

OTISCO TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2015

The Regular Board Meeting of Otisco Township was called to order by Supervisor, Paul Reeves at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a short prayer.

- Members Present:** Supervisor; Paul Reeves – Clerk; Lynda Sower
Treasurer; Janet Breimayer – Trustee; Ben Oatley
Trustee; Dan Zeigler
- Approval of Agenda:** Ben Oatley wanted Ordinance Enforcement Policy to be added to the agenda, under New Business. Jan Breimayer moved and Ben Oatley supported the Approval of Agenda with the above change. 5-0 passed
- Approval of Minutes:** Jan Breimayer moved and Dan Zeigler supported that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held Dec. 9, 2014, be approved. 5-0 passed
Ben Oatley moved and Dan Zeigler supported that the minutes of the Budget Workshop, Jan. 6, 2015 be approved. 5-0 passed
- Month Bills:** Dan Zeigler moved and Jan Breimayer supported the Approval of the monthly bills. (\$27,089.47) 5-0 passed
- Public Comment:** Desmond Pike stated that they did a good job trimming brush; did the township have to pay for this? Paul Reeves stated that we did not.
Sheriff Dale Miller attended the meeting; he stated that things looked better this year compared to last year with thief's and etc. in our township.
- Correspondence:** Lynda Sower stated a representative from Consumers Energy, Dennis McKee, gave the township some information about the replacement of electric meters for everyone in the spring. The citizens will receive notice of this at different intervals before they actually come to your residence. There are also some pamphlets at the hall that people may have with more information.

Correspondence con't:

Lynda has made arrangements for Betsy, the township's ITT person, to come to the hall so the board can ask questions and see the webpage in operation. The date is Saturday, February 7, 2015 at 9:00 A.M.

Paul informed us that he had put in our folder; a Resolution for Ranney Lake and a letter from the Ionia County Commissioners about recycling with the county plan. Paul Reeves stated that we received a letter from a citizen that wanted his letter put in the minutes; this letter was referring to Paul's section of the newsletter. Paul also stated that he didn't think it would be a good idea to do this, or our minutes could get very lengthy if we added all letters to our minutes.

Committee Reports:

Fire: We received a quarterly billing from the Fire Dept. of the calls that they responded to the last few months.

Planning Commission: Ben Oatley reported that Marc Larabel, Zoning Administrator, gave them a sample of a Public Gathering Ordinance. This is for the planning commission to look over for ideas. Ben also stated that Marc is putting in a request to change the Home Occupation Ordinance.

ZBA: Dan Zeigler stated that they had a meeting this month and elected officers for the year. Chairperson: Frank Mason, Secretary; Laura Staats and Co-Chairperson; Dan Zeigler.

Road Committee: Paul Reeves stated that we have a letter from the Road Commission about an ORV Ordinance and also, a list of roads that need attention.

County Commission: David Hodges reported the he attend his first meeting as our County Commissioner today, it was an organizational meeting, and it went well. David reported that Julie Cally is the Chairperson; Jim Banks is the Co-Chairperson; David is on the Rail-Trails committee, Audit committee, and Personal Committee.

Unfinished Business:

Fred Meijer Trail:

Paul Reeves attended the Friends of Fred Meijer River Valley Rail-Trails Planning Meeting this morning. People attended from Lowell, Belding, Greenville, DNR and Carolyn Kane. The Mid-West Michigan Trail network project: Clinton-Ionia Shiawassee is open; Grand River Valley Rail-Trail Prairie Creek to Ionia, taking bids now; Belding is on hold. Engineering overview: Greenville to Belding; Greenville is working on the grant (\$300,000); Asphalt surface from Greenville to Belding: There will be NO black top on state land between these two cities. Fundraising: Meijer Foundation requests a four to one match; Ionia Foundation, Grant submitted; Greenville Foundation, already raised \$50,000. Kris Bennett- DNR would like to meet with our township as a group.

Website-Newsletter:

Paul Reeves wanted to know if it would be beneficial to put the newsletter on the website to cut cost.

218 Agreement:

Paul Reeves has been in contact with Lawrence Tiejema, Auditor, he said these are the papers that need to be signed. We will wait until after the conference the last week in January.

Budget workshop date:

February 3, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.

New Business:

Ordinance Enforcement:

Ben Oatley presented a request from the Zoning Administrator and the Planning Commission to change the resolution of having signatures for zoning complaints. There was much discussion on the matter from the board and the public. Jan Breimayer moved and Ben Oatley supported to amend the resolution for no signature for complaints. 3-2 passed Lynda Sower and Paul Reeves were the no votes.

Board of Review:

Paul Reeves presented Fred Alberts for an alternate for the Board of Review. Jan Breimayer moved and Dan Zeigler support Fred Alberts being the alternate for this board. 5-0 passed

Tim Johnson:

Paul Reeves informed us that Marc Larabel had worked with Tim Johnson from Main Street Planning and they have talked about replacing Jan Johnson with Tim Johnson. No objection from the Board, it is done.

Public Comment:

Paul Reeves wanted to know what Sheriff Miller thought about the ORV Ordinance that the Road Commission has sent to all townships in Ionia. Sheriff Miller has looked into it and also talked to the Sheriff in Montcalm, where they already have dealt with this issue, and it sounds like things will run smoothly if Ionia puts in an Ordinance.

Joe Marhofer wanted to know where he could find out about the rules about the groups of bikers on the roads. After much discussion Sheriff Miller stated that you always want to be safe. Laura Staats wanted to know if the board knew anything about the Whites Bridge Grant. We do not.

Desmond Pike questioned why the Zoning Administrator would send something to a lawyer before letting the Planning Commission look at it and decide if they like it or not. Desmond also stated that we are getting a lawyer bill, spending township money. Paul Reeves stated that he would take note about this matter.

Adjourn:

Dan Zeigler moved and Jan Breimayer support to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Submitted by,



Lynda Sower

Otisco Township Clerk