

# Village of Chippewa Lake

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## Council Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2013

The Village of Chippewa Lake Council met in regular session on Monday, January 14, 2013. The Honorable Joanne Dodaro called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

All in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Present:** Mayor Joanne Dodaro, Clerk-Treasurer Cathy Osborn, Law Director Allan M. Michelson, Council President Keith Riedel, Debbie Bican, Barb Hunter, Alan Robbins and Brent Osborn.

**Absent:** Tom Melter

**Motion made by Hunter to accept the minutes from the December 10, 2012 Council meeting as written. Robbins seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.**

**The Clerk-Treasurer reported the following bills to Council:**

Staples	241.64
Cathy Osborn	1,120.17
Joanne Dodaro	218.45
Allan M. Michelson	458.90

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**Bills (Continued):**

Jim Brandenburg	453.83
Don Bican	180.00
Paul Vereb	240.00
Michelle Wharton	360.00
Nick Schmitz	220.00
Ohio Edison	1,277.26
Columbia Gas	65.20
School District Income Tax	30.76
Ohio Treasurer of State	118.45
United States Treasury	632.27
Medina County Sheriff's Office	2,782.06
Bill Zweifel	250.00
Keith Riedel	37.53
Edward Stevens	75.00
Daniel Wolpaw	75.00
C Martin Trucking	48.00
Time Warner Cable	99.96
Lafayette Township	1,014.00
Medina County Engineer	601.24
Ohio Public Employees Retirement System	<u>840.65</u>

**Total Of All Bills** **\$11,440.37**

**Motion made by Robbins to pay the bills from their proper funds. Hunter seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.**

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Mayor Dodaro said that since it's the first Council meeting of 2013, the first order of business is to elect a Council President. **Motion made by Hunter that the nominations be opened. Robbins seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved. Hunter nominated Keith Riedel for Council President in 2013. Robbins seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved. Motion made by Bican to close the nominations. Hunter seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.** Mayor Dodaro congratulated Keith Riedel.

Mayor Dodaro said she has discussed the current committees with Keith Riedel and the committees for 2013 will remain the same.

Mayor Dodaro asked if there was anyone at the meeting for a zoning permit or with zoning questions. No one was present for that purpose.

**State of the Village Address**

Mayor Dodaro said as we leave 2012 behind we should all be happy about what a great year we had in the village. She said that didn't happen by accident. Even though the state cut our funding we still have been able to do a lot with less money. This could not have happened without the great work of your Council people, the Clerk and spending wisely. The other great asset we have in this community is the wonderful group of citizens that donate a lot of their personal time all year long to improve our village. This saves the village a lot of money.

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These groups have formed friendships and seem to enjoy working together to make the village look terrific. Mayor Dodaro would like to single out some of the achievements we've had in the last year. The first one she mentions is the streets committee headed by Keith Riedel, Tom Melter and Brent Osborn who went above and beyond the call of duty to get these roads worked on this year. She appreciates how much time they give up of their personal time to help the village. She is so happy to see how much better Clover Cliff is now.

She said that Brent Osborn spends a lot of time with the Zoning Board. He has at least one extra meeting per month to work with the Board. Brent does watch the properties in the village and will report possible violations to the Zoning Inspector and the Board. Brent works very well with our Zoning Board which is Shelly Wharton, Paul Vereb, Don Bican and Nick Schmitz. The Board gives their time to serve the village very well. They also have an aide in Cyndy Naragon who looks up a lot of the property history and she a lot helps the Zoning Inspector when needed. Jim Brandenburg has done a great job as the new Zoning Inspector replacing Bob Locher who was here for so long who also did a great job. She thinks Brent keeps all these people moving in the right direction. He also notices things that just need to be done and just quietly does them. Keith and Tom are always working to fix things around the village also. Mayor Dodaro said that maybe nobody mentions it but what they do is appreciated and we are lucky to have you.

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Mayor Dodaro said that Barb Hunter has done a lot of good work on the safety committee and now she is turning her talents to the building/utilities committee. Mayor Dodaro said that she sees a contract is before her to hire someone to clean the interior of the building as needed. This is a project Barb has taken on and will oversee our new cleaning person. Mayor Dodaro said that Barb has a very good relationship with the general public and the different groups in the village. Mayor Dodaro said that she didn't think there has been an event that needed a volunteer that Barb wasn't there doing it. Mayor Dodaro said that this time of year you can probably see Barb jumping in the lake at the Polar Bear Jump in her pajamas.

Alan Robbins gives a lot of his time for community events. Alan spearheaded the latest project which is the Willow Wood triangle area. That area is receiving grant money to complete. Robbins donated the village's community center signs outside on the building and also the Pochedley Hall sign that hangs inside the building. He is not one looking for praise but helps quietly. Alan is interesting in that he asks a lot of questions about any subject we are talking about. This is a good thing because he asks the questions until he understands it to his satisfaction. He then usually gives some pretty good ideas about how to proceed with the topic that is being discussed.

Debbie Bican also keeps us in touch with the younger citizens in the community by her work with the school, village parks and the ski team. She goes to a lot of meetings about drug problems that are facing all communities. She has had the challenging job of working with the beach attendants in the past.

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Tom Melter will now take over that position of working with the beach attendants this year and will also head up the village parks. Mayor Dodaro said we have a solid group of Council people who constantly go above and beyond what they are supposed to be doing.

Mayor Dodaro said that we would all be lost without the constant effort and work of our Clerk-Treasurer. She makes us proud with her work with the auditors and always passes the audits with flying colors. Cathy takes pride in her work and helps keeps us from spending too much money.

Mayor Dodaro said we have Allan Michelson who keeps us on track with his help and his great knowledge of village law. There are not a lot of people that know the ins and outs of these villages and townships around here. She doesn't know of anyone else that knows the background of this area better than Allan. We are lucky to have him at our meetings and to help us make decisions that are in the best interest of the village.

We all are aided by the community groups we have going now. The Pride Committee under the direction of Bob and Pam Williams. They have changed the face of the lakefront, getting residents to show pride in their properties, they get people to light up their boats in the summer and light up their houses in the winter and they have given us the "Busy B's" who are constantly doing projects to help the village look better.

Mayor Dodaro thanked the Garden Club for stepping up and becoming an important part of the community by starting the "Community Garden".

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Mayor Dodaro said that the Grandmother's Club has now become the Women's Club. She was very pleased to see that they donated \$149.00 to the Lions Club to help with food baskets for the needy people in our area. She wishes them well as they seem to be making some changes and are on the right track.

Mayor Dodaro said she is proud to be a member of The Chippewa Lake Lions Club. At Christmastime this year they passed out 50 food baskets with a cost to the Lions Club of about \$2,500.00. The Lions Club sponsors the Fourth of July parade and the ever popular Polar Bear Plunge.

The Chippewa Lake Waterski Team is constantly making this community proud of the way they conduct themselves all across the United States when they are competing and representing us.

She gave her thanks to Claire List and her Neighborhood Watch updates. Mayor Dodaro said she thinks Claire has made it where a lot of people feel comfortable to get involved in the community.

We know the village is our little secret and we would like to keep it that way. There are more people remodeling their houses and fixing them up not to mention new people moving into the village. We love living here and she thinks it shows. She thanks everyone for doing a good job! Mayor Dodaro receives a round of applause.

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**Committee Reports**

**Safety:** Robbins said that Fire Chief Jeff Hall is here and he will give the fire department report this evening. (See attached for complete report). The December activity report shows that the village had 3 fire calls and 4 EMS calls. There were 16 fire calls and 47 EMS calls in the village for 2012. Robbins said the response time was excellent when a fire broke out in the village recently. Chief Hall reminds everyone about their annual breakfast that is held every Sunday in February. Breakfast will be served from 8:30 am to 1 pm. The proceeds will go to the Firemens' Association.

The deputies worked a total of 79 hours in the village for the month of December. They logged 338.8 miles on the cruiser using 37.1 gallons of gasoline. The reports is as follows: 1.5 hours working on reports, 1 written report taken, 8 calls assigned by dispatch, 42 self initiated calls, 2 in person complaints, 62 citizen contacts, 6 assist citizens, 1 arrest, 7 suspicious persons, 5 suspicious vehicles and 5 assist to other police departments. Robbins reviews his summary spreadsheet from the reports that Deputy Easterday turns in. (See attached)

Robbins said he donated three fire extinguishers last year and had them certified. They come up for renewal in March and Robbins said that Brad Winter or Jeff said they would have them recertified for 2013. Jeff said that he will bring three fire extinguishers to the February Council meeting to exchange.



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**Safety (Continued):** The Law Director has the new contract from the Medina County Sheriff Tom Miller for police services for 2013. The contract is identical to the last contract we had except for the date and it is signed by the sheriff for one year. **Ordinance #745-13** "An ordinance approving an agreement for law enforcement services for the village with Medina County Sheriff from January 1, 2013 until December 31, 2013 and declaring the same an emergency." was read by title only. Motion made by Riedel to waive the three reading requirement for Ordinance #745-13. Robbins seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved. Motion made by Riedel to adopt Ordinance #745-13 as an emergency. Osborn seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.

The Law Director is in the process of setting up a meeting with Sheriff Tom Miller, Mayor Dodaro, Alan Robbins and the Law Director.

**Zoning:** Osborn said that the Zoning Board meeting was held at the village hall on January 3, 2013. (See attached minutes) Under new business, Mr. Glasenapp at 269 Rustic Rook retracted his request for a variance and submitted a permit application for a breezeway to connect his house and his garage. That permit was approved.

Robert Buck III at 372 Craggy Creek Drive recently had a house fire. The house has been boarded up but it is still an open case with the sheriff department so nothing can be done with the house at the present time.

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**Zoning (Continued)**: Osborn said there was no old business discussed at the Board meeting. He said that everyone has a copy of the Zoning Inspector's report and he would be glad to answer any questions. (See attached Inspector's report)

The next Zoning Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 7 pm.

**Finance**: Cathy said that a Financial Planning meeting was held at 6:30 pm tonight right before the Council to discuss the 2013 suggested village appropriations she prepared. She thanked those who attended and she appreciated the input that she received during the meeting. (See attached Financial Planning minutes) Cathy asked that Council approve the appropriations for the new year so accounting can begin for 2013. **Ordinance #746-13 "The 2013 Appropriation Ordinance of the Village of Chippewa Lake."** was read by title only. **Motion made by Osborn to waive the three reading requirement for Ordinance #746-13. Riedel seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved. Motion made by Hunter to adopt Ordinance #746-13 as an emergency. Robbins seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.** Cathy will submit the 2013 Village Appropriations to the County Auditor and set up the accounting system for the New Year.

Cathy said that the County Auditor's office is doing things a little different this year. She usually submits a Request for Advance of Taxes Collected a couple times a year. This year the county auditor would like one request sent that is good for the entire year along with a resolution approving the request.

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**Finance (Continued):** They will send advances automatically to the village as they are available. **Resolution #450-13** "A resolution requesting that the Medina County Auditor pay the Village Treasurer advance payment of taxes for the year 2013 and declaring the same an emergency." was read by title only. Motion made by Robbins to waive the three reading requirement for Resolution #450-13. Osborn seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved. Motion made by Hunter to adopt Resolution #450-13 as an emergency. Robbins seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved. Cathy needs Riedel's signature and she will submit this to the county auditor.

Cathy reviews the bank statements for October, November and December with Council. She asks for their signatures on her copies of these documents.

Cathy said that at the Financial Planning meeting Council discussed the results of the 140R forms that were submitted to the county auditor. These forms requested the amounts that would be generated by 6 mill renewal, 6 mill replacement and 7 mill replacement with an increase of the current expense levy. The 6 mill renewal would generate \$79,000.00 per year which is what the village currently collects. \$160.34 is the cost to each homeowner of \$100,000.00 appraised home. The 6 mill replacement would generate \$90,100.00 per year at a cost of \$183.75 to the owner of a \$100,000.00 appraised home. The 7 mill replacement would generate \$105,100.00 per year and the cost to each homeowner would be \$214.38 per year.

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**Finance (Continued):** Those are the figures received from the county auditor and now it's up to Council to decide which millage would best fit the needs of the village. Robbins explains further the options Council is faced with putting the levy on the May ballot. All municipalities have had Local Government funding reduced by the state. There is now a need for additional dollars to help replace that shortfall. Robbins said the last levy that was passed in the village was the Roads & Bridge Levy. That levy passed comfortably because the village fully explained why the funding was needed. Residents can see that money is being spent to improve our roads. Robbins said that if the village presents a good case and explains the need for a replacement levy that he hopes the voters will support it. **Resolution #451-13 "A resolution declaring it necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten mill limitation which would put a 6 mill replacement general expenses levy on the ballot on May 7, 2013 and it would run for a period of five years."** was read by title only. **Motion made by Osborn to waive the three reading requirement for Resolution #451-13. Robbins seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved. Motion made by Hunter to adopt Resolution #451-13 as an emergency. Bican seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.** The Law Director will send the resolution to Cathy for her signature and she will send the signed resolution and the 140R form back to the Law Director so it can be filed with the Board of Elections.

The Law Director bring up for future discussion that there are levies that can be continuing which means we never have to renew them. They stay on until the village takes them off.

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**Finance (Continued):** The ones that can be continuing are fire, police, ambulance, EMS, roads, parks and recreation, sidewalks, trails and pathways. The Law Director will remind Council of that when the Road & Bridge levy comes up again.

Mayor Dodaro said that OPWC-Small Government Funding has requested additional information from us concerning this possible grant. OPWC needed to know when Heather Hedge was last resurfaced. The Law Director said it was in 1997 and the work was done by Walter Jones Construction. The ordinance number approving that work was Ordinance #465-97. Cathy said she has already sent the Official Estimate of Resources to John Rice and she will scan and send Ordinance #465-97 to him also. That should complete the additional information requested by OPWC. The decision on this grant will be on May 8, 2013.

**Building & Utilities:** Hunter said the automatic front door needs a new battery. She will obtain this battery and submit a receipt for reimbursement to the Clerk-Treasurer.

Hunter said she has presented a contract for the community center cleaning to Mayor Dodaro. She has found Eve Conley who will clean the building once a month but more often if needed. Hunter will meet her at the building to give her a key to the janitor's room and the code for the door. **Motion made by Hunter to approve Eve Conley to contract to do the cleaning of the community center building. Riedel seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.**

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**Community Relations:** Bican said the Polar Bear Jump is coming up on Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. Robbins said that last year there were 176 jumpers and about 74 runners/walkers. Robbins said a good turnout is expected. The floating dock will be slid out to distribute the weight provided there is 2-3 inches of ice on the lake. Robbins said it will be a good safe jump. Fox 8 News is sending a reporter down to jump and so there will also be a camera person present. There are about 75 signs out all over the county and the Jump is getting a lot of buzz. Robbins said that anyone eleven years and above can participate. Hunter and Riedel runs, Robbins jumps and the Mayor holds down the registration tent from blowing away! Beachside Blvd will be blocked off that day for a short period of time. No one will be blocked in and there is an alternative way to get out of the village.

There will be a Breakfast every Sunday in February at the Heather Hedge fire station from 8:30 am to 1 pm.

On March 4<sup>th</sup> there will be a social drama presented by the Fairmont Center of the Arts at Lafayette Methodist Church. It's an educational drama about prescription drug abuse and it's free to the public.

Bican said that the busing has been stopped for the high school students as a cost cutting measure. Mayor Dodaro advises anyone that needs to pick up a student to go early to find a place to park.

On March 16<sup>th</sup> the Ski Team will have its silent auction at Williams on the Lake in Medina.

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**Streets:** Riedel will obtain some barricades that will be used on the village streets during the Polar Bear Jump.

Riedel hired Bill Zweifel to remove a dead tree overhanging the roadway at the cost of \$250.00.

The huge tree on Bungalow Bay was removed by the village, and adjacent property owners Wolpaw and Stevens. The cost came in less than anticipated and as a goodwill gesture a refund of \$75.00 each to Wolpaw and Stevens was issued.

Riedel thanked Jeff Schmitt for trimming some of the boxwoods around the circle. His help is appreciated.

Riedel picked up some blacktop for some potholes that needed attention on Circle Crest. Riedel thanked Bill Zweifel for donating his time to fill those large potholes.

Riedel spoke with the drivers that take care of the salting and plowing and we are on the same page now. Riedel will make sure the roads are salted before the Polar Bear Jump/Run.

Riedel thanked Cathy for getting some records together for the Small Government funding request for additional information.

The pictures and an estimate are still needed so the Law Director can send a letter to Columbia Gas and PUCO for the damage that was done on Clover Cliff. Riedel will get the estimate from CW Landscape and he has the picture in his camera. They need to be sent to the Law Director.

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**Parks:** Melter will announce the Boat Ramp members at the February Council meeting.

Mayor Dodaro asked the Law Director if he got the beach lease straightened out with the Park District. Mayor Dodaro said she knows the village signed some kind of lease with them. The Law Director said the village has a five year lease that was entered into in 2008. The Law Director said the Park District is leasing the village the water in front of the lake access area and the boat ramp because they own the water. The village negotiated a few key terms that should be in a new lease. The Law Director said that Tom James is waiting to hear from the village if another lease is wanted with the same terms. Mayor Dodaro asks if the Law Director can send this to Tom Melter to review. He said sure. Everyone would like a copy to review.

**Law Director:** The Law Director said he did apply for the village to acquire the eleven lots that are up for tax forfeiture near Garman Road. The court has scheduled a hearing on Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 am. The Law Director would like someone there to be a representative of the village. Riedel will attend and asks the Law Director to call him a day in advance to remind him.

The Law Director said the village has a public request concerning 333 Lake Road property (old Latex plant). The Law Director is putting together the requested records. This is good because at least for now the new owner is participating in the Brownfield Assessment and Environmental Clean Up program.



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**Law Director (Continued):** The Law Director has two cases to report on this month. Both defendants were found guilty of persistent disorderly conduct. Defendant #1 got one day in jail and \$459.00 in fines and cost. Defendant #2 got three days in jail and \$392.50 in fines and cost. There are no other cases pending now.

Osborn asks if the Law Director has heard anything on the three blighted houses that zoning turned in? The Law Director said he has heard nothing. Mayor Dodaro said that the one on Heather Hedge has been sold. Cyndy Naragon said that one of the houses are on the market for sale. The third house at 597 Lake Road is owned by Janet Helms Living Trust c/o Don Helms. The Law Director sent a letter and all the materials with no response. Osborn asked if there are any new properties that should be put on the list and the Law Director said to submit them. This program is for vacant houses where the owner would just want it taken down at no expense. There has to be a title search done and an asbestos inspection and permission by the owner.

Cathy asked about the eleven properties being tax exempt. The Law Director said the village needs to acquire them first and then he will file an application on each one because they have to be done individually. When the village acquires these eleven properties they will be free of all back taxes.

**Audience:** Sharon Karhan asked about the possibility of creating a skating rink to encourage winter sports in the village.

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**Audience (Continued):** She mentioned using the tennis courts but Bican said the village has issues with the tennis courts and that is not an option. She mentioned near the boat ramp area or the Point Park. It was suggested that maybe the area south of the community center could be a location for consideration. This was tabled back to the Parks Committee for Debbie and Keith to discuss with Tom Melter who is the chairman of Parks.

**New Business:** The Law Director mentioned before about ordinances to consider about foreclosed and vacant properties requiring the banks to register with the village. The other one is for recovery cost of clean up of illegal drug labs if there ever is one here in the village. He asks Council to review these and he will answer any questions.

Robbins said that he has information concerning grant applications that the village is eligible for by participating in the Balanced Growth Program with the Medina County Soil & Water Conservation. Robbins will work with Melter to discuss possible grant activity for the village in the future.

**At 9:15 pm, Hunter motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Riedel seconded. 5 Ayes. Motion approved.**

**Next Meeting: Monday, February 11, 2013 at 7:30 pm in the Community Center-Pochedley Hall located at 24 Circle Crest.**

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**Joanne Dodaro, Mayor**

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**Cathy Osborn, Clerk-Treasurer**