The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Chenequa was held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, November 9, 2009, at the Village Hall, 31275 W. Hwy K, Chenequa. Legal requirements for notification of the news media were met.

A public hearing to hear comments regarding the 2010 Budget for the Village of Chenequa was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Legal requirement for notification of the news media had been met.

Following is the attendance list:

Mr. Styza / President – present  
Ms. Villavicencio / Trustee – present  
Ms. Seidel / Trustee – present  
Mr. Gehl / Trustee – present  
Mr. Foote / Trustee – present  
Ms. Wilkey / Trustee – present  
Mr. Haase / Trustee – present  
Attorney David Krutz / Village Attorney - present  
Mr. Douglas / Administrator - Police Chief – present  
Ms. Zimdars / Clerk-Treasurer – present

Attendance  
There was no one in attendance from the public, but President Styza said the Public Hearing would be held open a while longer.

Public comment period  
None.

Approve minutes of the October 19, 2009 Board Meeting.  
Motion (Wilkey, Villavicencio) to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2009 Board meeting, Carried Unanimously.

Clerk/Treasurer  
Present invoices for approval.  
Motion (Villavicencio, Haase) to approve the invoices as presented, Carried Unanimously.

Investments were reviewed, no action was required.

Consider request for a second advance on the 2010 Lake Country Fire and Rescue budget, amount to be determined.  
President Styza explained the new Lake Country Fire and Rescue department had to pay some expenses early, and was therefore requesting an advance of $26,000 on the 2010 budget to make insurance payments. The portion of this amount allocated to the Village of Chenequa is $2,433.60.  
Motion (Wilkey, Villavicencio) to make an advance payment of $2,433.60 to Lake Country Fire and Rescue to be used for 2010 expenses that are required to be prepaid, Carried Unanimously.

Final - Review and consider plans submitted by Tom and Cathy Fink for a tear down and new construction for their property at 5695 N Hwy 83.  
President Styza explained that the Plan Commission had met earlier in the evening and had determined, with the help of Attorney Krutz, clarification on the question of how height should be measured. He said Chapter 6 describes it as the vertical distance of any ground elevation to the highest point on that elevation. Attorney Krutz said it was his interpretation to take the measurement from each point on the slope. He said this project is therefore compliant. He also said other municipalities use different methods. Attorney Krutz then pointed out that the terrain is preserved
this way, thereby not giving residents the incentive to cut down slopes to meet height requirements. Trustee Seidel suggested moving the house back further from the lake, asking if the house was set back 75 feet from the lake. Trustee Haase said he liked the tiered look.

Motion (Wilkey, Villavicencio) to give final approval to plans submitted by Tom and Cathy Fink for a tear down and new construction for their property at 5695 N Hwy 83, Carried Unanimously.

Committee Reports

- Public Safety – no report.
- Operations – no report.
- Plan Commission – met earlier.
- Open Space – no report.
- Board of Appeals – no report.
- Personnel Committee – no report.
- Hwy 83 Task Force – no report.
- Emergency Government Committee – no report.
- Lake Management Ad Hoc Committee – no report.
- Police Commission – no report
- Lake Country Fire and Rescue Board – no report.

Motion (Haase, Wilkey) to close the public hearing at 7:40 p.m., Carried Unanimously.

Report of Village Administrator

Administrator/Police Chief Douglas said the budget presented is the same as was presented in October, but the 2009 year-to-date figures had been updated through 10-31-2009. He said the 2009 budget should finish right on budget. There are two large permits expected yet in 2009 that will help the budget projections to be met.

Administrator/Police Chief Douglas said the main area in expenses that was over budget was the category for sand and plows. He also noted that the Police budget will come in several thousand under budget, and the utilities should come in under budget as well. Trustee Seidel said snow plowing is the biggest expense, and suggested looking at subcontracting the snow plowing services out. Trustee Seidel said this would be a huge savings for the Village.

President Styza told her this issue has been discussed before and with all the unique driveways in the village, we wouldn’t want to see the driveways being cleared by big trucks. He also noted that it is too late to look at this issue this year, but suggested putting the services out for bids for next year. Trustee Villavicencio said the Operations Committee has discussed the issue of snow plowing both ways. She said one concern with subbing out is that the quality will not be as good. Trustee Seidel said this has never been looked at seriously. Trustee Haase said by keeping the snow plowing internal it is a means of keeping a small group of employees busy year round- not just over the spring, summer, and fall months. Trustee Gehl said at the least he would like to see that the snow plow fee charged to residents reflects somewhat accurately what the actual costs are. He went on to say that sometime snow plowing needs to stand on its own. President Styza said he wasn’t sure how the Village’s State Aids would be affected if we were to do away with snow plowing; and that he was hearing a consensus to find out how much subcontracting the snowplowing duties out would cost. Attorney Krutz said that the Operations Committee should be in charge of getting the information together and getting cost estimates. He said there needs to be a process in place to make it competitive. Administrator/Police Chief Douglas said the maintenance of the snow plow trucks is getting very expensive. A lot of the trucks are getting older, and running up to North Lake for repairs at a rate of $90 per hour is very costly. Administrator/Police Chief Douglas said he recently put an ad out on the Department of Workforce Development website for a mechanic. He went on to say that the Village can buy pure salt for 30% of the cost of buying the sand/salt mixture. Trustee Foote noted the sand was a nuisance.

Trustee Foote then pointed out that there is a difference of $59,000 of expenses for debt service for 2010 over 2009. Administrator/Police Chief Douglas explained this was due to the refinancing of the building loan. Trustee Haase said he found out that some neighboring communities are using reserve funds to help meet budgets.

Administrator/Police Chief Douglas said the Village of Oconomowoc Lake decided on a 1% increase for all non-represented employees for 2010. Trustee Foote said he would like to go into 2010 without a tax increase, and would like to look at the use of reserves. Trustee Haase asked if he meant that the 3% levy increase should be taken from reserves. Trustee Wilkey said that would mean using approximately 10% of the reserve balance. Trustee Villavicencio said if you don’t take the increase in the levy then what would be the effect 4 years down the line? Administrator/Police Chief Douglas said if the Village was looking to save money an idea would be to pay down debt with reserves. Trustee Foote suggested taking one half of reserves and paying down some notes. He then asked if there was a rule of thumb for a set amount to keep as a reserves balance. Trustee Foote said he would like to see getting into 2010 without increasing taxes- just for 2010. He then suggested taking the money from reserves for the increase and leaving debt the same. Trustee Wilkey asked about the fact that the Village wouldn’t be taking
the State’s limit. Trustee Villavicencio said if the levy increase isn’t taken this year, then it may cost more down the road. President Styza said it is the trend to raise the taxes slightly each year. Discussion followed.

Motion (Foote, Wilkey) to approve the 2010 Budget for the Village of Chenequa- Villavicencio(aye); Foote(aye); Wilkey(aye); Styza(aye); Seidel(aye); Haase (aye): Gehl (no); Motion Carried.

Administrator/Police Chief Douglas said an analysis of debt retirement would be put together for a future meeting. He then pointed out that a follow up letter to Hasslinger Drive was included in the packets.

Report of Village Attorney
No Report.

Report of Village President.
President Styza read a letter of resignation to the Board of Trustees. He said his resignation would be effective immediately. He served on the Village Board over 20 years. Attorney Krutz said that at this point, if the Board did not elect a new chair, JoAnn Villavicencio is the next in seniority and what was planned on for the next meeting was that an interim President would be chosen. He said he would check to see if the April election could be used to fill the seat- but noted that would be for a one-year term, as President Styza’s term goes through April of 2011.

Agenda items to be considered for future meetings of the Village Board.

Adjournment.
Motion (Seidel, Wilkey) to adjourn the November 9th meeting of the Village Board at 8:20 p.m., Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by:
Bonita Zimdars
Clerk/Treasurer

Approved and Ordered Posted by:
Robert Foote Jr.
Chenequa Village President