

ONOTA TOWNSHIP BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 1, 2015

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Members Present: Terry Pihlainen, Supervisor
Brian Bresette, Trustee
Kirsten Englund, Clerk

Susan Kerst, Treasurer
Sarah Redmond, Trustee

Members Absent: None

II. AGENDA

A motion was made to accept the agenda as presented.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Sarah Redmond
Motion carried.

III. MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Sarah Redmond
Motion carried.

IV. REPORTS

A. Financial Report

Treasurer Kerst presented the bills for payment.

A motion was made to pay the bills as amended for payment for ~~\$36,296.15~~ \$35,232.15 for the general fund checks #3005 to ~~3041~~ 3040; \$82,670.89 for the fire fund, checks #1522 to 1531; and \$4,986.42 for the solid waste fund check #1104.

Motion to amend: Kirsten Englund
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

Motion to accept as amended: Susan Kerst
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the balance sheet and profit and loss statements for the general fund, fire fund, solid waste fund and tax fund as presented by Clerk Englund for June 2015.

Motion: Susan Kerst
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: Terry Pihlainen
Sarah Redmond
Brian Bresette
Susan Kerst
Kirsten Englund

B. Assessor Report

Clerk Englund read Assessor Schmidt's report dated 5/27/15. A copy is on file.

C. Zoning Administrator Report

ZA Christensen provided the board a copy of his monthly report. A copy is on file.

D. Fire Department Report

Chief Kimar read the Fire Department Report. A copy is on file.

She presented a new application for the Fire Department, Craig Sanders.

She also provided a report of equipment costs for Medical First Responders versus EMT Basic level.

A motion was made by Sarah Redmond to accept the application from Craig Sanders for the Fire Department.

Motion: Sarah Redmond

Support: Susan Kerst

Motion carried.

Supervisor Pihlainen recommended to stay at the level we are currently at with Medical/ First Responders required equipment. Supervisor Pihlainen made a motion to approve the Fire Department to operate at First Responder status, and to discuss next month if we need to go to EMT Level.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen

Support: Sarah Redmond

Motion carried.

E. Planning Commission Report

Trustee Bresette reported that there was not a quorum present to hold the May meeting.

He stated that he was resigning from the Planning Commission and recommended Sarah Redmond in his place.

Supervisor Pihlainen made a motion to accept the resignation of Brian Bresette from the Planning Commission and to appoint Sarah Redmond in his place.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen

Support: Kirsten Englund

Motion carried.

F. Supervisor Report

Supervisor Pihlainen stated he had been discussion with Pat Kasey (MDOT) the missing sign on H-01 (Rock River Road going east).

He also has been in touch with Bob Lindbeck from Co Road Commission about the Point Road- if in progress/ unsure if it is complete. Terry and Brian will follow up.

The cemetery fence has been completed. Trustee Bresette brought up the fact the driveways and gates are not lined up, and the top of fence is not straight. Terry stated he would follow up with Marquette Fence on both. He also mentioned the survey was started but had not been called that it was complete yet.

Progress on the dumpster sign- a copy is at the vendors.

He then introduced Emma DeGahn who is working with Connect Michigan/ CUPPAD doing a study on broadband in the U.P., they are asking for township participation on a survey that can be sent out to residents. If sent out with summer tax bills, the cost of postage etc. would be covered through a grant. Discussion was held on the feasibility of sending in that format, as tax bills are sealed and pre-addressed and would require re-addressing/ additional postage etc. A suggestion was made to perhaps combine with our Roll-Off post card mailing to residents in the fall; Emma stated she would look into if funding or reimbursements would still be available if we chose to mail separately from the tax bills, and would report back to the board.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was received for this month.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was opened at 7:51 p.m.

Comment was received from Toni Mann - Munising News.

Public Comment was closed at 7:52 p.m.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Well project bids request

Supervisor Pihlainen wrote up the specs for bids and will send ads out to the Building Exchange in Marquette as well as posting in the Munising News and Alger Shopper. The bid opening will be held at the July board meeting.

B. Fire Department recruitment report

It was mentioned new firefighter Craig knows of one possible person of interest.

C. Website Update

Catherine presented a progress report and copies of sample pages. A copy is on file. The Clerk and Treasurer have both approved of their pages and are o.k. to go live.

D. 2014 GAD Roll-off dumpster discussion and payment options

Clerk Englund will follow up with Anderson Tackman of how to proceed and what our options are for payment.

E. Tyoga Trail

Contact has been made with Doug Barry (DNR); there will be an upcoming meeting yet to be determined and other members are encouraged to attend. Recommendations will be made, and discussion of possible partnership with the township; it was mentioned to include John Parlim in the process.

F. Foreclosed township property discussion

Supervisor Pihlainen presented more information on the foreclosed property on the south side of M28; he stated the township could not purchase and hold in escrow for the future is not as intended. He put the option out that he could go to the land sale on Friday, June 5th and offer to purchase outright if no one else has interest in purchasing.

Trustee Bresette made a motion for Supervisor Pihlainen to go to the sale on 6/5 and try to

purchase the property up for tax sale for the amount owed on the property.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Sarah Redmond
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: Kirsten Englund
Sarah Redmond
Terry Pihlainen
Brian Bresette
Nays: Susan Kerst

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Lawn mower

There were 3 bids available with prices and brands.

Sarah Redmond made a motion for \$2,900 expenditure for the Ariens mower with bagger from Hedmarks.

Motion: Sarah Redmond
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: Sarah Redmond
Terry Pihlainen
Brian Bresette
Susan Kerst
Kirsten Englund

B. Cemetery software

Plots will be GPS coordinated

Supervisor Pihlainen will research cost on software and upkeep/yearly maintenance costs to see if it will fit our needs and budget.

Plot prices- it was decided the board needs to find out what other townships are charging before we set prices for the new plots.

C. Reissue of checks

Clerk Englund presented old un-cashed checks that were discovered as outstanding during the Audit. The auditor recommended to bring them to the board for approval of reissue:

John Fort (1/10/11 amount \$9.43)

Audrey DesArmo (2/4/13 amount \$90.00)

James Short (1/6/14 amount \$8.80)

Clerk Englund made a motion that the board approves the reissue of the above checks.

Motion: Kirsten Englund
Support: Sarah Redmond
Motion carried.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was opened at 8:53 p.m.

Public comment was received from Terry Lane & Catherine Kimar.

Public comment was closed at 8:55 p.m.

X. BOARD CONCERNS

Susan Kerst- none

Brian Bresette- the building needs to be power washed and decks stained

Sarah Redmond- announced that Linda Mathieu will be starting the potlucks up again

Terry Pihlainen- will be travelling the day of the July meeting but will be back in time for the meeting

Kirsten Englund- reminded the board neither she nor her deputy will be in attendance at the July meeting due to her wedding

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Motion: Brian Bresette

Support: Susan Kerst

Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kirsten Englund
Onota Township Clerk
Proposed: 06-01-2015
Approved: 07-06-2015