

Otsego Lake Township Board Minutes

OTSEGO LAKE TOWNSHIP BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

July 20, 2023

The Otsego Lake Township meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7PM by Supervisor Matelski. There were 13 guests.

Roll call of Board Members: Present D Pallarito; J Bergel; M Brown; D Matelski

Absent: J Brown

Supervisor Update: Dave Matelski; Otsego County Road Commission is still brining roads; the approved roads in Arbutus Highlands will not get done until spring, the cost will stay the same as our contract; There were 6 trash complaints; MDOT will be doing a survey of the Kelly St property, there have been a lot of complaints on parking along 27 and the Iron Belle Trail; The environmental study has been done on the Waters Garage property, all looks fairly good, the appraisal came back at \$336,000.00.

Also present: Fire Chief Dale Tucker, Parliamentarian Randy Stults and Constable Mike Coutant

Conflicts of Interest: None

Additions to Agenda: ORV Ordinance

NEMCOG Executive Director Doug Baum: Gave presentation of what NEMCOG has to offer to the township, including grant writing services. Currently they have 12 employees. Membership fee is based on population. Provided packet with all information on NEMCOG services. Denise Pallarito would like to have Mr. Baum provide the township with the cost of membership for our township. And have it on next month's agenda.

Undersheriff Matt Muladore: At the meeting to address the issues with cars parked on 27 and what can be done on people using the MDOT property at Kelly Street. He said to have people call the non-emergency number if any issues. Jason Clement has been working on the parking issues. Kirk Harrier from the Road Commission is involved in the signs and said a traffic control study needs to be done by MSP. GIS mapping needs to be updated. The Sheriff is on-board working on these hazard issues. Jason Clement said that Andy at MDOT is trying to get the signs expedited and get them all up.

Meeting Minutes presented by Mary Brown for June 15, 2023, regular meeting minutes. Motion made by Denise Pallarito to accept meeting minutes as presented (With 2 spelling corrections) and Closed Meeting minutes from June 15, 2023; second by Mary Brown; All ayes: **MOTION CARRIED.**

Clerk's Report: Presented by Mary Brown: Township Bills for the period June 16, 2023, to July 20, 2023, with a total amount of \$75,703.82. Motion made by Denise Pallarito to pay the township bills for \$34,453.80 for the General Fund; \$24,353.36 for the Fire Fund and \$16,896.66 for Trash Fund, seconded by Jeff Bergel. All ayes: **MOTION CARRIED.** Bud Fox said thank you to the township for replacing the broken foundation, he is very pleased with the job that was done by Matt Belding. I emailed Bill Rhodes for an update on the slides for the park and the gravity rail, he still has no answer, and they are working towards a resolution for this issue. Mary Brown asked to allow Pat Kaiser to fill in as office assistant while

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Joan is on an extended trip. Denise Pallarito made a motion to allow Pat Kaiser to cover in Joan Elenz' absence, seconded by Jeff Bergel. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED.** An invoice from Scientific was received for \$363.00 but no PO was turned in from Chief Tucker, he still has no information on this bill. There is a free Par Plan Professional Development Day in August. If any board member is interested in attending, you need to be registered in advance. Mary is working on the workers comp audit that is due in September. There is a bill for Alpine Title for \$1,476.00 and the appraisal from Chad Hines for \$1,200.00 for purchasing Waters Garage. A motion was made by Denise Pallarito to pay both bills, second by Mary Brown. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mary Brown asked to be allowed to attend the Michigan Association of Municipal Cemeteries Conference August 16 – 18 in Traverse City. The cost for the conference is \$149.00. Since there is not enough in the budget for the cost of lodging, Mary will cover that (camping). Jeff Bergel made a motion to allow Mary Brown to attend the conference, second by Denise Pallarito. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Treasurer's Report presented by Mary Brown.

Motion made by Denise Pallarito to acknowledge the Treasurer's report for June 30, 2023 (report total for general fund to be corrected next meeting, second by Jeff Bergel. All ayes: **MOTION CARRIED**

FIRE & EMS REPORT: 29 Calls, 15 EMS, 14 Fire, 2 Missed Calls. The Fire Chief gave his report. Chief Tucker informed us that the ESO program does not do EMS reporting as was expressed to the board. There would be an additional charge of \$1,885.00 to add this to the ESO program. Mary Brown asked to have the Supervisor and Chief contact the rep at ESO and find out why and how this got missed when we purchased this program. Denise Pallarito made a motion to table this until the rep provides us with this information; second by Mary Brown. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED.** There were change orders for the new fire truck in the amount of \$622.00. Chief Tucker asked to have additional restrictions put on the no smoking signs that were made for the fire hall, add no chewing tobacco or vapor pens allowed. Denise Pallarito asked the chief the status on his moving into the township, (she has been asked by citizens) has he been looking at houses in our township? The Chief said no he has not looked at any houses.

CONSTABLE REPORT: Everything checked out with no complaints.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NEW BUSINESS: ORV Ordinance. The County MTA meeting was held, and the townships were asked to provide to the county any changes we wanted on the roads that are currently closed/opened in our township. Dave talked about the ORV restrictions on our roads, stating it is a big industry for tourism. Denise gave input from the viewpoint of a business. She would like input from Michaywe' and have public comment allowed on this issue. All board members agreed it would be good to allow opening all roads for a year and then re-evaluate. County Commissioner Jason Clement said the County is seeking input from the Townships on opening their roads. Motion made by Jeff Bergel to open all roads to ORV's, second by Mary Brown. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS: None

TRUSTEE REPORT:

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1. **Denise Pallarito:** Provided quote to purchase trail cameras from Jay's Sporting Goods; they come with cable locks and SD cards, you can purchase a plan that sends alerts when activity at any camera that starts at about \$10.00 per month, cost drops per camera and you can shut off monitoring during winter months. The total for 6 cameras would be \$622.36, this is a discounted price. Randy Stults recommended surveying the cemetery and park to decide the correct number of cameras needed and find out the capabilities (resolution) of the cameras. Undersheriff Muladore would be available to meet at the cemetery and park to advise on the best placement locations. Denise presented a cemetery expansion plan that includes phase 1. Obtain driveway permit from the Road Commission. Bid from Bisball Excavating for \$33,250.00 to select cut trees, level site. Bid for \$16,250.00 to create a new driveway on the west side of existing drive, grade and gravel included. After some discussion about the scope of the projects, Mary Brown advised there is currently \$10,000.00 for cemetery improvements in the budget, where will we get the other \$40,000.00? ARPA funds were discussed, Mary Brown said she would like to see the board come up with a few projects to present at a Public Hearing to get input from the audience. No decisions were made at this time. Denise Pallarito made a motion to allow her to obtain the driveway permit, second by Jeff Bergel. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

PLANNING COMMISSION: The Planning Commission agreed to the County Zoning Ordinance.

2. **Jeff Bergel:** The grading and seeding will be done at Memorial vault toilet. The Park Committee would like to order parking signs for \$324.00 and a map holder for the walking trail for \$28.50. Mary Brown made a motion to purchase the signs and map holder as presented, second by Jeff Bergel. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mike Coutant will order the signs and Mary Brown will order the map holder.

PARK & RECREATION COMMITTEE: A quote to purchase 3 picnic tables for the park for a total of \$3,186.55 was presented. The current park budget does not allow for this purchase at this time, we still have not paid for the incorrect slides. The request was tabled at this time.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER: Jason Clement; There is a beach advisory issued for both the state park and the county park. The County Commissioners are opposed to the HB on septic systems that would require inspections; the county is contracting with Wade Trim to look at the drain on Otsego Lake. County Commissioners are recommending having all issues on a November ballot only.

Meeting adjourn meeting at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Brown, Clerk

Regular meeting minutes approved by Township Board on August 17, 2023