

OTISCO TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING (corrected)
JUNE 11, 2019 @ 7:00 P.M.
OTISCO TOWNSHIP HALL

The meeting was called to order by Joseph Daller, Supervisor
Roll Call: Joseph Daller, Supervisor; Cara Johnson, Treasurer; Dan Zeigler, Trustee
Ben Oatley, Trustee; Lynda Sower, Clerk
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Short prayer by David Hodges, County Commissioner.

Approval of Agenda: Daller added b. pavilion to the agenda under unfinished business.
Johnson moved to approve the agenda with the change and Oatley supported. 5-0 approved

Public Comment: Kristie Warner-Walls wanted to know if this was the time for her to speak.
Daller requested that she hold off until we get to New Business – M-44 Industrial Zone. Daller
than explained that Leslie, our attorney and Brian, our planner were attending the meeting to
help the board understand the M-44 Zoning problem. Daller stated that this was only going to
be for information for the public and board and no decisions would be made tonight. Christy
than stated that she would hope that the board would figure a way to rezone these homes to
residential. Paul Rider informed the board that he had lost a sale of his home because of the
zoning issue.

Approval of Minutes: May 14, 2019 – Regular board meeting – Johnson moved to approve the
minutes and Oatley supported. 4-0 approved Daller abstained due to absence to this meeting.

May, 22 2019 – Special Meeting – Daller moved to approve the minutes
and Johnson supported. 5-0 approved

Approval of Payables and Payroll: Johnson moved to approve the bills and Sower supported.
5-0 approved

Payroll	\$ 9220.26
Acct. Pay	\$20581.02
Roads	\$ 4212.60
Sheriff	<u>\$ 3363.53</u>
Total	\$28157.15

Communications: Daller received the following: Michigan comprehensive Trail Plan; MTA,
about Larry Merrill retiring after 39 years; Mercantile Bank about Credit Cards; info from
Charter; Dept of environment about Maple Row Dairy and water removal; email from Lisha
DeZelia , Daller read email later in meeting; invite to Bertha Brock Park on July 18, 2019.

Reports:

Township Deputy: Deputy Veenstra reported that there had been a couple of B&Es, an overdose, and foot chase with a resisting arrest, in May. Deputy Veenstra conducted training at Faith Community School. He was on the shooting range today.

Assessor: There is a report from Judy Lindberg in all of the boards' folders.

Cemetery Committee: Laura Staat reported that the cemeteries were cleaned well this year, not much for the committee to have to do. Limbs high in some trees that were broken during the storms need to be taken care of. Grave Stones are being cleaned with a professional cleaner; Shane McDonald has been doing this. There are still head stones that are broken, Lynda Sower will call the Company that repaired them before and ask them to fix them. Sower will ask the community workers to clean the north fence line in Otisco Cemetery.

County Commissioner: David Hodges reported on their meeting. A L4029 approval, Mercy Management group work with grants to help run depts., Masterplan for county. Request for two full time people for commission on aging. Also, two positions for Circuit Court.

Planning Commission: Johnson reported that they are working on the Blight Ordinance, dangerous buildings, zoning on M-44(Industrial), and Rec Plan.

Zoning Administrator: Roger VanderMolen had given all members of the board his report before the meeting.

At this time Daller wanted to move f. under New Business at this time. Because of Lawyers and Planners were in attendance and were waiting for this subject. Johnson moved to amend the agenda, and make the requested move of categories and Daller supported. 5-0 approved

Daller requested Johnson to give the board a rundown of what was happening. Johnson explained that a group of people that live on M44 had attended the Planning Commission Meeting last week with their concerns about their properties being zoned Industrial. Zoning was put into place in 1986 and a map of the township was looked at to see where the different Zones would be placed. On the Zoning Maps a piece of properties on M-44 was dubbed future use for Industrial. The residents in that area had no idea this was what they were buying into at the time of their purchases' of homes. Not until Paul Rider put his home on the market and had a buyer and the lender for the buyer would not loan them the money because it was zoned Industrial. Johnson stated that is it time for the Master Plan to be reviewed for the future. Maybe something could be done at this time, but we have to have Industrial property for the future. The Lawyer stated that all the homes were in place in 1986 before the zoning took place. The map on the wall shows all the zoned areas for the future, having M-44 & 91 property for Industrial. The masterplan calls for the township to have these areas for the future. The Planner stated that Zoning is a best effort to bring the communities into compliance with the laws.

At this time a short lull in the meeting took place so Brian and Leslie (planner & lawyer) could have a chance to get ready to leave. Daller thanked them for their time and stated that we will call upon them later when needed.

Daller read the email at this time from Lisha DeZelia. (this email is placed at the end of the minutes)

Daller than ask what the board thought. Oatley wanted to know if the planning commission wanted the boards input.

Daller moved that we direct the Planning Commission to treat the MasterPlan as High Priority. To work on this and try to come up with a solution for what is happening now, and Johnson supported. 5-0 approved

Unfinished Business:

Existing Building/Hall Expansion: Daller is going to get inspections and quotes on the hall roof. He will try to find out who built the hall and see what can be done with the bottom outside walls of the hall.

Pavilion: We had to pick colors for the new pavilion, so materials can be ordered.

Daller moved that we have Ivory for ceiling-Tan for sides- and Evergreen for roof, and Oatley supported. 5-0 approved

New Business:

Belding Fire Det. UTV: After a discussion among the board, Daller moved that we amend the budget and set aside \$13,700 with its own line item to be used to help the Belding Fire Dept. purchase the UTV that is need for the trails. We will hold this in this year's budget ending March 31, 2020. Johnson supported 4-1 approved The one vote was from Ben Oatley.

Board Resolutions- Assessor: This is needed for the AMAR audit for next year. The resolution was found and we now have all the things that the assessor needs for this audit. This will be placed on the agenda for next month.

Borek Services-Quote: This quote is for the removal and grinding of brush at Smyrna Cemetery. Daller stated that he was going to call for quotes from other people and meanwhile Joe Borek can submit another quote if he wants.

Industrial Development District: Daller has not received a letter from them and wanted to know if the Clerk had received one. But she has not.

Land Division App.-5237 Dumon Rd.: Johnson moved to approve the division and Zeigler supported. 5-0 approved

Parking Lot Lighting- Ensign Electrical Quotes: Johnson moved that we hire Ensign to install replacement LED fixture for the parking lot, at the cost of \$535, and Daller supported 5-0 approved

Playground addition: add-A-Bay swing: Johnson had a quote from Midstates Recreation for the addition of 2 baby swings. This was for information only. Johnson received a note in the mailbox about loving our playground but would like to see a baby swing for young mothers. She also thanked us for giving the little ones a place to play.

Smyrna Flag: Karlene Johnson had called the hall to ask if we knew what had happened to the Flag that is in the center of Smyrna. No one knew about it, but Daller wanted to know if the board would like him to purchase new rope and flag and get this done. It was unanimous – to do so. Thanks JOE !

Extended Comment: Jeff Hunter wanted to be sure on the amount that the board had approved for the Belding Fire Dept. UTV. He also wanted to know why we just can't forget about Zoning. Attorney Leslie stated to him that the Township would run a risk of being sued. Hunter also wanted to know about the people that Joe mentioned he was going to ask for quotes. Jeff stated that if one of them were Sniders Roofing, they have had their license suspended.

Pat Robinson stated that they got some good information last week at the meeting. Except for the spot zoning. He has talked to other areas that have zoning and they do spot zoning. Most of the industrial has gone west of Belding, why do they need this property. Zoning is limiting the home owners on what they can do with their property they can't look to the future and see what they can do.

Kristie Warner-Walls stated that she could not figure out how they had come up with the industrial property in that area. Warner Trucking started in 1955 before zoning, so how come they were not put in the Industrial area? Seems like it would have been from there to Premium Truck & Auto, that would make more sense. She also stated that she can see why lenders are not loaning money on these properties. It is about time the lenders did their jobs and looked out for the people, making sure it is a good investment for them.

Paul Rider asks if there could be a rezoning done for the people that own and live in this area. He is the one that is trying to sell his home. He wondered if there was a way for both parties to be in that area and not and either one of them.

Richard Lipp stated that he cannot even build a garage on his home because of the zoning.

Laura Staat wanted to know how the update for the zoning book was coming.

Board Comments: Daller, Johnson and Sower thanked the people for coming and wanted them to know that we don't have and quick solutions but to be aware that it would be worked on.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Minutes Submitted By: Lynda Sower – Otisco Township Clerk