

**OTISCO TOWNSHIP JOINT MEETING
BOARD, PLANNING COMMISSION & ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
MARCH 22, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m.**

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

Attendance Taken:

Mike Malone – Planning Commission
Jim Tarkowski – Planning Commission
Richard Ostrander - Planning Commission
Frank Mason – Zoning Board of Appeals
Desmond Pike – Planning Commission
Ben Oatley – Board
Lynda Sower – Board
Joseph Daller – Board
Jon Beyer – Zoning Board of Appeals(alternate)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda: Oatley moved that we approve the agenda and Daller supported.

Welcome: Daller thanked everyone for coming to the second joint meeting that Otisco Township has had. He also stated that this is an effort to keep the lines of communication open. And make sure that we are all working in the same direction.

He stated that Dan and Cara are the ones that come back to the board with the committee's information.

Daller told everyone if they need any information to contact him.

Board Comments/Topics:

The Agenda was made up so each committee could ask questions and state their concerns.

Daller read the budget of wages and etc. for both committees.

He stated that we have budgeted for the committees to further their education, with added monies in the school, mileage, and meals. So you can better serve the residents of the township.

Alternates are expected to attend the meetings, to be well informed. It is not mandatory to come to meetings, but important to keep you up to speed.

Training – Daller stated that it is not mandatory to go to trainings, but is expected. If you attend training all cost will be paid for out of your committee's budget. There are some new things happening at this time. Medical Marihuana, Solar Panel Sites, and we need to prepare ourselves for the way things are moving forward. If you do go to training we would like you to share the information to the board and your committee.

He then wanted to know if there are any reoccurring issues or variances that we need to look at.

Daller thanked the Planning Commission for the work on the Recreational Plan.

He stated that the board allotted the commission \$5,000 for phase one of their plan and that is money they can spend and not have to get the boards ok on it. When you find the things you need, purchase them. If you find that you need more than what you have, then you would come to the board and they would look at the budget and see what we can do for you. When you purchase anything give the receipts to Lynda, to keep track of the purchases and expenditures.

Oatley thanked the commission for their work with the recreational plan. He knows that it is a lot of hard work and sometimes people get upset with you. Michigan Township Assoc. is holding their annual conference in April, and that is a good time to get some education.

Sower thanked the commission for taking the bull by the horn and getting the recreation plan off the ground. I appreciate all the work that you have done thus far for the Residents of our Township. It is their tax dollars that we are spending and it will be for them and their families to use. I am sure they will appreciate your efforts too. Hooray for you!

Planning Commission Comments/Topics:

Chairperson, Jim Tarkowski wanted to know if the committee could expect that each year they will be given \$5,000 for project.

Daller explained that the cemetery committee did not receive as much money as in the last few years. The board decided to ask them to go back and look over their plans for a Columbian in Smyrna Cemetery and revise it.

The answer to your question the board will probably give you money for the rec. plan but the amount will depend on what your plans are to get done and how the budget looks at that time.

Desmond Pike was asking about the play equipment for the children. There was discussion about this and the ground covering for the play equipment.

Topics for Joint Discussion:

Jim Tarkowski told the board that the committee is looking and working on something for the solar panel issue.

There was discussion about the home occupation zoning ordinance.

Desmond Pike also brought up the ordinance about if there are three houses on a private drive it would have to be paved. More discussion

Zoning Compliance Permit to put on a new roof or etc. and it will cost you \$25. More discussion.

Daller stated that Roger VanderMolen should get with the county and find out about permits from some of the matter that have been discussed.

Richard Ostrander wanted to know about budgeting for tree trimming along the country roads. Daller informed him that anyone can call the county about the need to have this done. This is something the county takes care of.

Frank Mason stated that the ZBA has to go by the ordinance that are in place, and we should really take a look at the one about not building in the front yard, in front of the home. And also about the restoration on homes and what the interpretation is on that.

The question was ask, if we would object to asking for donations for the recreation plan. Jon Beyer stated that if we have not filed to be 501C, we should really do that. Businesses are willing to donate if they can use it for tax write-offs.

Daller told the board that on April 10, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m. the regular board meeting is going to have people to address the medial marihuana pros and cons. He invited the others at this meeting to come to the hall and hear what is being said about this issue.

Joint Discussion:

Daller – any more comments or concerns that need to be talked about the rec. plan?

Beyer – what is the rec. plan doing? Daller explained that it was not a rec. plan per say, and we are not going after grants to help fund it. We are going to do something with the 2 lots that the township have at the hall.

Ostrander – Is there money budgeted to fix the hall? Are we going to get a signage in the front of the hall? Daller answered that we are trying to figure out what would be best for repairing some things at the hall – with it in the back of our minds that there still could be an addition later.

Also, we are working on a sign for in front of the hall.

Tarkowski - I thought that the board and the zoning administrator worked together more on things.

There was more discussion on some of the issues.

At 9:00 Oatley moved that we adjourn and Sower supported.

Minutes Submitted By:

Lynda Sower – Otisco Township Clerk