

ONOTA TOWNSHIP BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 3, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Present: Terry Pihlainen, Supervisor
Cheryl Lane, Treasurer
Catherine Kimar, Clerk

Brian Bresette, Trustee
Connie Lacko, Trustee

Absent: *none*

II. AGENDA

A motion was made to accept the agenda as presented.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Connie Lacko
Motion carried.

III. MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion: Cheryl Lane
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 (plus three late bills to be audited next month: Planning Commission - \$600.00, and Alger Delta Cooperative - \$60.00, \$213.70):

- » \$10,159.20 for the general fund, checks #4602-28;
- » \$1,390.77 for the fire fund, checks #1950-54; and
- » \$5,269.54 for the solid waste fund, check #1192.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Connie Lacko
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
Catherine Kimar
Connie Lacko
Terry Pihlainen
Brian Bresette

Gen: 606,717.90
Fire: 247,085.53
SW: 122,062.87
Tax: 23,170.31

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 report from the Fire Department (*copy on file*).

E. Planning Commission Report

Trustee Bresette reported that the Planning Commission had little business other than moving the March meeting date and Recreation Plan submission follow-up.

F. Supervisor Report

The supervisor reported on the following:

- * **ORV trail connector grant** (Jarrod Biebel) – the due date for the grant is in May, and Ben DuBois from CUPPAD can assist with mapping that the DNR requires. The board felt unsure of a private individual who is not employed by the township working with CUPPAD to use the 10 hours of service the township receives as part of their membership dues. The supervisor planned to contact CUPPAD and discuss this.
- * **Burning's Road** – Shane Gibson agreed to allow the UP 200 to use this road for this year's race. However, there is a route issue due to the logging trucks tearing up Sigan Road, and the supervisor requested that the chief ask the fire department about assisting with the race in terms of traffic control on Friday, February 14, 2020.
- * **Generator** – B&G Plumbing and Heating initially discussed running a temporary line on top of the snow, but they have not responded to any of the supervisor's attempts to contact them. The supervisor said he would try to contact other vendors to do this, but the board was unsure if it could be done before the ground thaw.
- * **Furnace** – The supervisor does not want Swick to continue to service the furnace as he thinks that it was a poor setup on their part. He also said he expects the township to have to replace the furnace soon, with the amount of times it has been repaired and the damp condition of the crawlspace.

G. Tyoga Trail (John Highlen)

Currently working on plans for trail projects this spring and increasing membership of the group.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was received.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 7:27 pm

John Highlen on the location of the ORV trail connector project; Charlene McDonnell on the sled dog race schedule and the ambulance millage; Matt Waldron on the safety of snowmobiles and dog sleds using the trail; Terry Lane on the cell tower status (*on hold*); and Tina Waldron on requesting support for the ambulance millage being proposed by Alger County Emergency Medical Services.

Closed: 7:53 pm

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. New Computer

The township clerk and treasurer explained that BS&A, Intuit (Quickbooks) and the state elections bureau strongly recommended getting a new computer, as the current one struggles with running resource intensive applications like the ledger and tax software and is incapable of doing any elections

work. The clerk had investigated costs with Dell Computers, and they expected it to be under \$1,000 to get a computer that would last several years and run modern programs significantly better than the current one.

A motion was made to spend up to \$1,000 on a new computer for the clerk and treasurer's office.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Connie Lacko
Motion carried.

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

B. Millage Proposal Language Resolutions

The clerk presented the board with three resolutions for approval of the language to place the millage proposals on the August 2020 ballot. The clerk noted that she reviewed Michigan Township Association literature on the wording of ballot proposals during their creation.

A motion was made to approve the wording of the General Operations millage proposal.

Motion: Catherine Kimar
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

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

A motion was made to approve the wording of the Fire Protection millage proposal.

Motion: Catherine Kimar
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

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

A motion was made to approve the wording of the Solid Waste Collection millage proposal.

Motion: Catherine Kimar
Support: Brian Bresette
Motion carried.

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

C. Meeting Date Conflict

The clerk reported that while creating the dual schedule posting for the Township Board and Planning Commission meetings, she found a unusual meeting date conflict due to the first day of September being a Tuesday. This causes the second Tuesday, September 8, to be the day both entities would meet (as the board cannot hold their meeting on the first Monday in September due to Labor Day).

Trustee Bresette will relay this information to the Planning Commission members.

D. Budget Meeting Date

The board scheduled their first budget meeting for February 12, 2020 at 11:00 am (with the next to be scheduled at the end of that meeting).

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 8:00 pm

Comment was received from: Terry Lane on the completion of the bathroom project and the urinal.

Closed: 8:02 pm

X. BOARD CONCERNS

Catherine – notified the board that GAD has arbitrarily started emptying the dumpsters twice per week.

Terry – Thanked the citizens present for attending the meeting.

No other concerns were expressed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 pm.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Catherine Kimar
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Onota Township Clerk

Proposed: 2/3/20

Approved: 2/12/20