

September 10, 2025

A regular monthly meeting was held on September 9, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. Board member Diane Kut was absent. All other board members were present. There were 17 public attendees. Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes from August 12, 2025, the executive monthly meeting minutes from August 12, 2025, and the Special Meeting Minutes from August 20, 2025. All ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: Dave Graff expressed his support for a Kwik Trip development. Vicki Browne representing Chicaugon Lake Association requested funds from Crystal Falls Township for combatting invasive species.

PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS: Reviewed report submitted by Director Evelyn Gathu for the Crystal Falls District Community Library.

Reviewed ICECA report provided by Chamber Director, Zach Hautala. Motion by Seppala, supported by Niemi to accept the reports as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

WATER SUPERINTENDENT/FOREMAN'S REPORT: Reviewed the Water Superintendent's report from the month of August.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT: Reviewed the Fire Chief's report from the month of August. Tom Bucek stated that fire prevention week is from October 5th through October 11th and on October 8th Forest Park students will be participating in a fire prevention program at the Crystal Falls Fire Station. The Crystal Falls Fire Department is looking to hold an open house at the Fire Station possibly on October 9th.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Reviewed the Zoning Administrator's report from the month of August.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Reviewed Assessor's report for the month of August.

CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER'S REPORT: No report submitted due to previous vacancy in the position. Code compliance officer, Kyle Duncan's first day was September 4, 2025. Motion by Ketola, supported by Niemi to approve allocation of a cell phone for new code compliance officer. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the Departmental reports as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

FIRE STATION ASPHALT BID RESULTS: Reviewed bids received from Bacco Construction Company in the amount of \$52,000 and from Payne and Dolan in the amount of \$65,987.50. Discussion held. Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to accept bid from Bacco Construction Company in the amount of \$52,000 with the stipulation that the Crystal Falls Volunteer Fire Department contribute \$26,000 towards the project. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

GEI REPORT: Robb Anderson was present to review report submitted regarding DNR Heritage Trail Extension Project, TMF Lead Service Grant, DWSRF Water Project Carry Over Application, and Memory Lane Water. Reviewed use agreement drafted by Attorney Steve Tinti regarding the bridge on Resort Drive. Discussion held. Motion by Niemi, supported by Ketola to accept use agreement and forward to the Iron County Road Commission. All ayes. Motion carried.

SECURITY SYSTEM INSTALLATION / ACCESS MEETING WITH GUIDESTAR: Supervisor Stebic stated he is still waiting to hear from GuideStar to set a meeting date.

ASSESSOR COMPUTER: The computer has been installed and is operating.

CITY ANNEXATION: Attorney Steve Tinti presented information on the annexation of Township property. He proposed the township show support for the economic development going forward and enter into a Section 425 Agreement to accomplish it. Discussion held. Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to support economic development and draft a Section 425 Agreement. All ayes. Motion carried. Attorney Tinti will communicate with City Attorney Watters on this matter.

TOWNSHIP AUDIT REPORT COMPLETED: Reviewed audit. Supervisor Stebic was pleased with the audit report. Motion by Ketola, supported by Seppala to accept the fiscal year 2024-2025 audit report as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

MANSFIELD DRAFT ZONING ORDINANCE NOTICE: Reviewed Zoning Ordinance draft presented from Mansfield Township.

APPROVAL OF FIRE STATION MILLAGE: Reviewed the 2025 tax rate request. Discussion held. Motion by Seppala, supported by Niemi to approve the 2025 tax rate request at .08 mills for Fire Station debt. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

CHICAUGON LAKE INVASIVE SPECIES REQUEST: Reviewed request from the Preservation Committee of the Chicaugon Lake Property Owners Association to combat the invasive species Eurasian Water Milfoil. Vicki Browne was present from the Association to field questions and request assistance. Motion by Niemi, supported by Seppala to approve request to contract services with Many Waters for the amount pursuant to Township policy. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

SIDEWALK HEAVING: Discussion held. Will request Public Works to highlight problem areas on sidewalk heaving leading to Township office entrance and address issues in the spring.

WEBSITE UPGRADE: Discussion held on information received from North Country Website Design. Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to table at this time. All ayes. Motion carried.

REVIEW OF CURRENT BILLS/INVOICES EFT'S/PREPAID/MONTHLY: Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to approve the prepaid's in the amount of \$78,305.29, the Monthly's for \$31,723.13 and the EFT's for \$725.50 with a total of \$110,753.92. Roll call taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Gerard Valesano, City Manager, addressed comments presented by Attorney Tinti regarding the communication between the City of Crystal Falls and the Crystal Falls Township on the annexation of property. John Ashby stated concerns regarding road conditions and paving of Light Lake Road and Premo Creek Road. Vicki Browne, member of Iron County Lakes and Streams, informed of a zoom call on September 15th regarding Special Assessment District.

BOARD MEMBER'S PRIVILEGE: None.

ADJOURN: Motion by Seppala, supported by Ketola to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Alyson Ayers/Deputy Clerk