

OTISCO TOWNSHIP PRELIMINARY MEETING MINUTES
OTISCO TOWNSHIP HALL
March 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Supervisor Daller requested that Treasurer, Cara Johnson take roll call of members for the Clerk, Sower, who was absent.

Members Present: Trustee, Ben Oatley; Trustee, Dan Ziegler; Supervisor, Joseph Daller; Treasurer, Cara Johnson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Supervisor Daller asked Dave Hodges to do invocation.

Approval of Agenda: Ziegler moved to approve the agenda with support from Johnson. 4-0 approved.

Public Comment: I.) Thomas Albert, State Rep stopped in to introduce himself and give some legislative updates. He a criminal justice pack was passed focusing on tools to be successful. He said FOIA is being expanded into Executive branch.

II.) No other public comment at this time.

Approval of Minutes: I.) February 7th – Johnson moved the minutes be approved with support from Daller. 4-0 approved.

February 16th – Oatley moved the minutes be approved with support from Ziegler. 4-0 approved.

February 21st – Johnson moved the minutes be approved with support from Daller. 4-0 approved.

Approval of Payroll and Bills: Oatley asked why the Sentinel Standard bill was so high. Johnson explained it was due to a larger size ad run for the public hearings. Daller moved the bills to be paid as presented and Johnson supported. 4-0 approved.

Communications: Everyone was given a copy of the PAR Plan News. Daller was approached by Belding Chamber for the TWP to be a member. The cost for the year is \$100.00. Daller moved to become a member with support from Johnson. 4-0 approved.

Reports: I.) Township Deputy – Officer Veenstra reported an increase in call activity with the nicer weather. He stated B & E's are down with no criminal activity. He also stated he will be attending in house update officer training and also do a reading day at the Christian School for March reading month.

- II.) Cemetery Committee- There is a meeting March 21st and 9:00.
- III.) County Commissioner: Hodges reported on a DNR grant for the rail trail from Saranac to Greenville. A 2.5 Million dollar project, he is confident will be completed by 2018.
Hodges stated a hazardous household waste date will be posted in paper, scheduled in May sometime for 99 cents a pound.
He briefly discussed the court expansion in Ionia to move all courts in one facility with employee security and stated it is being paid for from the general fund.
AAWM – Aging of West Michigan has increased funds for senior meal.
Hodges said Boston TWP approved a sheriff for 34 hours a week for a of \$5400 a month.
They also had a closed meeting relating to litigation of an employee they had to let go.
- IV.) Planning Commission: Johnson reported they introduced Roger Vandermolten as the new Zoning Administrator.
The Rezoning of the 40 acres on Ellis was withdrawn.
plan consists of and would like to address criteria at next meeting.
The filing dates were changed to 15 days before a meeting for paperwork to be turned in to Zoning Administrator to make the meeting agenda.
A special use request was granted for Leslie Warner on Zahm Road.
- V.) ZBA: Ziegler stated the variance for Preston Ostrander on Ellis Road was granted.
- VI.) Zoning Administer: Marc Larabel, Zoning Administrator reported there Was a complaint of a home based business that turned out to be a hobby not a business and was dismissed.
Another complaint of possible construction regarding the address of 8901 Ranney Rd was advised he will need to complete the Zoning Compliance Permit. The permit was issued and complaint was closed.

Public Hearing: ^{7:42}Supervisor, Joseph Daller opened the 2017 -2018 Fiscal Year General Fund Revenues & Expenditures hearing at 7:42 p.m.

- I.) Joseph Daller read all cost center totals.
- II.) Joseph Daller opened up for public comment.
- III.) Laura Staats asked for all left over monies from last years budget to be rolled over as excess funds for this budget to complete projects for the cemetery. She stated she believes there are minute notes that suggested this to be done. Joseph Daller explained the board allowed \$10,000 a year for one cemetery and then \$10,000 the next year for the other cemetery and any unused funds would go back, just as all regular cost centers. Laura

stated she understood funds were to be cumulative and they tried to preserve money for large projects instead of asking board for large sum of money at one time.

- IV.) Glen Geiger asked about Tax Levy for road maintenance and brine. Daller explained the board is reviewing the county recommendations at this time. Glen stated he believed no gravel was put down last year. Daller stated Bud White said Otisco TWP usually lays 5-7 miles of gravel every year.

Joseph Daller closed Public Hearing at 8:03 P.M.

Unfinished Business:

- I.) 2017-2018 Fiscal Year General Fund Revenues & Expenditures (General Appropriations Act) - Daller read over the budget. Johnson moved to approve with support from Ziegler. 4-0 approved.
- II.) Daller read 2017 ICRC Gradall and Brine Agreements. Johnson moved to Approve with support from Daller. 4-0 approved.
- III.) The Brine agreement will stay the same price with the following applications:
1st – Application – Late may
2nd – Application – Mid July
3rd – Application – TWP Approval Early Sept
Motion to approve by Johnson with support from Ziegler. 4-0 approved.
- III.) Daller explained that due to power outage the board had to cancel the Joint Workshop with Planning Commission and ZBA that was originally scheduled on March 8th, 2017. Daller moved to have meeting re-scheduled for the 2nd proposed on March 22, 2017 at 7:00 with support from Ziegler. 4-0 approved.
- IV.) TWP Hall Generator: Due to the recent power outage and the board discussed the need for generator to keep daily operations going. The board agreed to have Johnson and Oatley look into estimates for the cost of having one installed and bring to the next meeting for discussion.
- V.) 2017 Newsletters: Johnson and her deputy are currently working on a Spring newsletter to have mailed by the end of April. Anyone wishing to have information placed in the newsletter needs to have it in writing to Johnson by April 7th, 2017.
- VI.) Personal Identification Protection: Oatley would like to see a more secure locked file cabinet for all TWP personal information. Oatley, Johnson and Sower will continue to work on space and type of structure to secure these documents in.

- VII.) Zoning Administrator: Daller questioned when Marc Larabel's last^{DP's} would Officially be. Between Larabel and Vandermolen, they decided March 15th, 2017 would be Marc Larabel's last day. Vandermolen felt confident he would be able to take over the Zoning Administrator Job and duties with what Larabel had already taught him. Johnson moved for Larabel's last tenured day to be March 15, 2017 with support from Ziegler. 4-0 approved.

New Business:

- I.) Lawn Care (Bid Opening) – Johnson read the only bid that was turned in on time, according to newspaper deadlines for the Lawn Care. The bid stated Borek Services would charge \$8500.00 for 6 months. \$300.00 for spring clean up and \$600.00 for fall clean up and storm clean up on a pre basis charge if needed. A total of \$9400.00 for 6 months. Joe Borek was present at Bid Opening. The board received his bid and scheduled interview to consider acceptance on March 20th, 2017. Ziegler stated that Dave Hodges had a bid and even though it was submitted after the out deadline guidelines, he felt that Hodges has done a good job for us for the past 5 years or so and that this day and age loyalty accepting Hodges late bid.. Johnson stated she felt that would be unfair and opening up a precedent that if the board was to accept Hodges late bid, the board would have to make that exception every time for any late bid. Daller stated Borek services turned his bid in according what the TWP board asked in the newspaper and requested a special meeting for March 20th, 2017 to interview and decide to accept on that date.
- II.) Simon Salvage Yard Renewal: Larabel, the Zoning Administrator stated he conducted inspection of salvage yard and recommends approval of renewal permit. Johnson stated the dates on the renewal were incorrect. Daller moved to approve permit with corrected dates, with support from Johnson. 4-0 approved.

Public Comment: Dave Hodges stated he has done the lawn service now of 5 years and if it was just about him being accepted for the bid would he wouldn't be so hurt, however he has 2 young college kids working for him also that depend on the income from this job. He stated Lynda Sower called while he was in Florida but didn't tell him about ad in paper and when bids were due. He said he did not get back until end of February and was catching up on his business and had a grandchild born and was busy. Hodge stated he \$40,000 in equipment that still was not paid for. He said he was not happy the boards decision and believed this was orchestrated by one person in particular.

Laura Staats requested the recycling dates and things accepted be put on website. She stated the cemetery signs were ordered. Staats stated there is a deed for the south side of the cemetery but no parcel number for the main cemetery. She also said St. Pats celebration for Macabee Hall would be rescheduled. She stated the TWP would be 180 years old next year and suggested to

think about some type of celebration. She stated she hadn't seen monthly minutes since January and would like to see them at the board meetings.

Jan Briemeyer: Stated with transparency in government she would like to see the meeting minutes, payroll and bills left out to read at every meeting.

Dan Mitchell – Stated the Belding Chamber has over 60 members now and on March 23rd are hosting a networking event at the Candlestone. He also stated Mercantile Bank will be having a large Shred day coming up the first week of May.

Proposed Meeting Dates: I.) 03/22/2017 @ 7:00 p.m. – Joint Meeting (Board, Planning and ZBA).

II.) 4/4/2017 @ 7:00 p.m. – Regular Scheduled Board Meeting

Adjournment: At 9:17 Johnson moved to adjourn and Ziegler supported. 4-0. Approved.

Cara Johnson – Otisco Township Treasurer