

ONOTA TOWNSHIP BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 2, 2018

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: Connie Lacko
Support: Terry Pihlainen
Motion carried.

III. MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Connie Lacko
Motion carried.

IV. REPORTS

A. Financial Reports

The treasurer presented the bills for payment.

March 31 FY-end:

A motion was made to pay the March 31 fiscal year-end bills as presented:

- » \$5,789.58 for the general fund, checks #3998-4004 + #4025-4028;
- » \$2,035.85.10 for the fire fund, checks #1800 to #1803; and
- » \$4,990.76 for the solid waste fund, check #1156.

Motion: Connie Lacko
Support: Catherine Kimar
Motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the March 31 FY-end balance sheet and profit & loss statements for the general, fire, solid waste, and tax funds as presented by the clerk.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Connie Lacko
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: Connie Lacko
Catherine Kimar
Brian Bresette
Cheryl Lane
Terry Pihlainen

April:

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

- » \$5,672.63 for the general fund, checks #4013 to #4024; and
- » \$5,230.50 for the fire fund, check #1804.

Motion: Catherine Kimar
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the monthly balance sheet and profit & loss statements for the general,

fire, solid waste, and tax funds as presented by the clerk.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Terry Pihlainen
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: Cheryl Lane
Brian Bresette
Terry Pihlainen
Connie Lacko
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*). Additionally, pertinent correspondence from Dave & Chris Kimar thanking the department for its response as well as giving a donation was read at this time.

E. Planning Commission Report

No meeting was held in March as there is a lack of quorum for meetings (due to resignations & seasonal absences). Trustee Bresette reported he had received a letter of interest, but it was from a non-resident of the township (*supervisor will contact MTA as to if non-residents may serve or not*).

He also suggested that the township contact an abstract & title company to determine the history & ownership of area roads as another means of making a determination for which roads are public. The board agreed that this was a relevant, important step to take, as the public vs private road issue is likely to arise again.

Following up on increasing wages, the clerk reported that AuTrain paid their Planning Commission members \$30/meeting (*\$40/meeting for the secretary & chairperson*).

A motion was made to increase the compensation of Planning Commission members to \$30/meeting.

Motion: Catherine Kimar
Support: Connie Lacko
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: Brian Bresette
Terry Pihlainen
Connie Lacko
Cheryl Lane
Catherine Kimar

F. Supervisor Report

The supervisor reported on the following:

- * Brownstone Creek flooding: He is assisting Julia Frei in her pursuit of a five-year DEQ permit.
- * GIS mapping: Alger Co maps may be viewed at cuppadd.org (a link will be added on the twp site).
- * Laughing Whitefish Pt Rd: Alger Co Road Comm (ACRC) estimates a cost of \$360k to bring this to a maintainable, non-seasonal status. The Ault family was notified; they requested that the township notify landowners (*in the affected area*) of the potential for a special assessment district (the clerk expressed concern as to the difficulty of compiling a list that matched names and mailing addresses to specific properties). As the procedure for creating such a district is highly complex, the supervisor noted the township should wait until all relevant information & facts are compiled prior to making formal notifications.
- * Cell tower: AT&T received a 911 enhancement grant for new towers to be constructed; they are in the process of planning the construction of a tower on Onota Hill.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

- » Par-plan Board of Directors Elections
- » MTA cemetery workshop
- » Alger Conservation District plant sale

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 7:20 pm.

Comment was received from: Mat Watkeys on a potential timeline for the cell tower and the status of the Brownstone boat launch; John Highlen on the location of the special assessment district (*north of Risku Rd*); Terry Lane on dumpster roll-off dates for spring (*May 18-19*); and Delores Dolan on the web address of the GIS site for the township (cupp.ad.org/what-we-do/mapping-gis/web-mapping/).

Closed: 7:25 pm.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Board Policy Review (§8 + 9)

The board continued their review of the administrative policy with section 8 (road name change procedure). The discussion concerned legality of this procedure, if Alger County recognized it (Road Commission has authority over road names, not sheriff). The clerk offered to contact the road commission as to: (1) if they require a resolution from the board prior to changing a name and (2) if they had any procedures in place in regards to this item. This item was tabled until next month.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Required Quickbooks upgrade

The clerk reported that Quickbooks was mandating a software upgrade. If the township does not upgrade the software, all payroll services will be terminated by May 31.

A motion was made to approve up to \$250.00 for the upgrade to the 2018 version of QB desktop.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen
Support: Catherine Kimar
Motion carried.

B. Spring postcard

The clerk presented a draft of the postcard notifying residents & taxpayers of the spring dumpster rolloffs. The Planning Commission/ZBA vacancies and relevant items were tentatively added.

A motion was made to approve up to \$255.00 for spring postcard printing & postage.

Motion: Catherine Kimar
Support: Connie Lacko
Motion carried.

C. Deputy Treasurer

Cheryl Lane reported that she had selected Lisa Hanson as her deputy.

A motion was made to confirm the appointment of Lisa Hanson as the deputy treasurer.

Motion: Catherine Kimar
Support: Terry Pihlainen
Motion carried.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 7:40 pm.

No comment was received.

Closed: 7:40 pm.

X. BOARD CONCERNS

Catherine – Thanked Terry Lane for how nice the hall looked. Two (of the three) road signs for Deerton missing (from west & north) – the township should replace these.

Terry – He & Brian will meet with the Road Commission engineer to assess and prioritize maintenance needs of township roads.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 pm.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Catherine Kimar
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Kimar
Onota Township Clerk
Proposed: 04/02/18
Approved: 05/07/18