

**ONOTA TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 6, 2017**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

Members Present: Terry Pihlainen, Supervisor  
Brian Bresette, Trustee  
Catherine Kimar, Clerk

Susan Kerst, Treasurer  
Connie Lacko, Trustee

Members Absent: *none*

**II. AGENDA**

A motion was made to accept the agenda as presented.

Motion: Brian Bresette  
Support: Terry Pihlainen  
Motion carried.

**III. MINUTES**

A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion: Connie Lacko  
Support: Catherine Kimar  
Motion carried.

**IV. REPORTS**

A. Financial Report

Treasurer Kerst presented the bills for payment.

A motion was made to pay the bills as presented for payment \$6,427.74 from the general fund (checks #3593 to #3605); \$886.45 for the fire fund (checks #1677 to #1686); and \$5,046.57 for the solid waste fund (check #1136).

Motion: Catherine Kimar  
Support: Brian Bresette  
Motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the balance sheet and profit and loss statements for the general fund, fire fund, solid waste fund and tax fund as presented by Clerk Kimar for February 2017.

Motion: Brian Bresette  
Support: Terry Pihlainen  
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:  
Ayes: Terry Pihlainen  
Connie Lacko  
Brian Bresette  
Susan Kerst  
Catherine Kimar

B. Assessor Report

Clerk Kimar read the assessor's report. A copy is on file.

C. Zoning Administrator Report

The Zoning Administrator reported on various inquiries from the last month. A copy is on file.

D. Fire Department Report

Chief Kimar read the Fire Department Report. A copy is on file.

A motion was made to approve up to \$350 for the printing of updated fire number maps.

Motion: Susan Kerst  
Support: Brian Bresette  
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:  
Ayes: Terry Pihlainen  
Connie Lacko  
Brian Bresette  
Susan Kerst  
Catherine Kimar

E. Planning Commission Report

No report: no meeting was scheduled for January.

F. Supervisor Report

The supervisor reported on the following:

- \* The Alger Transit Authority needs a board member from a township.
- \* CUPPAD is hosting a Alger County rural taskforce meeting on transportation at the Alger County Road Commission this week.
- \* A landowner with sufficient holdings in the township has made anonymous inquiries into the feasibility of a commercial wind farm. The township board agreed that there was no clear benefit to township residents as a whole and it did not fit with the character of the township. The supervisor will notify the person inquiring on behalf of the landowner of this statement.

**V. CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter from local residents was received in regards to zoning. Clerk Kimar read the letter during new business. A copy is on file.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comment was opened at 7:24 pm.

Comment was received from: Terry Lane on township furnace repair & damage to the Peter White Rd mailboxes by snowmobilers; John Howko on wind farms.

Public comment was closed at 7:29 pm.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Hall renovations

The supervisor discussed the estimated cost of upgrading the township bathrooms (new vanities, mirrors, paint, flooring, countertops, handicap toilets).

A motion was made to approve up to \$5,500 to renovate the township bathrooms, waiving the bidding process for the compelling reasons of (1) a lowered cost due to wholesale prices (2) the supervisor & custodian/sexton holding builder licenses and being willing to undertake much of the work (3) the impending end of the fiscal year and need to complete the project in a timely manner (whereas the bidding process would likely extend this project into FY 2017-18).

Motion: Catherine Kimar  
Support: Brian Bresette  
Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:  
Ayes: Terry Pihlainen  
Connie Lacko  
Brian Bresette  
Susan Kerst  
Catherine Kimar

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Stamps for assessor

A motion was made to approve the purchase of \$400 of postage for the assessor.

Motion: Terry Pihlainen  
Support: Catherine Kimar  
Motion carried.

### B. Zoning Complaint

A letter from several local residents was read, requesting that the township enforce a zoning violation that was continuing despite the homeowner being aware that it was a violation.

The board agreed that the zoning administrator (ZA) and supervisor would meet with the township attorney to discuss the proper procedure for enforcement and citation, likely involving a citation letter from the ZA as well as a letter from the attorney. They will report back on this issue next month.

## IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was opened at 8:16 pm.

Public comment was received from Charlene McDonnell on zoning enforcement.

Public comment was closed at 8:17 pm.

## X. BOARD CONCERNS

Catherine Kimar – (1) Toshiba copier still jams despite the dehumidifier. Planning to call for repairs. (2)

Final budget meeting – board agreed to set for 2/13/17 at 10:00 am.

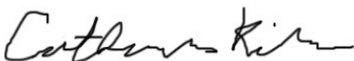
*No other concerns were expressed.*

## XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Motion: Brian Bresette  
Support: Susan Kerst  
Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Catherine Kimar  
Onota Township Clerk  
Proposed: 2/6/17  
Approved: 2/13/17