

ONOTA TOWNSHIP BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 2, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

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

Connie Lacko, Trustee
Brian Bresette, Trustee

II. AGENDA

A motion was made to adopt the agenda as presented.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Cheryl Lane
Motion carried.

III. MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes (10-26-20) as presented. The supervisor requested a roll call vote.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Catherine Kimar
Motion carried.

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

Nays: Terry Pihlainen

IV. REPORTS

A. Financial Report

The treasurer presented the bills for payment.

A motion was made to pay the monthly bills as presented:

- » \$8,410.71 for the general fund, checks #4867-86;
- » \$2,443.00 for the fire fund, checks #1984-92; and
- » \$9,097.28 for the solid waste fund, checks #1206-08.

Motion: Catherine Kimar
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.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Connie Lacko
Motion carried.

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

Gen: 630,927.19
Fire: 260,409.95
SW: 108,844.56
Tax: 3,216.70

B. Assessor Report

No report was received.

C. Zoning Administrator Report

The Zoning Administrator was present and gave a verbal report of minimal activity (a few calls).

D. Fire Department Report

There were no calls in October (*copy on file*).

E. Planning Commission Report

Trustee Bresette stated the Planning Commission felt that Bill Dunham should stay on the Planning Commission and that they hope to see the Zoning Administrator at the next meeting.

F. Supervisor Report

The supervisor reported on the following:

- * Cell tower on Onota Hill will not be online until next year due to technical difficulties.
- * Roads – Road Commission completed their scheduled work on the western stretch of the Deerton-Sand Lake Road (Sand River to Whitefish Rd).

V. CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) A letter from Sarah Kimar was read (*copy on file*).
- (2) A letter from the township attorney was read (*copy on file*).

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 7:14 pm

Comment was received from: Tina Pihlainen on the furnace replacement situation (*submitted in writing*); Dave Kimar on the township collecting partial property taxes; and Terry Lane on the unsafe condition of Peter White Rd.

Closed: 7:25 pm

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Snowplow bids

One bid was received from Terry Lane.

A motion was made to accept the bid from Terry Lane at \$40/push for the 2020-21 season.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen

Support: Brian Bresette

Motion carried.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. North Country Disposal - Recycling

The clerk read a letter from North Country Disposal (NCD) regarding the end of the recycling program in Alger County due to lack of support from municipalities.

The clerk noted there was strong support within the township for recycling services. The supervisor said he would contact NCD about the potential cost of continuing a recycling program in the area.

B. Polling Location safety

As a state judge had recently blocked the enforcement of an open carry ban at polling places across the state, the clerk requested that the board consider amending its policy, under section 5.3, titled "Safety" to prohibit open carry of any type of weapon in the township hall, either entirely or at elections. She was concerned about voters feeling safe at the polls and the risk from firearms or other weapons being allowed in a local government facility (and noted that they are prohibited from all county buildings). The board took no action on this matter.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened: 7:31 pm

Comment was received from Dave Kimar that township board should work together, from Chris Kimar on

interruptions of public comment; and from Char McDonnell on the upcoming election.

Closed: 7:33 pm

X. BOARD CONCERNS

No concerns were expressed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 pm.

Motion: Brian Bresette
Support: Connie Lacko
Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Onota Township Clerk

Proposed: 11/2/20

Approved: 12/7/20