

January 13, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Chocolay Township Board was held on Monday, January 13, 2025, in the Chocolay Township Fire Hall. Supervisor Lynch called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

TOWNSHIP BOARD.

PRESENT: David Lynch (Supervisor), Max Engle (Clerk), Ben Zybert (Treasurer), Richard Bohjanen, Don Rhein, Jon LeGalley, Mark Stonerock (Trustees)

STAFF PRESENT: Suzanne Sundell, Dale Throenle, Tony Carrick, Brad Johnson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

Rhein moved, Zybert supported to approve the agenda as amended (addition of Budget Amendment XIV.B.3, CF #1).

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT – NONE.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting – Regular Meeting of December 9, 2024, and Special Meetings of December 11 & 12, 2024.
- B. Approve Revenue and Expenditure Reports – December 2024 (Unaudited)
- C. Approve Bills Payable, Check Register Reports – December 11, 2024 (Check #'s 27279 – 27297, in the amount of \$14,926.75), December 19, 2024 (Check #'s 27298 – 27310, in the amount of \$8,392.58), and December 31, 2024 (Check #'s 27311 – 27330, in the amount of \$52,337.87).
- D. Approve Bills Payable, Tax Check Register Reports – December 19, 2024 (Check #'s 5109 – 5114, in the amount of \$23,996.28), December 26, 2024 (Check #'s 5115 – 5119, in the amount of \$374,151.16), and December 31, 2024 (Check #'s 5120 – 5128, in the amount of \$12,384.56).
- E. Approve Bills Payable – Longevity Payroll of December 4, 2024 (Check #'s DD4725 – DD4733, Federal, State, and MERS in the amount of \$4,647.17), Regular Payroll of December 5, 2024 (Check #'s DD4734 – DD4768 and Check #'s 11645 – 11652, Federal, State, and MERS in the amount of \$48,475.10), Regular Payroll of December 19, 2024 (Check #'s DD4769 – DD4800 and Check #'s 11653 – 11660, Federal, State, and MERS in the amount of \$55,860.52), and PTO Payout – B. DeGroot of December 19, 2024 (Check # DD4801, Federal, State and MERS in the amount of \$9,558.25).

Rhein moved, Engle supported to approve the consent agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

Supervisor Lynch stated he had a call with Chet Janik and Daniel Sabolsky on Friday (Jan 10) and discussed the housing stipend being offered. Sabolsky is looking for something reasonable.

CLERK’S REPORT - NONE

TREASURER’S REPORT – Two \$250,000 agency bonds were called during the past quarter. They had interest rates of 5.10% and 5.00%. With these funds, a U.S. Treasury note was purchased for \$500,000 at 3.25%. There was also a Federal Home Loan bank for \$250,000 that matured at 0.58% and was reinvested with a U.S. Treasury note at 3.75%.

PUBLIC HEARING – NONE.

PRESENTATIONS – NONE.

CONSIDER REIMBURSEMENT OF SEWER OVERPAYMENT

Zyburt moved, Rhein supported that the Chocolay Township Board approves staff recommendation and reimburse the \$1,200 accidental payment to the sewer account back to the resident.

MOTION CARRIED

CONSIDER FY 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENTS

**1. Capital Fund Budget Amendments  
CF #11**

Rhein moved, Stonerock supported to approve the following Budget Amendment CF #11 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Stonerock, LeGalley, Rhein, Bohjanen, Zyburt, Engle, Lynch

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED

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Whereas, a budget was adopted by the Chocolay Township Board to govern the anticipated Capital Fund expenditures of the Township on December 11, 2023 for fiscal year 2024; and

Whereas, as a result of unanticipated changes in revenues and / or expenditures, it is necessary to modify the aforesaid budget,

Now Therefore, Be It Hereby Resolved, that the FY2024 budget be modified as follows:

	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Amended Budget</b>
Revenue			
KBIC 2% Funds	\$ 175,000.00	\$ -	\$ 175,000.00
CPE Funds	\$ 152,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 157,500.00
Expenditures			
Police Training - CPE	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 7,500.00
Vehicles	\$ -	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 32,500.00
Capital Outlay	\$ 122,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 162,000.00
Land Improvements	\$ 31,500.00	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 49,000.00

**2. General Fund Budget Amendment  
GF #5**

Rhein moved, Bohjanen supported to approve the following Budget Amendment GF #5 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Stonerock, LeGalley, Rhein, Bohjanen, Zyburt, Engle, Lynch

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED

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Whereas, a budget was adopted by the Chocolay Township Board to govern the anticipated General Fund expenditures of the Township on December 11, 2023 for fiscal year 2024; and

Whereas, as a result of unanticipated changes in revenues and / or expenditures, it is necessary to modify the aforesaid budget,

Now Therefore, Be It Hereby Resolved, that the FY2024 budget be modified as follows:

	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Amended Budget</b>
Revenue			
State Election Reimb	\$ 21,126.80	\$ 3,348.75	\$ 24,475.55
Dust Control Reimb	\$ -	\$ 2,013.76	\$ -
Expenditures			
Overtime	9,792.72	1,237.50	11,030.22
Early Voting Pay	48,139.75	2,111.25	50,251.00
Streets - Miscellaneous	1,500.00	2,013.76	3,513.76

**3. Capital Fund Budget Amendments  
CF #1**

Rhein moved, Engle supported to approve the following Budget Amendment CF #1 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Stonerock, LeGalley, Rhein, Bohjanen, Zyburt, Engle, Lynch

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED

Whereas, a budget was adopted by the Chocolay Township Board to govern the anticipated Capital Fund expenditures of the Township on December 9, 2024 for fiscal year 2025; and

Whereas, as a result of unanticipated changes in revenues and / or expenditures, it is necessary to modify the aforesaid budget,

Now Therefore, Be It Hereby Resolved, that the FY2025 budget be modified as follows:

	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Amended Budget</b>
Police - Vehicles	\$ -	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
Capital Fund Outlay	\$ 813,280.00	\$ (12,000.00)	\$ 801,280.00

CONSIDER RECREATION RENTAL AGREEMENT WORDING CHANGE

Zyburt moved, Rhein supported that the Chocolay Township Board approves staff recommendation and adopt the language change on the recreation user agreement form to read, "All individuals, leagues, workshops or similar groups who wish to reserve any recreational facility shall pay a nonrefundable fee to the Township in the amount indicated above prior to the use of the facility".  
MOTION CARRIED

#### PREPARATION REVIEW FOR JOINT MEETING IN FEBRUARY

The subject was brought up by Supervisor Lynch, and Board members were asked to forward any subjects they wished to have reviewed to Supervisor Lynch before the February meeting.

#### DISCUSS MANAGER POSITION

Supervisor Lynch will be contacting Daniel Sabolsky to see where he stands on finding housing. There may be a need to call a Special Meeting later this week to get the contract approved.

Trustee Bohjanen asked about the possibility of extra payment to any personnel that are doing the manager jobs (such as Supervisor Lynch). This may also include other staff. He feels it would be reasonable for anything that has to be done above and beyond be reimbursed at \$25 / hr. Trustee Rhein felt this may be opening a can of worms, especially since this was just a discussion with Clerk Engle. Trustee Stonerock felt this should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Supervisor Lynch feels that the extra hours will be reduced once a manager is on board.

Bohjanen moved, Zyburt supported that extra hours required for managerial duties by the supervisor during the time period that the Township is without a manager be paid at \$25.00 per hour.

(Supervisor Lynch abstained)

MOTION CARRIED

#### BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mark Stonerock – None

Jon LeGalley – None

Don Rhein – Great work on trying to get the manager position filled

Richard Bohjanen – None

Ben Zyburt – None

Max Engle – None

David Lynch – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

Zyburt moved, Stonerock supported that the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

- A. Minutes – Chocolay Township Planning Commission; Regular Meeting of December 16, Draft.
- B. Minutes – Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority; Regular Meeting of December 18, 2024, Draft.
- C. Information – Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority 2025 Meeting Schedule.
- D. Information – Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board 2025 Meeting Schedule.
- E. Information – Superior Watershed Partnership Summary of Annual Services 2024.
- F. Information – MMRMA Distribution of Excess Net Asses from State Pool Retention Fund - \$1,883.00.
- G. Information – MMRMA Distribution of Excess Net Assets General - \$3,874.00.
- H. Information – Toys for Tots Certificate of Appreciation.
- I. Information – Township Newsletter – November and December 2024.
- J. Correspondence – D. Mulcahey, 633 Lakewood Lane.

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Max Engle, Clerk

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David Lynch, Supervisor