

ONOTA TOWNSHIP BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
JULY 3, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Present: Terry Pihlainen, Supervisor
Brian Bresette, Trustee

Cheryl Lane, Treasurer
Catherine Kimar, Clerk

Absent: Connie Lacko

II. AGENDA

A motion was made to accept the agenda as presented.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Terry Pihlainen
Motion carried.

III. MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Terry Pihlainen
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:

- » \$9,737.75 for the general fund, checks #5734-62;
- » \$199.41 for the fire fund, checks #2155-58; and
- » \$6,558.74 for the solid waste fund, check #1258.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Terry Pihlainen
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

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|------------------|
| Gen: 745,789.85 |
| Fire: 386,775.19 |
| SW: 157,518.07 |
| Tax: 81.05 |

B. Assessor Report

The supervisor read the report from the assessor (*copy on file*).

C. Zoning Administrator Report

The zoning administrator reported that four zoning applications were approved and that some residents had reported short term rentals in a zoning district that does not allow it (*copy on file*).

D. Fire Department Report

The fire chief reported that there were no calls in June. She will be returning to her duties this month, ending the leave of absence.

E. Planning Commission Report

Trustee Bresette reported that the Planning Commission was starting the process of updating the Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance with the help of Dotty LaJoye from CUPPAD. Copies were given to the members.

F. Supervisor Report

The supervisor reported on the following:

- * **Boat Wash** on August 4 at 3-5 pm at the Au Train boat launch site.
- * **Blight** – no grant was received for the Tioga and other properties in the township (property title is very messed up on the Tioga Tavern site). It is unclear who owned the parcel over the history of the property.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

- * Deer Lake creek flooding – Linda Mathieu asked if the township would address the flooding on the creek in Shelter Bay. The supervisor will respond to her.
- * Blight Petition – Several residents of Shore Drive submitted an anti-blight petition.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 7:15 pm

Comment was received from:

Andy & Joan Potter-Sommer on flooding and the grant request for blight clean-up; Terry Lane on a mower for the township hall site (he currently uses his own) and the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds use; Jarrod Biebel on petitions submitted by Shore Drive residents for: blight enforcement, ARPA funds use, and conditional use permits for short-term rentals (*note: only the blight petition had been received via mail at this time*).

Closed: 7:26 pm

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Township Clerk position

The board discussed the situation and Catherine is willing to continue working as clerk with the support of Tara Middleton and Tina Watkeys, who are willing to be trained as deputy clerks.

A motion was made to appoint Catherine Kimar as township clerk with Tina Watkeys and Tara Middleton as deputy clerks through the end of August.

Motion: Cheryl Lane
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

Note: Catherine Kimar abstained from voting.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. ARPA Funds

The township needs a new printer before the next meeting, to replace the ADA ramp, meeting room door, fridge, new siding, and the lights should be replaced. Jarrod Biebel stated that the board already made a motion to spend money to buy a printer at a previous meeting. Terry Lane and Tara Middleton each recommended an office supply store in Marquette for purchasing a large office printer/copier.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 7:43 pm

Comment was received from: Andy Sommer on tax increases; Jarrod Biebel read a document from the Michigan State University extension on amendments of Zoning Ordinances in Michigan (copy on file); and

Joan Potter-Sommer on the bidding process for the kitchen.

Closed: 7:44 pm

X. BOARD CONCERNS

No concerns were expressed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion: Brian Bresette

Support: Cheryl Lane

Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Onota Township Clerk

Proposed: 7-3-23

Approved: 8-7-23