

**ONOTA TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 3, 2019

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 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: Terry Pihlainen  
Support: Brian Bresette  
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 treasurer presented the bills for payment.

A motion was made to pay the monthly bills as presented (*including a late bill for \$283.44, to be audited next month*):

- » \$20,228.34 for the general fund, checks #4399 to #4415;
- » \$115.55 for the fire fund, checks #1900 to #1902; and
- » \$5,062.31 for the solid waste fund, check #1179.

Motion: Brian Bresette  
Support: Catherine Kimar  
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 zoning administrator gave a report on the following (*copy on file*):

- (1) Zoning compliance inspection on two properties (in Sand River and along M-28)

- (2) Investigating a report of an zoning violation of a campground on Section 5/Lake Superior Point Trail
- (3) The deadline is approaching for townships to take action on recreational marijuana businesses.

D. Fire Department Report

Chief Kimar read the Fire Department Report (*copy on file*).

E. Planning Commission Report

The public hearing was held on the recreation plan, the public input received was mainly questions regarding the Lake Superior Boat Launch and the Tyoga Trail sites.

The Planning Commission recommended, by resolution, that the Township Board approve the Recreation Plan.

F. Supervisor Report

The supervisor reported on the following:

- \* Sand River Bridge – the work being done is routine maintenance, and the estimated end date is unknown at this time. Michigan Dept of Transportation is aware of the historical designation of the bridge and assures the work being done does not conflict with this status.
- \* Lake Superior Boat Launch – Joe Lakosky removed the rock debris from the ramp with his excavator. Tom Passinault has also agreed to assist with this if requested. If possible, these contractors will try to do this for the cost of fuel as they both use the site personally. The Forest Service stated the site has never had an Army Corps of Engineers permit and does not need one. Upcoming updates include a new kiosk, new signs, and relocating the donation canister.
- \* ADA Bathroom update – Contractors are not interested in a small project like this as it is currently their busy season. The option of parting out the project to local contractors will be explored instead.
- \* Roads – The supervisor said the Road Commission had asked about local roads in need of maintenance. The clerk and a trustee both mentioned that Deerton-Sand Lake Road between Whitefish & Sand River was in very poor condition with several washouts. The supervisor said he would relay this info to the Road Commission.

G. Tyoga Trail (other reports)

John Highlen reported that the Friends of Tyoga group would be meeting with the DNR tomorrow regarding the trail. Trail maintenance activities are tentatively planned for this summer; however they are waiting for the mosquitoes to die back due to the wet environment near the trail.

## V. CORRESPONDENCE

- \* Two letters of interest for the Planning Commission were received; these were discussed under new business.

## VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 7:26 pm

Comment was received from: Charlene McDonnell on the location of the non-compliant campground.

Closed: 7:28 pm

## VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Lake Superior Boat Launch

The cooperative agreement between the Forest Service and Onota Township regarding boat launch maintenance has been signed by all parties and is formally in place.

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Planning Commission Appointments

Two letters of interest were received for the Planning Commission. The clerk had contacted Mary Henricksen (her term had expired in May) and she said that she was not interested in continuing to

serve due to her seasonal absences from the area. As such, there were now two vacancies on the Planning Commission.

A motion was made to accept the supervisor's recommendation to appoint Michael Tarr to the Planning Commission.

Motion: Catherine Kimar  
Support: Brian Bresette  
Motion carried.

A motion was made to accept the supervisor's recommendation to appoint Erin Leahy-Putvin to the Planning Commission.

Motion: Catherine Kimar  
Support: Brian Bresette  
Motion carried.

B. Resolution to Waive Property Transfer Affidavit Penalties

The supervisor and assessor presented the board with copies of this resolution.

A motion was made to adopt the resolution to waive property transfer penalties.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen  
Support: Brian Bresette  
Motion carried.

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

C. New Cemetery Form Approval

The clerk created a new form to record cemetery lot sales ("Cemetery Lot Certificate"), but upon reviewing the cemetery ordinance, noticed that it should be approved by the board. The clerk presented the board with copies of the form.

A motion was made to approve the Cemetery Lot Certificate as presented.

Motion: Brian Bresette  
Support: Cheryl Lane  
Motion carried.

D. Recreation Plan – Review Copies

The clerk presented each board member with copies of the Recreation Plan as approved by Planning Commission resolution, and requested that they review it for changes, as it will be on next month's agenda for amendments and approval.

## IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 7:37 pm

Comment was received from: Terry Lane on (1) the dumpsters - being overfilled, moving them into the parking area (2) Alger Delta installing new LED streetlights; and Mat Watkeys on if there was a completion date for the Sand River bridge maintenance (*the supervisor said he had requested one from MDOT*).

Closed: 7:50 pm.

## X. BOARD CONCERNS

Connie – Asked if the township hall generator had been hooked up to propane yet (the supervisor asked Terry Lane to try contacting another company to do this).

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 pm.

Motion: Catherine Kimar  
Support: Cheryl Lane  
Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Onota Township Clerk  
Proposed: 6/3/19  
Approved: 7/1/19