Motion Carried.
- **Consider Adoption of the Chesaning Township Animal Control Ordinance:** See attached Proposed Chesaning Animal Control Ordinance. After discussion of ordinance. **MOTION:** by Mrdeza supported by Tomac to adopt Chesaning Township Animal Control Ordinance with the exception of Section V item 4 striking everything after the word animal. Roll Call Vote Yeas: Mrdeza, Gross, Himstedt, Carlton, Tomac, Hornak, Ruthig. Nays: none. Motions Carried
- **Discussion Regarding Timber Sales of Wildwood Cemetery:** Gentleman did not get in touch with Township.

New Business:

- Consider Amendment of 2025 Poverty Exemption Resolution #2025-001:** Correct Poverty Exemption to increase Exemption from 18,500.00 to 20,000.00 **MOTION** by Hornak supported by Mrdeza to amend the 2025 Poverty Exemption Resolution to increase asset test to \$20,000.00 Roll Call Vote Yeas: Gross, Himstedt, Carlton, Tomac, Hornak, Mrdeza, Ruthig. Nays None Motion Carries.
- Consider Contract with Saginaw Future (\$500.00):** **MOTION** by Carlton supported by Hornak to continue contract with Saginaw Future for \$500.00 Roll Call Vote Yeas: Carlton, Tomac, Hornak, Mrdeza, Gross, Himstedt, Ruthig. Nays: None Motion Carries.
- Consider Quote to Update Admin Computer (\$325.00):** Updated Supervisor computer recently and this made the computer much more functional. **MOTION:** by Hornak supported by Carlton to update admin computer for \$325.00. Roll Call Vote: Tomac, Hornak, Mrdeza, Gross, Himstedt, Carlton, Ruthig. Nays None Motion Carries.

- D. **Consider Renewal of Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition Membership (\$100.00):** MOTION by Carlton supported by Tomac to pay \$100.00 fee to Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition Membership. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Hornak, Mrdeza, Gross, Himstedt, Carlton, Tomac, Ruthig. Nays: None. Motion Carries.
- E. **Consider Budget Amendment. Move \$30,000.00 from Roads to DTE Solar Review:** MOTION by Gross supported by Mrdeza to do a budget amendment from Roads to DTE Solar Review. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Mrdeza, Gross, Himstedt, Carlton, Tomac, Hornak, Ruthig Nays: None. Motion Carries.
- F. **Consider Upgrade to Security Camera:** We are required to have a security camera on the drop box. We are not happy with the current camera. MOTION: by Carlton supported by Hornak to upgrade security camera for \$755.00 Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Gross, Himstedt, Carlton, Tomac, Hornak, Mrdeza, Ruthig Nays: None Motion Carries.

Public Comment: Three minutes Per Person (any topic): Public Comment began at 8:20 and closed at 8:35 with 5 comments.

Township Board Comment: None

Approval of Bills: Approve the bills in the amount of \$145,144.61. MOTION: by Hornak supported by Tomac to pay the bills in the amount of \$145,144.61. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Carlton, Tomac, Hornak, Mrdeza, Gross, Himstedt, Ruthig Nays: none. Motion Carries.

Adjournment: Motion by Carlton, supported by Himstedt to adjourn the meeting at 8:41p.m. Motion Passed.

Approved: _____

 Daniel Himstedt
 Chesaning Township Clerk

Supervisor Approval – Yes___ No___

Change Requests_____

Supervisor Joe Ruthig_____ Date:_____

TOWNSHIP OF CHESANING

SAGINAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN

ADOPTED: _____

PUBLICATION DATE: _____

EFFECTIVE: _____

An ordinance of the Township of Chesaning, Saginaw County, Michigan, to amend the Township of Chesaning Animal Control Ordinance, to provide definitions, to provide for responsible animal care, to regulate diseased animals, to prohibit cruelty to animals, to prohibit a nuisance(s) relating to animals, to prohibit stray animals, to provide that pending proceedings are not affected, to provide for severability, to repeal all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith, to provide for an Effective Date and to direct the publication of this Ordinance or a legally-permissible summary.

**THE TOWNSHIP OF CHESANING
SAGINAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

ORDAINS:

**SECTION I
NAME**

This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the “Township of Chesaning Animal Control Amending Ordinance.”

**SECTION II
DEFINITIONS**

1. Undefined words and terms as used in this Ordinance shall be given their plain and ordinary meaning. Words shall be interpreted so as to further the intent of this Ordinance. Every word importing the singular number only may extend to and embrace the plural number, and every word importing the plural number may be applied and limited to the singular number. Every word importing the masculine gender only may extend and be applied to females as well as males. In an effort to ascertain the meaning of any word or term as used in this Ordinance, it shall be appropriate for a reviewing authority to consult the dictionary definition of any word or term that is used in this Ordinance insofar as the aforesaid word or term is not specifically defined by this Ordinance.

2. An “Animal” is any mammal, domestic or wild, other than man, or any reptile which constitutes a living organism that feeds on organic matter, typically having specialized sense organs and a nervous system and is able to respond rapidly to stimuli.

3. An “Animal Nuisance” is created when an animal:

- a. Runs uncontrolled.
 - b. Molests or disturbs persons or vehicles by chasing, barking or biting.
 - c. Attacks other animals.
 - d. Damages property other than that of the owner of harborer.
 - e. Barks, whines, howls, honks, brays, cries or makes other noise excessively.
 - f. Creates noxious or offensive odors.
 - g. Defecates upon any public place or upon premises not owned or controlled by the owner or harborer unless promptly removed by the animal owner or harborer.
 - h. Creates an insect breeding and/or attracting sight due to an accumulation of excretion.
4. “Domestic Animal” includes fur, feathered or hoofed animals raised and/or maintained in confinement.
5. “Harborer” is any person who provides food and shelter for any domesticated animal on other than a periodic or temporary basis.
6. “Owner” is any person having right of property to any animal: who keeps an animal; who has an animal in his care or custody; or who knowingly permits an animal to remain on or about any premises occupied by him.
7. “Person” is any individual, firm, corporation, partnership, association, trust, state or other legal entity.

SECTION III: RESPONSIBLE ANIMAL CARE

It shall be unlawful for any owner or harborer of a domestic animal not to provide for his animal:

1. Sufficient quantity of good and wholesome food and water
2. Proper protection and shelter from the weather.
3. Veterinary care when needed to prevent suffering.
4. Humane treatment.
5. Prompt removal and sanitary disposal of all excretion deposited by his animal anywhere upon a public place.

SECTION IV: DISEASED ANIMALS

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any domestic animal to knowingly cause or allow the same to run at large or be exposed in any public place anywhere in the township, or to ship or remove such animal from the owner’s premises when same is afflicted with a contagious or infectious disease except under the supervision of a proper government health office.

SECTION V: CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

1. Beat, underfeed, overload, overwork, torment, abandon or otherwise inhumanely treat any domestic animal anywhere in the Township.
2. Sell, offer for sale, barter, or giveaway as a pet or a novelty, any rabbit, hare, baby chick, duckling or other fowl which has been dyed, colored or otherwise treated to impart an official color thereto.
3. Attempt to wound or take the eggs or young of any game or songbird.
4. Knowingly poison or cause to be poisoned any domestic animal except that common rat poison mixed only with vegetable or grain substances may be exposed for the protection or property.

SECTION VI: NUISANCE PROHIBITED

It shall be unlawful for the owner or harbinger of any dog, cat, or other domestic animal to cause or permit such animal to perform, create or engage in any nuisance as defined by Section 2 or any other nuisance of any cause or nature.

SECTION VII: STRAY ANIMALS

It shall be unlawful for the owner or harbinger of any domestic animal to cause or allow the same to run at large in the Township or to be picketed or tied in any public place for the purpose of grazing or feeding. It shall be unlawful for the owner or harbinger of any domestic animal to allow either through intent or through negligence the domestic animal to enter onto any other real property without the express permission of the owner of the aforesaid real property.

SECTION VIII: RATIFICATION

All provisions of the Township of Chesaning Animal Control Ordinance, except as specifically stated herein, are hereby confirmed and ratified in their entirety.

SECTION IX: PENDING PROCEEDINGS NOT AFFECTED.

Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding impending in any court, or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under any act or ordinance hereby repealed as cited in this ordinance; nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this ordinance.

SECTION X: SEVERABILITY

Should any section, clause or provision of this Ordinance be declared to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any other part thereof other than the parts so declared to be invalid. The Township of Chesaning

Board of Trustees hereby declares that it would have enacted this Ordinance even without whatever provision may be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction.

SECTION XI: REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION XII: EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance and the rules, regulations, provisions, requirements, orders, and matters established and adopted hereby shall take effect on the day following publication as required by law following adoption by the Township Board.

SECTION XIII: TOWNSHIP PUBLICATION

The Township Clerk is hereby ordered and directed to cause this Ordinance to be published, either in full or in the form of a legally-permitted summary, in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township of Chesaning.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township of Chesaning Board of Trustees, County of Saginaw, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on the ____ day of _____ 2024 and ordered to be given publication in the manner prescribed by law.

Joe Ruthig, Supervisor

Danie Himstedt, Clerk

Date of Publication: _____

Newspaper: _____

CERTIFICATION

ADOPTED

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

State of Michigan, County of Saginaw,

I the undersigned Township Clerk for the Township of Chesaning, Saginaw County, Michigan, certify that the above Ordinance No. _____ adopted by the Township of Chesaning Board of Trustees on the _____ day of _____ 2024, was recorded in full in the Minutes of the Meeting of the Township Board of Trustees on said date. It was signed by the Supervisor and Clerk of the Township.

Dated: _____

Daniel Himstedt, Clerk