

**OTISCO TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING
MAY 15, 2018 @ 7:00 P.M.
OTISCO TOWNSHIP HALL**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor, Joseph Daller.

ROLL CALL: Joseph Daller, Supervisor; Cara Johnson, Treasurer; Lynda Sower, Clerk;
Dan Zeigler, Trustee; Ben Oatley, Trustee.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Prayer was given by Paul Reeves.

Approval of Agenda: Daller reported that we needed to add to New Business c. Millage authorization request. Johnson stated that we needed to add also to New Business D. Lawn mowing Insurance and E. Residency of Daller. Zeigler moved that we approve the amended agenda and Johnson supported. 5-0 approved

Public Comment: Sheldon Crocker commented on the brine and grading of the roads. Daller told him that usually Paul Spitzley or Bud White are the men to talk to about this matter. Gib Brown agreed with Crocker about Montcalm Rd. He also talked about the insurance for the Lawn Mowing.

Don Hopkins: From Palmer Rd. North needs gravel on Hawley Highway.

John Feuerstein: What does it cost for Brine? Sower's answer was over \$10,000 each time.

Approval of Minutes: Johnson moved that we approve the minutes and Daller supported. There was a discussion about a dollar amount on the third page should be \$10,000 and not \$7,500. 5-0 approved

Approval of Pay Roll and Bills: Johnson moved to pay the bill and Zeigler supported.
5-0 approved

Acct's Payable	\$14,821.33
Fire Fund	\$ 9,730.22
Road Fund	\$ 446.89
Payroll	<u>\$ 9,667.32</u>
<u>TOTAL</u>	\$34,665.76

Communications:

Daller reported that he had several pieces of communication this month.

Library Ribbon Cutting

Flat River Water Shed

EMS Yearly Report

Waste Management Recycling

Foreclosure property in Otisco

Reports

Township Deputy: Officer Veenstra was not available at the meeting, but he gave Johnson a report. There wasn't anything out of the ordinary in the report.

Cemetery: Laura Staats reported that she had given an article to Johnson for the newsletter. The next Cemetery meeting will be June 5, 2018.

County Commissioner: David Hodges stated that the Ionia County Road Commission is asking for 1 mill for county road repair on the August 7, 2018 ballot. Hodges also reported that the Ribbon cutting for the new addition at the County Court House is May 19, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

Planning Commission: Johnson reported that they had renewed Boreck Services Home Occupation permit.

Johnson gave an update about the actions that the planning commission would like to proceed with on the pavilion & playground equipment. They would like to get bids for the pavilion, and order playground equipment that is on sale and get free shipping now.

She wanted to know if the board would like the planning commission to look at an ordinance for Solar.

There are issues about setbacks and language needs to be changed in an ordinance that we have. Questions like when a permit is needed.

Johnson moved that the Planning Commission be in charge of getting bids for the Pavilion and Zeigler supported. 5-0 approved

Daller moved that we table the purchase of play equipment until the next meeting and Oatley supported. 5-0 approved

Daller moved that the commission work on an ordinance for solar and Oatley supported. 5-0 approved

Daller moved that the commission work on ordinance language and Johnson supported 5-0 approved

Johnson moved that we have the old equipment removed. There was discussion about what to do with the old equipment. Daller moved and Johnson supported that we put this on hold.

5-0 approved

ZBA: Zeigler reported that a variance was granted on Seeley Rd.

Unfinished Business:

Assessor's Job Description: Daller stated that he has not completed this as of yet.

Otisco Cemetery Fencing: Daller reported that there are trees and brush that needs to be removed on the west end of the cemetery before the new fence can be installed. He has a bid for that work from Affordable Tree Service from Lowell at the cost of \$3,000.

Daller moved that we hire Affordable Tree Service at the cost of \$3,000 and Johnson supported. 5-0 approved

Roadside Mowing Bids: Sower reported that there were two bids for this job.

Bear Excavation - \$4620 for the 42.15 miles of road side with a surcharge for fuel if price is over \$3.25 gal.

J. Jablonski & Sons - \$53 per mile = \$2233 for the 42.15 miles of road side.

Johnson moved and Zeigler supported that we schedule a meeting with the bidders.

Township Hall Sign: Daller did not have anything to report on this issue.

New Business:

Locks replaced at Hall: Sower stated that when she came back to work after the conference, there were lights on at the hall and someone had been in the Clerk/Treasurer office and the Clerk's computer was turned on. Maybe it is time to change the locks and keep track of keys. Johnson moved that we see about doing this on all doors and Daller supported. 5-0 approved

Polices for the township: Sower stated that she had given the board her final report for TGA, that had a list of polices that she had compiled, and she believes that board should start to think about adding and subtracting to this list. That way people will know how to handle some of the issues that are presented to the board.

Tax Allocation: Daller has the Allocation papers for the county and the next step is for the board's vote on it. Daller moved to approve the paperwork and Sower supported. 5-0 approved

Lawn Mowing Insurance: Johnson stated that the contract that was signed was for Worker's Compensation and liability Insurance on his auto insurance. David does not have Worker's Comp. because of giving the workers 1099,s. But if he does not cover the employees with workmen comp., if someone gets hurt it will fall back onto the township. The contract was signed by Dave Hodges and the company is Northwood Lawn Care. With the Insurance on the auto, if the auto is a private contract than it is exempt from doing business with it, such as hauling the mowers. Daller stated that because he is the administrator, he will work with Dave to get this into compliance.

Packet that Board Members received: Daller read letter that came with this packet. There are photos of a family gathering with Joe and his family in the township hall, which is not allowed for family functions. Daller stated that he would address the letter in parts. Daller stated that his daughter from Germany had come home with her family and they were having a difficult time getting everyone together, so his family decided to surprise Joe and come to the hall when he was working. Sower stated that it was on a Friday night, these are not his hours to work. Sower also stated that someone informed her that Daller was the one to send the text invitation out to his family. Daller denied this.

Daller read on, this was about him not residing in Otisco Township but in Wellington Estates.

The letter was signed a concerned citizen. Daller stated that it was correct and he is not living in the township. He last had a residence in the township at the end of January.

He was informed that he was no longer going to be able to stay there. He stated that as of February first he has been staying in and out of the township. He has not been able to find something to rent in this township.

Sower stated that when she talked to Daller in November he was not staying at Ellis Rd. and was going to be back in about 6 weeks. You did not go back there at that time. Daller stated that he did go back at that time. Johnson stated that this is the second time that we have gotten a letter about this. She was not happy that the office door of the Clerk/Treasurer was open at the time of the gathering. The question was ask "Why did we have to find out this way, by letter, why didn't you just come to us and talk with the board about your situation"

Oatley ask Cara and Lynda if they had anything to do with the letter. Sower answered I had nothing to do with it. Daller explained there are no rentals and he does not have the means to purchase anything at this time. Zeigler stated that we need to get Joe back into the township. Oatley stated that he trust that Joe is trying to get back to the township and he does a good job as supervisor.

Public Comment: Several members of the audience had comments about the situation at hand.

Laura Staats stated that she had pictures of the cemetery for Sower. She also wanted to know about the letters for the mailboxes at the cemetery. Laura will email Sower the letters she wants to have put there. Laura would like to see an addition on the hall before we get a pavilion.

Final Board Comments: Oatley stated that he would like to talk about lawn care. He stated that Lynda & Cara stopped Dave from mowing. Sower stated that she stopped him on a Sunday which is in the contract that he signed that there would only be mowing from Mon. – Sat. Johnson stated that she was concerned over the Insurance. Oatley stated that Joe is the Administrator of the contract and he should be the person that is in charge.

Johnson brought up the fact that we need to make some amendments to our budget.

At 8:40 p.m. Oatley moved that we adjourn that meeting and Zeigler supported.

Minutes Submitted By:

Lynda Sower – Otisco Township Clerk