

**ONOTA TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 7, 2019

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Present: Terry Pihlainen, Supervisor  
Cheryl Lane, Treasurer  
Catherine Kimar, Clerk

Connie Lacko, Trustee  
Brian Bresette, Trustee

Absent: *none*

**II. AGENDA**

A motion was made to accept the agenda as presented.

Motion: Brian Bresette  
Support: Connie Lacko  
Motion carried.

**III. MINUTES**

A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen  
Support: Brian Bresette  
Motion carried.

**IV. REPORTS**

A. Financial Report

The treasurer presented the bills for payment.

A motion was made to pay the monthly bills as presented:

- » \$7,701.61 for the general fund, checks #4261 - #4294;
- » \$2,031.40 for the fire fund, checks #1873 - #1877; and
- » \$5,362.75 for the solid waste fund, check #1172.

Motion: Catherine Kimar  
Support: Terry Pihlainen  
Motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the monthly balance sheet and profit & loss statements for the general fund, fire fund, solid waste fund and tax fund as presented by the clerk.

Motion: Cheryl Lane  
Support: Brian Bresette  
Motion carried.

Roll call vote:  
Ayes: Cheryl Lane  
Terry Pihlainen  
Connie Lacko  
Brian Bresette  
Catherine Kimar

B. Assessor Report

The clerk read the report from the assessor (*copy on file*).

C. Zoning Administrator Report

The clerk read the report from the zoning administrator (*copy on file*).

D. Fire Department Report

Chief Kimar read the Fire Department Report (*copy on file*). A discussion was held on the tentative

steps for a new firehall. The supervisor agreed to contact Tim & Donna Shauver regarding land.

E. Planning Commission Report

Trustee Bresette reported that the conditional use permit application for a cell tower was tabled in December to obtain necessary details from AT&T; a representative is supposed to attend the next meeting to answer questions. He also said the recreation plan draft was finished. The clerk asked for a copy showing recommended edits so that she could type it up for the board to review next month.

F. Supervisor Report

The supervisor reported on the following:

- \* Generator installation (approved last month) is delayed due to equipment not arriving yet.
- \* He is pursuing warranty replacement of the furnace due to frequent, unusual breakdowns.
- \* Friends of Tyoga Trail group is seeking a person interested in serving as treasurer (the clerk also mentioned that she had received info from John Parlin to post on the township website).

**V. CORRESPONDENCE**

*none*

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Opened: 7:14 pm

Comment was received from: John Highlen on the Tyoga Trail info; Char McDonnell on ZBA membership and the AT&T Firstnet system (cell tower related); Terry Lane on scheduled furnace maintenance.

Closed: 7:20 pm

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*none*

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Meeting Schedule Resolution

The clerk presented the tentative regular board meeting schedule for FY 2019-2020.

A motion was made to approve the meeting schedule as presented.

Motion: Catherine Kimar  
Support: Cheryl Lane  
Motion carried.

Roll call vote:  
Ayes: Connie Lacko  
Terry Pihlainen  
Cheryl Lane  
Brian Bresette  
Catherine Kimar

B. Board of Review reappointments

Board of Review (BOR) must be reappointed in January of an odd year. The clerk sent letters asking members to notify the township if they were still interested; all three agreed to continue serving.

A motion was made to re-appoint Delores Dolan, Lori Wycoff, & Dale Moseler to the Board of Review.

Motion: Catherine Kimar  
Support: Terry Pihlainen  
Motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the cost for any BOR members who attend the upcoming Michigan Township Association trainings that are being offered in the Upper Peninsula.

Motion: Brian Bresette  
Support: Connie Lacko

Motion carried.

C. Planning Commission reappointment

Brian Bresette's term has expired. He expressed his wish to continue serving as board liaison to the Planning Commission. The supervisor recommended his reappointment.

A motion was made to accept the recommendation of the supervisor and reappointment of Brian Bresette as the board liaison to the Planning Commission (*term will run until Nov 2020 due to board term expiration*).

Motion: Catherine Kimar  
Support: Cheryl Lane  
Motion carried.

D. Brownstone Boat Launch

The supervisor obtained a copy of the US Forest Service (USFS) agreement that would allow the township to administrate the Brownstone Boat Launch site. The agreement stipulates the township responsibilities (launch/remove dock, minor dock repairs, remove rocks from ramp, plow lot in transition seasons) vs the USFS (annual inspection, maintain outhouse / signs / infrastructure, environmental analyses). The supervisor asked the clerk to contact Dave Kimar to see if he would be willing to move the dock (if heavy equipment is needed for this).

The name will be changed to "Lake Superior Boat Launch." It was agreed that the township attorney should also review the document. The idea of a public hearing was suggested; the board felt this was not necessary due to the strong support, popularity and frequent use of this site among residents.

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Opened: 7:37 pm

Comment was received from: Char McDonnell on the boat launch, new firehall, and BOR members; Terry Lane on a new grill for dumpster rolloffs (*A motion was made to approve up to \$275 for a new grill, M/S: Terry Pihlainen/Connie Lacko, carried*); Christine Simonetta on the township offering a local recycling site.

Closed: 7:56 pm

**X. BOARD CONCERNS**

Terry – asked Terry Lane to snowblow the upper handicapped ramp.

Catherine – (1) suggested replacing the old fluorescent fixtures with LEDs (*Simonettas noted that energy incentives were available for this*).

(2) UP Propane and Ferrellgas are both delivering to us (*supervisor will contact them*)

(3) There are new charges for GAD emptying the dumpsters on Tuesdays (*this has always been done, but there were never charges for it; it is possible Paul Krejci, as a local resident, had waived the fees*).

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm.

Motion: Brian Bresette  
Support: Terry Pihlainen  
Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Onota Township Clerk  
Proposed: 1/7/19  
Approved: 2/6/19