

**ONOTA TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 6, 2023

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

Present: Terry Pihlainen, Supervisor                      Brian Bresette, Trustee  
          Cheryl Lane, Treasurer  
          Tina Watkeys, Township Employee

**II. AGENDA**

A motion was made to accept the agenda.

Motion: Brian Bresette  
Support: Cheryl Lane  
Motion carried.

**III. MINUTES**

A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion: Brian Bresette  
Support: Cheryl Lane  
Motion carried.

**IV. REPORTS**

A. Financial Report

The bills for payment, monthly balance sheet and profit & loss statements for the general fund, fire fund, solid waste funds and tax fund were not available and therefore not presented for approval.

B. Assessor Report

The assessor report was received. The assessor reported that all deeds, property transfer affidavits and principal residence exemption affidavits have all been collected, coded and entered into the assessing system. Field work has been completed. Entering and pricing BS&A has begun. Tax bills will be sent out in the next couple weeks. There are changes coming to the duties of the Board of Review. The assessor will provide updates as available.

C. Zoning Administrator Report

The zoning administrator reported that two zoning permits were approved (copy on file).

D. Fire Department Report

The fire chief was absent and did not submit a report for October.

E. Planning Commission Report

Trustee Bresette reported that the Planning Commission was unable to accomplish much due to Dotty's absence while she is in Lansing. Waiting on attorney's opinion on couple complaints received over rentals. He gave the last of the info that was needed regarding the store and his property that will be torn down. Hopeful those two buildings will be torn yet this year but no timeline was given.

#### F. Supervisor Report

The supervisor reported on the following:

1. A high bid in the amount of \$6000.00 was received to remove the tree in the cemetery. The supervisor advises to accept the bid due to the complexity and amount of work needed to remove the tree. An additional \$500.00 was quoted for removal of trees next to fire hall.

A motion was made to accept the bid and have Burr Tree Service from Munising come and remove said trees for total cost of \$6500.00.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen

Support: Brian Bresette

Support: Cheryl Lane

Motion carried.

Roll call vote

Ayes: Cheryl Lane

Terry Pihlainen

Brian Bresette

2. The deal with the forest service for getting the property for the boat launch has fallen through. Tom P. has sold his end loader and will no longer be able to put the dock in/out. The township will need to find someone else to handle the dock there are no prospects at this time. Terry Pihlainen will continue to look into it. The forest service and DNR have been non-responsive to every attempt of communication from Terry P.
3. The supervisor commented on the blight removal selection process and resident comments/complaints on how properties were selected.

#### G. Other Reports

John Highland reported on campground usage. No degradation or vandalism was observed this year. Trails were all cleared and in good shape. Many trees were planted and are doing well.

#### V. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Alger County Veteran's Services requested that local governments show support for veterans by shining a green light from November 6-12.

#### VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Opened: 7:35 pm

Received from: John Highland on appreciation of the efforts to remove the blight in the township.

Question was taken regarding the location of the National Guard offices.

Received from: Joan Potter Summer regarding invitation Michigan Environmental Counsel awarded grant with ACRES (Alger County Renewable Energy Solutions) for project with a goal of empowering communities to embrace renewable energy and home energy upgrades through rebates and tax credits. Educational event to be held at Gallery Coffee in Munising on Tuesday Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 – 8:00 pm. It is free to the public – refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

## **VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **A. Certificates of Deposit (CDs)**

No updates or further discussion at this time.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

Siding – Supervisor to prepare a request for proposal. Once specifications are provided bids are needed.

Townhall new ADA door –it was suggested to install single 42-inch door instead of double door as is the existing door(s) that need replaced/updated.

## **IX. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Opened: 7:45 pm

Received from: Jerry Gerou of Shelter Bay commented on siding.

Closed: 7:50 pm

## **X. BOARD CONCERNS**

Terry – meeting minutes must be approved at following meeting prior to being posted on the website. October's meeting minutes were posted without board approval prior to November meeting.

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen

Support: Brian Bresette

Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Onota Township Employee  
Proposed: 11-6-23  
Approved: 11-11-23