

ONOTA TOWNSHIP BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
MAY 6, 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 amended (*add D. SAM.gov letter under unfinished; add B) Planning Commission resignation under new*).

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Cheryl Lane
Motion carried.

III. MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion: Cheryl Lane
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:

- » \$11,134.54 for the general fund, checks #4377 to #4398;
- » \$3,453.48 for the fire fund, checks #1894 to #1899; and
- » \$5,241.47 for the solid waste fund, check #1178.

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

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Cheryl Lane
Motion carried.

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

B. Assessor Report

No report was received.

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*).

After a brief discussion on the dry hydrant, a motion was made to accept the bid from Dave Kimar for up to \$3,750 for repairing/replacing the dry hydrant at the Laughing Whitefish River bridge.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Connie Lacko
Motion carried.

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

E. Planning Commission Report

Trustee Bresette reported that the Planning Commission had no business on their agenda at the previous meeting.

He reiterated the thoroughness of his knowledge, familiarity, and actions in regards to the motion wording issue that had arisen with the conditional use permit for the cell tower to the supervisor.

F. Supervisor Report

The supervisor reported on the following:

- * Cell Tower: AT&T is not interested in a different location for the tower.
- * Tioga Tavern: Alger County Building Inspector (Joe Cilc) is taking action on condemning the building and property. Trustee Bresette mentioned that another township resident was potentially interested in the property & willing to clean it up; and suggested the supervisor pass this info on to Joe Cilc or the landowner.
- * GAD: GAD would consider offering recycling at the rate of \$20-25/ton. The dumpster rolloffs are scheduled for September 20 & 21.
- * Bathroom update: The supervisor asked the board for further specifications on the bathroom improvements so he could obtain prices. The board agreed that ADA compliance was a priority and that any other updates should be secondary to that. Various options for flooring, walls, fixtures were discussed.

G. Tyoga Trail

John Highlen reported that the Friends of Tyoga group was fully incorporated, and that they were planning to meet with the DNR soon.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

none

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 7:23 pm

Comment was received from:

- * Dave Kimar on the importance of using quality wall material due to moisture in bathroom areas;
- * Mickey Rondeau (Alger County Commissioner) on if residents would have any interest in a Veteran's Affairs service officer providing a few office hours in the township hall each month (the board suggested posting contact information would be a better option); and
- * Terry Lane on wainscoting the bathroom walls & a pad for dumpsters in the parking lot.

Closed: 7:34 pm.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Cemetery Fee Schedule

The board discussed the cemetery fee schedule, and the fact that burials had been exceeding the costs listed.

A motion was made to increase the cost of opening & closing for burials from \$300 to \$500.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

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

A motion was made that a township representative shall be present for all openings & closings of burials and cremains in the cemetery to ensure proper burial procedures.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen
Support: Cheryl Lane
Motion carried.

B. Cemetery Lot Location Request

The clerk brought up an email request from Lori Carlson regarding the location of her family plot in the cemetery. The supervisor said he had offered to meet with her regarding the location, and that he would contact her again regarding the matter.

C. Lake Superior Boat Launch

The supervisor reported that he was still waiting on signed paperwork from the Forest Service in order to adopt the agreement. This will be re-added to the agenda for the next meeting.

D. SAM.gov letter

The clerk asked that the supervisor send in a notarized letter to finalize the System of Awards Management (SAM) website registration for the township. She explained that while she was listed as the entity administrator, the supervisor and treasurer were also listed as primary contacts on the account.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Cell Tower Bond Approval

A motion was made to accept the \$50,000 bond from AT&T for removal of the cell tower (as a contingency to non-use or obsolescence).

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Cheryl Lane
Motion carried.

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

B. Planning Commission Resignation

A letter was received from Shannon Wyatt, resigning from her position as secretary on the Planning Commission. The clerk will post this vacancy on the township website.

A motion was made to accept the letter of resignation from Shannon Wyatt.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 8:04 pm.

Comment was received from: Dave Kimar on if there are DEQ permits to remove debris from the boat

launch and what actions are permitted when cleaning up the site.

Closed: 8:08 pm.

X. BOARD CONCERNS

Connie – asked about the flower boxes that Fred & Pam Ivers offered to build and maintain on the nearby bridge (up to \$200 had been approved for this purpose).

Catherine – (1) Audit is scheduled for 5/20/19 and may take up to a week. (2) The hall & chairs are reserved for 6/22/19 by the Shore Drive HOA. Last year they had done the same, but someone borrowed the chairs on that date without notifying the township. It may have been the school, but they should at least let us know to check if the chairs are reserved before taking them.

Brian – Discussed UP Central Trails grant requests with Andy Smith, and told him that he needs to attend a meeting if requesting township involvement

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Catherine Kimar
Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Onota Township Clerk
Proposed: 5/6/19
Approved: 6/3/19