

**OTISCO TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
May 13, 2015 @ 7:00 P.M.**

The meeting was opened with the pledge and a short prayer by Paul Reeves, Supervisor.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Reeves, Supervisor; Janet Breimayer, Treasurer;
Lynda Sower, Clerk; Ben Oatley, Trustee; Dan Zeigler, Trustee

Agenda Approval: Lynda Sower stated that the 2014-2015 Budget needed to be explained to the board. Dan Zeigler moved that we approve the agenda with this change under New Business and Jan Breimayer supported. 5-0 Passed

Approval of minutes:Jan Breimayer stated there were some things missing in the minutes. Ben Oatley moved that we approve the minutes as is, and Dan Zeigler supported. 4-1 Passed
Jan Breimayer was the only no vote.

Approval of Bills: General Fund, \$13,588.24 – Fire Fund, \$7,879.56
Road Fund, \$9,496.84 = \$30,964.64.Jan Breimayer moved to approve all bills and Dan Zeigler supported. 5-0 Passed

Public Comment: Laura Staats announced that the Smyrna Celebration put on by the Smyrna Social Club would be August 1, 2015. Button Rd. will be closed from Chase St. to Whites Bridge Rd, for tractors & car show, vendors; for crafts and farmers market.

Correspondence: Paul Reeves reported that Ionia County Recycling did not get their Grant, but will try again later for another Grant. We will continue to have recycling the 4th Sat. of each month for the residents.

Committee Report:

Fire and Mutual Aid: Paul Reeves Stated that we have received the reports from the Fire Dept. in Belding. Not much for us to go through on this.

Planning Commission: Ben Oatley reported that they had a Public Hearing at their last meeting for setbacks on R1 & R2 Properties. They discussed how the Committee gets their direction on what to work on for the township.

Cemetery Committee: Laura Staats reported that the committee met on April 29th and came up with a list of things that they would like to see done. We have gotten some pricings for these projects. Not knowing how much they have to work with, they will give us the pricing for what they have found so far.

Cleaning of markers and fixing of head stones- \$3500 for a set amount of work.

Drive way for Smyrna Cemetery, grading and crushed asphalt - \$2200.

Tree maintenance work - \$2200 to \$4300 depending on the amount of trees.

Total of all repairs - \$14,250

Laura reported that she has read through many cemetery records and found that in 1989 was when the board decided to stop letting people purchase whole lots. The residents can purchase two spaces in either cemetery and non-residents can purchase when needed two spaces.

Laura also gave a list of questions to the board. The board will have to look over the list and make decisions.

Desmond Pike wanted to know how much the township has spent recently on the cemeteries.

County Commissioner: David Hodges stated that at the meeting they talked a lot about facilities again this month. An engineer came in and told them that the old jail would not be good for useable space.

There was talk about a Panic Button be put in places at the court house and etc. to alert police if needed. The software cost would be \$1800 for three years; the Commissioners did approve the Panic Buttons.

There are some problems about the ORV Ordinance. Some people thought that they could now ride in the towns with their ORV's.

David also reported that the Sheriff would like to come out and talk to the board about more patrolling in the townships area. Crime has increased in the area and businesses are worried.

Unfinished Business:

Fred Meijer Trail: Paul Reeves reported that there will be a meeting here at the hall on May 26, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Gathering Ordinance: This Ordinance was tabled last month. Dan Zeigler moved to return the ordinance to the Planning Commission to hold a Public Hearing and proceed with this matter, Jan Breimayer supported. There were some questions from the audience. 4-1 Passed
Lynda Sower was the only no vote.

Supervisors Office Equipment: Paul Reeves reported that he had a quote for a new computer from Betsy of Addorio, in the amount of \$853.22. Paul will also need a file cabinet and phone. JanBreimayer moved that we purchase the computer and Dan Zeigler supported. 5-0 Passed

Referendum: Paul Reeves explained that as part of our 218 Agreement we need to set up a date for a Referendum, which would be ninety days from the date that we agree on a Referendum. The Referendum must be held and it has to be by secret ballot to comply with the letters that Lynda Sower received from the Social Security and the State. There was some conversation about this matter. We will come back to it later in the meeting.

New Business:

Planning Commission: Who represents the Township Board? Paul Reeves explained that it was his belief it was the Board Member that sits on the Planning Commission. There was a lengthy decision on what the Planning Commission will work on. Paul stated that the Planner that we contracted earlier in the year quit. So we will have to get another Planner. The Planning Commission gave the Township Board a list of items that they may have to look at, and wants direction from the board. Ben Oatley moved that we allow the Planning Commission to start address the issues on the list. Jan Breimayer supported. 5-0 Passed

Andy Vidro-MI Titanium Triathlon: Andy Vidro brought a plan for a triathlon that would come through our township. It would be the biking and this will be the fourth year for this event. Approximately 600 people are expected to participate. There was some discussion on the clean-up , patrolling, and traffic. There will be a turn-around on Hawley Highway. The event will take place August 23, 2015.

Board Policies Manual: Paul Reeves stated that we had information in our packet about this. Also, Lynda Sower has written sample policies for the board to look at; it is a part of her TGA training for MTA. The board will talk about this topic next month.

Zoning Ordinance: The Planning Commission had a Public Hearing last month for the set-backs for R1 and R2 Properties Ordinance, which needs to be approved by the Township Board. Ben Oatley moved that we approve the Ordinance and Jan Breimayer supported. 5-0 Passed

2014-2015 Budget: Lynda Sower reported that some figures in the budget needed to be moved around to make a balanced budget. Lynda Sower moved that we take \$10429.51 from Emergencies and put it in Misc. Expenditures. Take \$540.60 from planning Commission schooling and put into ZBA Convention. Take \$160.40 from Utilities and put into Street Lights. Totals moved \$ 11,130.51 Jan Breimayer supported. 5-0 Passed

Public comment: Laura Staats stated that she had emailed Paul and Lynda the cemetery information about the rules.

Andy Vidro stated that the books he handed out were from last years race, therefore the date is not correct. It will be on August 23, 2015.

Next Month Agenda: Planner
Cemeteries
Sheriff
Repairs to township hall
Light Pole
Cracks in parking lot
Deputy for Supervisor
Well at Richmond property

Referendum: Lynda Sower moved that we start our referendum and Jan Breimayer supported.
5-0 Passed

Adjournment: Jan Breimayer moved that we adjourn at 8:40 p.m. and Ben Oatley supported.

Minutes By



Lynda Sower – Otisco Township Clerk