

**ONOTA TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 5, 2017

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

Present: Terry Pihlainen, Supervisor  
          Brian Bresette, Trustee  
          Catherine Kimar, Clerk

Susan Kerst, Treasurer  
          Connie Lacko, Trustee

Absent: *none*

**II. AGENDA**

A motion was made to accept the agenda as presented.

Motion: Brian Bresette  
Support: Susan Kerst  
Motion carried.

**III. MINUTES**

A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion: Susan Kerst  
Support: Catherine Kimar  
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:

- » \$27,314.34 for the general fund, checks #3709 to #3737;
- » \$2,349.76 for the fire fund, checks #1711 to #1720; and
- » \$5,120.68 for the solid waste fund, check #1141.

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: Connie Lacko  
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:  
Ayes: Terry Pihlainen  
      Connie Lacko  
      Brian Bresette  
      Susan Kerst  
      Catherine Kimar

B. Assessor Report

The clerk read the report from the assessor. A copy is on file.

C. Zoning Administrator Report

The Zoning Administrator was present and reported that he had received zoning inquiries regarding varied topics and had been working on the citation form. A copy of his report is on file.

D. Fire Department Report

Chief Kimar read the Fire Department Report. A copy is on file. The board held a brief discussion on the four cost requests from the department (*pump heater repair on the tanker: parts & labor – \$1,500, acid washes - \$250, hose testing – up to \$910 & purchasing a 10' length of 6" hard suction - \$500*).

A motion was made to approve up to \$3,200 total to repair the pump heater, acid wash the trucks, contract Firecatt for hose testing, and purchase a 10' length of 6" hard suction.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen  
Support: Catherine Kimar  
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:  
Ayes: Susan Kerst  
Connie Lacko  
Terry Pihlainen  
Brian Bresette  
Catherine Kimar

E. Planning Commission Report

Trustee Bresette reported that the Planning Commission would be sending out a recreation survey soon for community input prior to the planned update of the recreation plan. The clerk mentioned that she was working with the Planning Commission to make the survey available on the website.

F. Supervisor Report

The supervisor reported on the following:

- The AuTrain boat launch is [temporarily] repaired and open for public use again.
- He attended a regional meeting & reported that 1) the county has a goal of 1/1/18 for completion of the new Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping 2) other townships may be interested in setting something up countywide for hazmat disposal.
- The dumpster rolloffs were well-attended & adequately staffed thanks to some new local residents volunteering their time to help out.
- Roads: Laughing Whitefish Point Road was the only road with residents complaining about its condition. The supervisor recently inspected local roads on a ride-around, and noted that the Deerton-Sand Lake Road is in rough condition and is likely to need work soon.

**V. CORRESPONDENCE**

The clerk reported on the following correspondence: 1) an email regarding the status of the boat launch, 2) a federal form regarding a change in flood status for a local property, and 3) a man named John Smith had stopped by the hall to inform people that loggers would be working on the seasonal portion of the Peter White Rd to improve its condition for logging operations.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comment was opened at 7:15 pm.

Comment was received from Char McDonnell on why there was a single construction barrel on M28 just past the spring (the ground is sinking on the shoulder, possibly due to failure of a culvert); Terry Lane on the need to repair the first culvert on Karvonen Road, and Linda Mathieu on if there were any regulations on using dead & downed wood from public property.

Public comment was closed at 7:18 pm.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Dumpster Rolloff wages

The board continued its discussion of compensating dumpster rolloff workers. As per the accountant, these workers must be treated like regular employees, despite the limited hours they work. The clerk said she would be glad to complete / file payroll forms (i.e. I-9, W-4) from anyone who worked at the

dumpster rollofts. The compensation would be permissive, not mandatory – in other words, up to the worker to request it (by completing the payroll forms).

A motion was made to compensate the dumpster rolloff volunteers for their time & labor with the amount to be as determined by the board.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen  
Support: Brian Bresette  
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:  
Ayes: Susan Kerst  
Brian Bresette  
Terry Pihlainen  
Connie Lacko  
Catherine Kimar

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

### A. July Board of Review Resolution

A motion was made to change the date for the July Board of Review meeting to Monday, July 17.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen  
Support: Connie Lacko  
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:  
Ayes: Brian Bresette  
Terry Pihlainen  
Susan Kerst  
Connie Lacko  
Catherine Kimar

### B. Planning Commission survey: cost approval

The clerk reported that she had a total of 530 addresses of residents & taxpayers for the Planning Commission survey and would print labels for the Planning Commission. The totals would be around \$260 in postage, \$60 for copies to be made, and around \$50-60 for envelopes.

A motion was made to approve up to \$400 for postage, envelopes, & copies so the Planning Commission recreation survey could be sent out.

Motion: Catherine Kimar  
Support: Terry Pihlainen  
Motion carried.

### C. Special elections (Aug 8/Nov 7)

The clerk reported to the board on the unexpected elections to be held this year. The Planning Commission was advised of the need to reschedule the August meeting to the 9th and the meeting schedules have been adjusted to reflect this change. The clerk presented a comparison of the election costs for the past three fiscal years (FY) & a sheet of planned adjustments that leave \$115.00 extra. The amount set aside for elections (\$2,600) for this FY should be adequate for both 2017 elections because the state will cover costs of the new voting systems. It is unlikely the budget will need to be amended.

### D. Request to review board policy

The clerk requested that the board plan a review of its administrative policy to keep it up to date. The board agreed to review the first few sections of the policy at its next meeting. The clerk mentioned that she could make additional copies of the policy for board members if needed.

## IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was opened at 7:30 pm.

Public comment was received from John Parlin & John Highlen regarding an update on the status of the Tyoga Trail; and Char McDonnell on the election budget.

Public comment was closed at 7:40 pm.

#### **X. BOARD CONCERNS**

Catherine – requested that board members sign the Michigan Township Association (MTA) local government pledge form & asked if any local officials wanted their emails added to receive online access to MTA resources.

Terry – mentioned possibility of the township offering a 'bulletin board' type of section on website for public events & information.

*No other concerns were expressed.*

#### **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Motion: Catherine Kimar

Support: Susan Kerst

Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Catherine Kimar  
Onota Township Clerk  
Proposed: 06/05/17  
Approved: 07/03/17