

ONOTA TOWNSHIP BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
JULY 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: Brian Bresette
Support: Cheryl Lane
Motion carried.

III. MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion: Cheryl Lane
Support: Connie Lacko
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:

- » \$6,833.51 for the general fund, checks #4086 to #4110;
- » \$1,002.17 for the fire fund, checks #1822 to #1830; and
- » \$7,354.87 for the solid waste fund, check #1161.

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: Cheryl Lane
Terry Pihlainen
Connie Lacko
Brian Bresette
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*).

E. Planning Commission Report

No report was given due to lack of a quorum at the last scheduled meeting.

F. Supervisor Report

The supervisor reported on the following:

- * Tioga Tavern building – he had repeatedly attempted to contact the owners regarding their plans for cleanup of the site and reported no response. The county building inspector will be getting involved in the matter at this point.
- * Brownfield grant is available, but it requires an area with potential for economic redevelopment
- * Cemetery – (1) top soil will be brought in for use as needed at a cost of up to \$325 for 10 yd (2) the headstone for the Eva, Eric, and Richard Maki family had been brought in.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

- * OSHA hearing in Lansing on updated electrical regulations.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 7:12 pm

Comment was received from: Terry Lane on a split tree in the cemetery; and John Highlen on the AuTrain island zoning amendment request.

Closed: 7:20 pm.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Cemetery Ordinance

The board discussed the proposed cemetery ordinance (default from MTA) that would replace the current ordinance, which has been questioned on the appropriateness of its highly restrictive language as opposed to the actual needs of the cemetery.

A motion was made to pass the ordinance with changes as discussed and agreed upon by the board.

Motion: Catherine Kimar
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

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

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. July Board of Review Resolution

A motion was made to change the date of the July 2018 Board of Review to Monday, July 16.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Cheryl Lane
Motion carried.

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

B. Off-year Audit Cost

The clerk presented the expected costs as received from Anderson-Tackman.

A motion was made to approve up to \$2,200 for the 2018 off-year audit.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen
Support: Connie Lacko
Motion carried.

Roll call vote
Ayes: Connie Lacko
Terry Pihlainen

Cheryl Lane
Brian Bresette
Catherine Kimar

C. Blight Ordinance Discussion

The supervisor reported an increased frequency of complaints about blight in the area and questions of enforcement, partially related to the damaged Tioga Tavern building.

The board discussed the history of the area, the advantages & disadvantages of blight enforcement, and the general consensus of residents and taxpayers regarding blight ordinances (from the Planning Commission survey on blight). The supervisor recommended that the township look into incentivizing property cleanup.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 8:10 pm.

Comment was received from: Terry Lane about if the fire department still burns buildings for training purposes (*the fire chief answered no, due to environmental regulations*), the Tioga Tavern building status, and when safe-t-kleen was scheduled to stop again.

Closed: 8:14 pm.

X. BOARD CONCERNS

Catherine – Election is August 7, anyone who needs AV ballots should submit an app ASAP.

Cheryl – Residents have been asking about the status of the AuTrain boat launch & repairs.

No other concerns were expressed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Motion: Cheryl Lane
Support: Connie Lacko
Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Catherine Kimar
Onota Township Clerk
Proposed: 07/02/18
Approved: 08/06/18