

OTISCO TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

9663 Button Rd.

Belding, Michigan

September 13, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor; Paul Reeves.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A short prayer was given by County Commissioner; David Hodges

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

Agenda: Oatley moved that the Agenda be approved and Breimayer supported. 5-0 approved

Minutes: Breimayer moved that the regular board meeting of Aug. 9, 2016 be approved and Zeigler supported. 5-0 approved

Oatley moved that the special board meeting on Aug. 16, 2016 be approved and Breimayer supported. 5-0 approved

Monthly Bills: Reeves had two bills that just came in to add to the bills; \$2,800 for the architect and \$50 for the changing of the door knobs. Breimayer moved to accept the bills as presented and with the additions and Sower supported. Roll Call 5-0 approved

Payroll:	\$ 5,591.26
Accts. Payable	\$ 22,650.36
Roads	<u>\$101,139.51</u>
TOTAL	\$129,381.13

Public Comment: Joana Johnson wanted to know about the .5 mill for the deputy, which will be on the ballot. The contract with the Ionia County Sheriff ends in September and the proposal will not be voted on until November. Reeves stated that the budget ends in April, so we would like to keep the officer on duty until the budget ends, if they will renew the contract for that length of time. By then we will know about the vote on the millage.

Richard Reeves stated that he did not agree with the board's decision on the addition to the Township hall. "Governments should not be competing with businesses that we already have in Otisco Township". R. Reeves also wondered if it was legal to have such a reserve on hand, and if it shouldn't have been used for other needs of the Township. He would like the board to reconsider their decision.

Jeff Hunter requested that before the evening was over he would like an answer to this question.

"Where did all this money come from to put in a savings account and can the township legally have money in a savings account?"

Sue Ring stated that she wanted the board to realize that just because the people do not vote for the proposals on the ballot, they are not saying that don't want the deputy services or etc.; it's that they don't want the tax raise.

Cara Johnson wanted to know about a comment that was made at last months regular meeting about the bidding on the addition; people wanted to know if they would open up the bids again because things were not done properly, and there was no ad in the paper for bids.

Correspondence: Reeves noted that he had a letter from DEQ that the board might want to look at and there was a letter from a Life Ambulance about a raise in their rates.

Committee Reports:

Fire and Mutual Aid: Reeves received a call from the Sheriff about the contract that we have with them. The board members unanimously agreed to see if the contract we have now could be extended until April of 2017.

Township Deputy: Deputy Veenstra reported that he started August 10th on his job with the township. He wanted to let the residents know that his job consists of many things; traffic stops, drug related issues, accidents, checking business at night, and etc. But he feels there are a lot of other advantages to having your own deputy in the township; you can put a face to the person that will assist you when needed. It is not just some unknown coming to help you. One evening he saw a young man in the church parking lot, practicing his driving skills; so Deputy Veenstra got some cones from his trunk and was helping him learn to parallel parking. It is a way of connecting with the residents of the township.

Planning Commission: Oatley reported there was a Public Hearing for a home based business of storage for Porta Restrooms at 6396 Ostrum Rd. Belding, MI. There will be a Public Hear on October 5, 2016 at 7:00 about a private road at Ranney Lake.

ZBA: Zeigler reported that they had a meeting this month and approved August meeting minutes.

Zoning Administrator: Marc Larabel, Zoning administrator, reported about the Private Rd. There is an error in the RV Ordinance and would like the board to amend the Ordinance. Addorio is going to move the server into the storage room for safety reasons.

Cemetery Committee: The Planning Commission and Cemetery would like a survey and site plan done at Otisco Cemetery. Zeigler moved that we have a survey done for the completion of the new road and Breimayer supported. 5-0 approved

County Commission-David Hodges: D. Hodges reported that the committee had placed Robert Dutton, of Saranac on the Road Commission. Mark Jones, Jail Administrator is retiring. The following were requested; Under Sheriff Pay increase, a new Jail Administrator, a Deputy replacement. Approved construction of connecting of all buildings.

Audit Report- Larry Tiejema, PC: Mr. Tiejema thanked the board and stated that he had done the audit for Otisco Township for the past three years. He reported on the financial state of the Township, and about the budget, revenue and expenditures. Mr. Tiejema let the residents know that the Board has done a good job financially.

Unfinished Business

Tree Removal: Reeves reported the tree removal was done and he was trying to find someone to do landscaping and seeding.

Recycling: Reeves reported that he had two recycling companies that he was talking to; one from Lansing and the other from Ionia (just started in business). Sower moved that we contract with the Ionia Recycling Co. and see how it goes and Zeigler supported. 5-0 approved

Architect: The Architect had delivered the drawings of the addition to the hall. One was hanging in the hall for the public to look at.

Newsletter: Reeves presented his newsletter to the board for approval. Reeves moved that we run off 200 copies and distribute them in the local businesses for the residents to pick up and Oatley supported. 5-0 approved

Reeves had Mayor Gunderson of Belding introduce himself to the public.

New Business

RV Ordinance: Breimayer moved that the word misdemeanor be replace with civil infraction on page 2 section 4, of Otisco Township Ordinance No. 2016-0~~2~~ and Zeigler supported. 5-0 approved

Public Comment: Mayor Gunderson talked to the public about the trail. It is moving along but there is a lack of money at this time.

Jeff Hunter asks Mayor Gunderson if he knew if it was legal to have the savings like Otisco does. Mr. Gunderson stated he did not know. Jeff also wanted to know if the township would consider taking some of the money and using it to purchase a Gator for the city to use on the trail if there were emergencies that they needed to get to in a hurry.

Richard Reeves spoke again about the addition that will compete with his business.

Cara Johnson wanted to know if the two builders that bid on the addition had the sketches from the architect.

There were questions about the bidding and if it would be reopened.

Cara Johnson is not objecting to the addition, but the process in which it was handled.

Cara also wanted to know how the people that do not do business where the newsletters are and do not have a computer are supposed to get a newsletter.

Minutes Submitted By:



Lynda Sower – Otisco Township Clerk

OTISCO TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 11, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor, Paul Reeves
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited
A short prayer was given by Supervisor, Paul Reeves

Members Present: Supervisor, Paul Reeves; Treasurer, Janet Breimayer; Clerk, Lynda Sower
Trustee, Dan Zeigler

Members Absent: Trustee, Ben Oatley

Agenda: Reeves stated that we needed to add Resolution; Robert Brown under new business. Zeigler moved that we approve the agenda with the addition and Breimayer supported. 4-0 approved

Minutes: Breimayer moved that we approve the minutes as presented for the September 13, 2016 meeting and Sower supported. 4-0 approved

Monthly Bills: Zeigler wanted to know about the Life EMS Ambulance bill of \$2,823.98. Reeves stated that it was a bill for a quarter of the year. Zeigler moved that we approve the bills and Breimayer supported. 4-0 approved

Payroll:	\$ 6,079.20
Accts Payable	<u>\$17,445.17</u>
TOTAL	\$23,521.37

Public Comment: Desmond Pike wanted to know if the Life EMS bill was negotiable. There was some discussion about this matter.

Correspondence: Reeves stated that there were papers on the table for people to pick up about the recycling and what they expect. Laura Staats stated that it would be better if everyone sorted their recyclables before they bring them to the hall on the 4th Saturday of every month.

Reeves had received a letter from the Dept. of Treasury about The Assessing of the AMAR that was conducted earlier. There were a list of corrective action that was completed and the next one would be in 2020.

Committee Reports/ Minutes

Township Deputy Report: Deputy Veenstra gave a report on some of the things he has done the past month; 81 traffic stops (9 tickets), citizen contacts, responded to 24 dispatch calls. Officer Veenstra feels that his connection to the community is very important; he wants to be available for anyone that needs his assistance.

Zoning Administrator: Marc Larabel, Zoning Administrator reported that he gave out 3 zoning permits, the RV issue on Gold Lake Rd. has been resolved, Palmer and Hawley – they have until the 15th of October to finish all clean up.

Planning Commission: Marc reported that a proposal for the Ranney Lake project for a Private Rd.

Cemetery Committee: Reeves reported that Mulder & Associates would conduct a survey of Otisco Cemetery for \$750-\$1100. Breimayer moved that we contract Mulder & Associates to do the survey and Zeigler supported. 4-0 approved

Laura Staats stated that they had removed things from both cemeteries. She would like to see signs at both cemeteries on the large trash containers stating that they were to only be used for the cemetery trash.

Staats said the next cemetery meeting would be Oct. 18th at 9:00 a.m.

County Commission- David Hodges: David reported that they did the 2017 budget for the county in the amount of \$9.2 Million. He talked about grants that the county also had.

Unfinished Business

Township Hall, landscaping and seeding: Reeves reported that he had two bids for the job to the east of the hall. Greenop's Lawn & Landscaping of Rockford was granted the job at the cost of \$2,280.00. Zeigler moved that Greenop be hired to do the landscaping and seeding and Breimayer supported. 3-1 approved Sower was the only no vote.

Snowplowing Bids: There will be ads put in the Greenville Daily News and Ionia Sentinel Standard for these bids.

Builders RJ Wright or Schied Construction – Revised price after Architect Changes: Reeves suggested that we wait on this matter until Oatley could be at the meeting.

Committee over Building construction: Reeves chose Laura Staats, Dick Ostrander, and the new Supervisor. Reeves moved that the above people will oversee the building project and Zeigler supported. 4-0 approved

Contract Agreement with Planner – Greg Ransford: The Board received copies of a revised agreement with Mr. Ransford; in the agreement he will perform some extra duties and will be paid an annual amount of \$3000, whereas he was paid a retainer fee of \$200 monthly in the previous year. Reeves moved that we renew the contract with Ransford and Breimayer supported. 4-0 approved

New Business

Resolution with River Valley Rails and Trails: Robert Brown presented a slide program showing the audience with pictures of parts of the Trail, and talked about improvement that still need to be made. But it has come a long ways. Sower moved that Otisco Township adopt the Resolution showing our support of the Trails and Reeves supported. 4-0 approved

Public Comment: Howard Uiterdyk asks if the city of Belding's Mayor could give us an update on South Bridge St. Mr. Gunderson stated that it was coming along; they still need a second coat put on the road and lines put on it. Uiterdyk also stated that it looked like someone had gotten Round-Up happy in the Otisco Cemetery.

The audience was told that the November meeting would be the 15th, due to voting on the 8th.

At 8:25 p.m. Zeigler moved that the meeting be adjourned and Breimayer supported.

Minutes Submitted by:



Lynda Sower

Otisco Township Clerk