

ONOTA TOWNSHIP BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Supervisor Pihlainen noted that Deputy Clerk Kirsten Blackstock would be taking the minutes.

Present: Terry Pihlainen, Supervisor Brian Bresette, Trustee
 Cheryl Lane, Treasurer Kirsten Blackstock, Deputy Clerk
 Connie Lacko, Trustee

Absent: Catherine Kimar, Clerk

II. AGENDA

A motion was made to accept the agenda as amended (*add "Snow Removal" under unfinished business*).

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Connie Lacko
Motion carried.

III. MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Cheryl Lane
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 (with the additional costs of KCI printing bills for the assessor and the post office box fee for the treasurer - in the amount of 965.43 total to be audited with next month's bills).

- » \$8,864.83 for the general fund, checks #5610 to #5630;
- » \$689.31 for the fire fund, checks #2138 to #2140; and
- » \$5,879.24 for the solid waste fund, checks #1250 to #1251.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Connie Lacko
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 deputy clerk.

Motion: Cheryl Lane
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

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

Gen: \$693,519.84
Fire: \$360,308.62
SW: \$138,145.02
Tax: \$2,081.05

B. Assessor Report

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

C. Zoning Administrator Report

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

D. Fire Department Report

Assistant Fire Chief James reported that there were no calls in January.

E. Planning Commission Report

Trustee Bresette reported on the amendment to the zoning ordinance and the upcoming February meeting where Central Upper Peninsula Planning & Development (CUPPAD) would be making a public presentation on the results from the Master Plan survey that was mailed out to residents.

F. Supervisor Report

The supervisor reported on the following:

- * Generators – Wolverine Power Systems came out and repaired the generator.
- * UP Trails - requesting funding for maintaining snowmobile trails.
- * Kitchen/Hall update – bid received from Timber Ridge Construction was \$36,340 (which includes redoing the lighting in the hall). It was not specified if the meeting room door repair was included, which will be looked into by the supervisor.

A motion was made to waive the bidding process.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

A motion was made to award the bid to Timber Ridge Construction with the sub-contractor as Kukala for \$36,340.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

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

G. Other Reports

Tyoga Trail / Campground - John Highlen reported that the campground was prepared for winter and that they will continue to work with the DNR on the south bridge and the dead ash trees.

Trail development - Jarrod Biebel reported to the township on grant funding for development and future planning/connecting of trails in this area ranging from recreational to historical uses.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

- * Email from office of Senator McBroom regarding Tioga Tavern cleanup (turned over to supervisor)

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 7:25 pm

Comment was received from: John Highlen on the purpose of presentation on February 14 (master plan survey results), Matt Watkeys about the Alger Conservation District upcoming events and a grant for disposal of scrap tires, and Terry Lane on snow removal.

Closed: 7:34 pm

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Snow Removal

A motion was made to pay George Duquette \$150 for the use of his front endloader to push back the

snowbanks around the township hall and fire station.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen
Support: Connie Lacko
Motion carried.

A motion was made to approve (at the discretion of Terry Lane and Brian Bresette) use of the above equipment at a future date to push the banks back once more if needed.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen
Support: Connie Lacko
Motion carried.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Meeting Dates Resolution

A motion was made to approve the Meeting Schedule for FY 23-24 as presented.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Cheryl Lane
Motion carried.

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

B. UP Central Trails

Already discussed above under supervisor's report.

C. Proposed Zoning Text Amendment

A motion was made to accept the zoning ordinance text amendment as recommended by the Zoning Administrator and Planning Commission.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Cheryl Lane
Motion carried.

D. Budget Meeting date

The board set the budget planning date for February 17, 2023 at 1:00 pm. The clerk will post a notice.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 7:45 pm

Comment received from:

Joan Potter-Sommer about snowmobile enforcement and trespassing and the Brownstone Inn having excessive lighting at night; and Jarrod Biebel about the Michigan DNR being active and present on the trails this year, but trail conditions have been poor with the recent weather.

Closed: 7:54 pm

X. BOARD CONCERNS

none

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Cheryl Lane
Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Onota Township Deputy Clerk

Proposed: 2/6/23

Approved: 2/17/23