

The Otsego Town Board held a regular monthly meeting on the 13th day of January 2016 at the Town Building, Fly Creek, NY at 7:00 PM.

Town Board Members Present:

Meg Kiernan	Supervisor
Thomas Hohensee	Councilperson
Carina Franck	Councilperson
Bennett Sandler	Councilperson
Joseph Potrikus	Councilperson

Also Present:

John Schallert	Highway Superintendent
Michelle Kennedy	Town Attorney
Pamela Deane	Town Clerk

Supervisor Kiernan called the regular meeting to order and asked all those present to please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Kiernan asked for discussion pertaining to the December 30th minutes as presented. There were no comments or questions.

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler, seconded by Councilperson Hohensee, to accept the minutes of December 30th, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: Supervisor Kiernan, Councilpersons Hohensee, Sandler, and Franck voted yes. Councilperson Potrikus abstained.

Supervisor Kiernan asked for discussion pertaining to the January 4th minutes as presented.

Councilperson Potrikus pointed out that the date of the meeting was stated wrong.

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Sandler, to accept the minutes of January 4th, as amended.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Kiernan summarized the content of correspondence received since the Town Board's December meeting.

Supervisor Kiernan stated that Fly Creek Historical Society President Shirlee Rathbone has asked that the Fly Creek Historical Society be allowed to place a Legends & Lore Historical Marker at the Adams Cemetery located on County Highway 26 just above Day Road.

The Board had no objections.

Supervisor Kiernan opened the floor for comments.

Planning Board member Rosemary Craig relayed for John Phillips whom was home sick, his appreciation of the Town Board appointing him to the Planning Board.

Supervisor Kiernan closed the floor for comments.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Kiernan gave a financial report. Balances are as follows in the various accounts:

General Savings: \$ 4,685.20	General Checking: \$ 389,481.28
Highway Savings: \$ 7,815.14	Hwy Checking: \$ 646,986.60
Building Reserve Fund: \$154,404.65	Hwy Equipment Fund: \$ 253,045.35

MOTION by Councilperson Potrikus, seconded by Councilperson Sandler, to accept the financial report as given.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Kiernan submitted the Ambulance and Fire Protection contracts between the Town and the Village of Cooperstown for the Boards consideration.

MOTION by Councilperson Franck, seconded by Councilperson Hohensee, authorizing Supervisor Kiernan to sign the Ambulance and Fire Protection contracts with the Village of Cooperstown.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler, seconded by Councilperson Franck, to pay the following invoices and make the necessary transfers.

GENERAL:	#1-#15	\$ 1,935.68
HWY:	#-215-#226	\$ 3,818.14

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Dog Control Officer Tom Steele reported receiving 1 call last month regarding a dog at large.

Supervisor Kiernan made the Town Board aware of a problem with town resident Jeffery Wait. Wait owns property on Otsego Lake and has applied for a building permit for a garage from Otsego County. The permit was denied from the County because they had not received any confirmation from Town Zoning Enforcement Officer Tavis Austin approving the project. Planning Board Clerk, Bill Deane found in January and February 2006 Planning Board minutes that Wait was granted permission from the Planning Board to build a new camp on the same property but because the Land Use Law does not allow for two dwellings on one parcel, Wait was instructed to demolish the existing camp before receiving a Certificate of Occupancy for the newly constructed camp. Wait never demolished the original camp as instructed. Wait representative Bill Miller, has requested that Wait be put on the Planning Board February agenda.

Supervisor Kiernan let the Board Members know that she has been approached by the Town of Hartwick Supervisor and the Village of Cooperstown Mayor to possibly hire one Zoning Enforcement Officer (ZEO) for all three municipalities. Pros and cons of sharing a ZEO were discussed among the Board. To date there has been two applications presented for consideration. It was the consensus of the Board to talk to the applicants and arrange for interviews next week.

Supervisor Kiernan learned from reading Town Law that the Chairman position for the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals is to be appointed by the Town Board. If the Town Board abstains from appointing a Chairman to the Planning Board then Planning Board Members can appoint their own.

MOTION by Councilperson Franck, seconded by Councilperson Hohensee, to appoint Greg Crowell as Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Highway Superintendent John Schallert reported consulting with an engineer about the repairs needed to the Mill Street Bridge. He feels the repairs can be done in house. Schallert further stated that he has not yet decided what roads will be proposed for the CHIP's project. More than likely he will be proposing to mill the existing upper end of Wiley Town Road from the Hartwick line to Bristol Rd. adding item four and then top with oil and stone.

Schallert let the Board know that he has had a request from Jim Giabettie owner of the B&B Ranch on Bed Bug Hill, to plow the *SEASONAL* portion of Bed Bug Hill so he can have access to his cattle that are pastured on that side. Schallert was not in favor of maintaining that portion of Bed Bug in the winter. The road is too narrow and too steep and the town does not have the equipment to keep it open.

Schallert voiced his opinion once again on the replacement of culverts under resident's driveway. No other town offers that service nor does the state or the county. It is just too costly. Town Attorney Michelle Kennedy offered to draft a law precluding the town from being responsible for replacing resident's culverts under their driveway.

Schallert reported receiving an estimate for a new chipper from Bandit Industries in Syracuse. The estimate he received included a \$1,500.00 trade in allowance for the old chipper leaving a balance of \$34,069.80 for a new chipper or \$20,000.00 to repair the old chipper. Schallert intends to try to get a few more bids.

The Board discussed the need for a water test at the new highway garage on Cemetery Road and possibly installing a water treatment system. Supervisor Kiernan also brought to light the need to have the ceiling lights in the courtroom refastened to the ceiling. Highway Superintendent Schallert volunteered to take care of problem.

Councilperson Franck spoke in favor of establishing a Safety Committee. She has spoken to NYMIR representatives who are sending her an online Safety Hand Book. She hopes the Association of Towns will have suggestions on how to set up a Safety Committee. Highway Superintendent Schallert, Highway Deputy Michael Thayer and Councilperson Hohensee all have agreed to be part of the committee. Councilperson Franck's goal is to hold their first meeting in February.

Supervisor Kiernan submitted health insurance options for highway employees. Further discussion was tabled until the February meeting.

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Potrikus, to go into Executive Session to discuss the Hummel, Trip Hill and Christian Hill litigation and potential litigation and a matter concerning attorney client privilege concerning the Glimmerglass Condominium tax certiorari.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor. (8:29PM)

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Potrikus, to come out of Executive Session.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor. (9:31PM)

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler, seconded by Councilperson Potrikus, to approve the Hummel stipulation.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Potrikus, seconded by Councilperson Franck, to approve a payment of \$2,656.63 payable to the Cooperstown School District pursuant to the Anton et al Court Order.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Kiernan let the Board know that the Court received a \$6,000.00 grant for new insulated sliding doors to be used to separate the Court Room and Meeting Room. The estimated labor and material cost they received for the doors was \$8,000.00. It was the consensus of the Board that new doors are needed but felt the initial estimate was high and will request two more estimates.

MOTION by Sandler to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Meeting ended at 9:46PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Deane/Town Clerk