

TOWNSHIP OF CHESANING
APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
May 1, 2025
7:00 P.M.

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

Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Board of Trustees.

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

Absent: Cathy Gross

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was reviewed, with a proposal to add item L under Committee/Board Reports for regular Planning Commission update. MOTION by Hornak supported by Tomac to accept Agenda with addition of Item L under Committee/Board Reports. Motion Passed.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from April 3rd were reviewed for corrections or additions. MOTION: by Carlton supported by Mrdeza, to approve April 3rd Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion Passed.

Presentations: None

Correspondence: A mailing from the Saginaw County Parks Department was shared, highlighting free or low-cost summer activities at various parks, with information available at saginawcounty.com/parks.

Brief Public Comments: None.

Committee/Board Reports:

- County Commissioner-Dennis Harris
- County Road Commission-Dennis Borchard
- SCTOA-Ken Hornak:
- **Cemetery**-Daniel Himstedt, Scott Mrdeza, Cathy Gross: Updates included turning water back on, mapping drains and valves, creating a comprehensive procedure with photos, and cleaning up fallen trees. A light was fixed with a temporary solution.
- Building Official-Rob Kehoe
- Ordinance and Zoning Enforcement Officer-Pat Olk
- **Rehmann Health Center**-Cathy Gross: Great Lakes Mobile Dental Clinic will hold a dental clinic on June 9th (currently full, but cancellations possible). Next clinic is July 8th. No clinic in May due to school commitments.
- **Fire Board** -Joe Ruthig: As of April 9th, there were 42 runs in March and 71 for the year. Three probationary firefighters are now on staff. Overhead doors and parking lot will be repainted/restriped. Ladder truck is under repair.
- **MMWA**-Daniel Himstedt, Ken Hornak. Meeting held April 14th with 21 of 34 government units present. Employees will receive a 10% increase in MERS retirement contributions. Five hazardous waste events planned for 2025, first on April 19th, 2025. State waste management plan due in 2027.
- **Task Force**-Joseph Ruthig: Two high school seniors attended to provide youth perspectives. Topics included school safety, appreciation for band programs and Chesaning Area Performing Arts. Saginaw County Agricultural Society set the dates for the Saginaw County Fair as July 29-August 2, 2025. A large ~~Flee~~ FLEA Market will occur during the Memorial Day Weekend. Dri-Tri is set for September 13, 2025. Town-Wide garage sale set for Memorial Day Weekend. Troy Meder is the new Police Chief. New cement will be poured under the pavilion at Showboat Park. There are 102 seniors graduating this year. Over 25% with Highest Honors. Elections held: Ron Stewart as chair, Dave Richardson as secretary. Next meeting July 22, 2025
- **Parks & Rec**-Kevin Carlton and Joe Ruthig: Parshallburg Park Kayak Launch Project faces a budget shortfall, with both quotes over \$200,000 more than available funds. County cannot provide additional money. OHM Engineering is working with contractors to adjust scope. Multi-year or staged approach discussed.

- **Planning Commission**-Scott Mrdeza: Discussion of a special use permit for deer processing facilities, public hearing held on April 16, resident concerns about traffic on an unpaved road, and plans to pave the road in 2028. Another public hearing will occur once a site plan has been obtained for the processing facilities. Ongoing discussion about revising zoning ordinances to set reasonable limits on poultry in residential districts.

Board Officials Reports:

Supervisor: Upcoming meeting on May 12, 2025, to determine cost apportionments between Shiawassee and Saginaw County for drain costs; final amounts and split (e.g., 50-50, 60-40, 80-20) not yet determined. DTE has appealed the Planning Commission's decision regarding their special use permit for a solar park. A special meeting with the insurance-appointed attorney will be scheduled after court documents are filed by May 2, 2025.

Sharon Road is being repaved from the village limits to Gary. A cross culvert on Baldwin Road was replaced at an estimated cost of \$1,000, covered by the road budget.

Bright Speed is installing fiber optic cable; new utility poles are being installed. Residents are advised not to remove utility flags and can call Miss Dig to identify the responsible party.

The Township received several applications for PA116 and the Township's role is to verify land is actively farmed as it relates to PA116 (minimum 5 acres, over 51% farmed) regardless of zoning. If denied, applicants can appeal to the state.

Clerk: Ongoing efforts to consolidate voting precincts. Location for consolidation is still being determined.

Treasurer: State revenue share check of \$41,156 was received on April 28, 2025, for January and February 2025. This amount was up \$1,995 from last year. We had some CDARs which were invested at Mercantile Bank and they matured and that money was deposited back into the public funds money market. Cathy wants to put them back into CDARs to keep the funds insured. She opened up five new CDARs for a 26 week period at \$50,000.00 which is going to pay an annual rate of 3.75 percent. She opened one that was for a 26 week period at \$67,000.00 with an annual rate of 3.75 percent and one was opened for a 52 week period at \$75,000.00 with the annual percentage yield of 3.8 percent. CDARs are invested by Mercantile Bank into other banks in order to keep the fund balance at or below \$250,000.00 and federally insured. CDARs perform just like Certificates of Deposit and are held at a fixed rate with the principal amount guaranteed.

Unfinished Business:

- **Consider Adoption of the Chesaning Township Anti-Blight Ordinance:** Discussion of inconsistencies in penalties across blight, light, weed, animal, and noise ordinances. Consideration of standardizing first, second, and third offense penalties and establishing a clear, uniform fee schedule.

New Business:

- A. **Consider Contract with Struck Landscaping for Snow Removal:** Consideration of renewing the contract with Struck Lawn Care for snow removal, with a price increase from \$40 to \$45 per event and a three-year term through 2027. MOTION: by Hornak supported by Tomac to enter into a contract with Struck Lawn Care for the next three years for snow plowing Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Carlton, Tomac, Hornak, Mrdeza, Himstedt, and Ruthig. Nays None Motion Passed.
- B. **Consider On-Line Tax Payments Through BS&A:** Proposal to implement online tax payments and e-checks through BS&A, with no cost to the township and specified transaction fees for taxpayers. Comparison with Point and Pay, which now charges setup and monthly fees. MOTION: by Carlton supported by Mrdeza to enter into a contract with BS&A for online tax collection. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Tomac, Hornak, Mrdeza, Himstedt, Carlton, Ruthig, Nays none. Motion Passed.

Public Comment: Three minutes Per Person (any topic): Public Comment began at 7:48 and closed at 8:00 with 6 comments.

Township Board Comment: None

Approval of Bills: Approve the bills in the amount of \$17,869.17. MOTION: by Himstedt supported by Hornak to pay the bills in the amount of \$17,869.17. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Hornak, Mrdeza, Himstedt, Carlton, Tomac, Ruthig Nays: none. Motion Carries.

Adjournment: Motion by Tomac, supported by Mrdeza to adjourn the meeting at 8:09p.m. Motion Passed.

Approved: _____

Daniel Himstedt
Chesaning Township Clerk

Supervisor Approval – Yes___ No___

Change Requests_____

Supervisor Joe Ruthig_____ Date:_____