

**ONOTA TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 2, 2023

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

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

Connie Lacko, Trustee  
Brian Bresette, Trustee

**II. AGENDA**

A motion was made to accept the agenda as amended (*add "Veteran Support" under correspondence and "Certificates of Deposit" under unfinished business*).

Motion: Brian Bresette  
Support: Terry Pihlainen  
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:

- » \$15,485.29 for the general fund, checks #5809-38;
- » \$720.91 for the fire fund, checks #2168-72; and
- » \$9,210.89 for the solid waste fund, checks #1261-65.

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  
Terry Pihlainen  
Connie Lacko  
Brian Bresette  
Catherine Kimar

Gen: 749,137.52
Fire: 386,982.09
SW: 138,257.20
Tax: 26,237.49

B. Assessor Report

The assessor reported that he was working on field visits and estimated 15-20% in 2-year sales studies, which is greater than the previous year.

C. Zoning Administrator Report

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

D. Fire Department Report

The fire chief reported that there were no calls in September.

E. Planning Commission Report

Trustee Bresette reported that the Planning Commission covered a couple of chapters of the Master Plan at their last meeting. Residents from Section 5 Road / Lake Superior Point Trail attended the meeting to complain about a property being used as a possible vacation rental. He requested that the board approve the attorney cost

A motion was made that the Planning Commission contact the attorney about a multiple-user single family dwelling on Section 5 Road.

Motion: Brian Bresette  
Support: Terry Pihlainen  
Motion carried.

F. Supervisor Report

The supervisor reported on the following:

- \* Nearly 70 loads of garbage were brought to the dumpster rollofs. There were many volunteers and the Alger County Conservation District and North Country Disposal helped with tire disposal.

**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**

*none*

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Certificates of Deposit (CDs)

The treasurer reported that Range Bank looked at the township CDs, and recommended that four CDs that are maturing in April be combined into one for 11 months at 4.25%.

The supervisor asked about the other options (MI-Class program); however, board policy specifies that all investments must be FDIC insured. The treasurer will work on having either Range Bank or Incredible Bank combine them – depending on which has the better interest rate.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

*none*

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Opened: 7:19 pm

Received from: Terry Lane on the need for a new mower, the dead tree at the cemetery needing service, replacing the lights, and removing the tree on the firehall; and Mark Fisher on the importance of replacing the fire department's rescue / brush truck.

Closed: 7:20 pm

**X. BOARD CONCERNS**

Cheryl – it is important that the board work with the Fire Department to recruit/retain firefighters because the presence of the department lowers insurance rates for homeowners.

Connie – cleaning the siding or re-siding the township building. The board agreed she should obtain costs for the next meeting.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 pm.

Motion: Brian Bresette  
Support: Cheryl Lane  
Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Onota Township Clerk  
Proposed: 10-2-23  
Approved: 11-6-23