

The Town of Otsego Town Board held a Regular Monthly Meeting on the 13th day of March 2019 at the Town Building, Fly Creek, NY at 7:00PM.

Town Board Members Present:

Thomas Hohensee	Deputy Supervisor
Carina Franck	Councilperson
Bennett Sandler	Councilperson
Joseph Potrikus	Councilperson

Also Present:

William Hribar Sr.	Highway Superintendent
Pamela Deane	Town Clerk

Deputy Supervisor Hohensee asked everyone to please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION by Councilperson Potrikus, seconded by Councilperson Sandler, to accept the February 13<sup>th</sup>, minutes as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Deputy Supervisor Hohensee read correspondence received since the February meeting.

Deputy Supervisor Hohensee opened the floor for comments.

Rob Bohm thanked the Town Board for appointing him to the Planning Board Alternate vacancy position however since then circumstances have changed and he has to decline the appointment. He thanked the Town Board for their time.

Carl Wenner had two suggestions. He first suggested that the Town Board give the Highway Department an incentive to save money wherever they can. Any surplus at the end of the year would go into the equipment fund. Secondly he felt time spent coming up with definitions for the Land Use Law was fruitless. It was his opinion that people will never agree and attorneys will always be able to get around any made up definition. Wenner's suggestion was to just use the dictionaries definitions.

Deputy Supervisor Hohensee closed the floor for further comments.

Deputy Supervisor Hohensee gave a financial report. The Board discussed the following balances in the various accounts:

General Savings:	\$ 4,706.14	General Checking:	\$462,401.60
Highway Savings:	\$ 7,847.36	Hwy Checking:	\$465,806.28
Building Reserve Fund:	\$176,578.72	Hwy Equipment Fund:	\$333,936.26

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler seconded by Councilperson Potrikus, to accept the financial report as presented and make the necessary transfers.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Franck, seconded by Councilperson Sandler, to pay the bills and make the necessary transfers as amended.

GENERAL:	#36-#53	\$ 5,894.18
HWY:	#8, #32-#50	\$ 23,678.71

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Dog Officer Tom Steele reported receiving 1 dog no scoop the poop complaint since last months meeting.

Planning Board Member Sharon Kroker, reported on applications currently being reviewed by the Planning Board.

Highway Superintendent Bill Hribar gave the highway report. Some issues discussed were:

- The Town of Hartwick's Town Board has mailed out a Shared Service Agreement to all neighboring towns including the Town of Otsego, which needs to be signed and sent back to the Town of Hartwick if the Town of Otsego wants to participate. This is separate from the Shared Service Agreement put out by Otsego County.
- Employee Safety Training has been ongoing.
- Highway Superintendent Bill Hribar is hopeful that he will have a title for the water truck given to the Town by the Town of Exeter, within 3 to 6 weeks.
- 2008 Truck #35 needs a new truck box. Replacement cost is \$8,278.00.
- Hribar reported receiving 2 quotes for a new fuel monitoring system. One was for \$7,520.00 and the

other \$12,800.00. He is still waiting to hear from 2 other distributors. What drives the cost up is the monitoring *Security System*. The *Security System* keeps track of the amount of fuel the Fly Creek Fire Department uses so they know how much to reimburse the Town. It was suggested that it might be more prudent to have the Fly Creek Fire Company purchase their own 1000 gal tank and pump.

- Councilperson Potrikus will meet with Hribar next week to discuss truck replacements.

The Town Board and Highway Superintendent Bill Hribar discussed at great lengths, the matching grant for a new salt shed that was previously denied. It was decided to resubmit the grant but this time point out that the Town's current salt facility could be in danger of contaminating the watershed. Councilperson Franck will invite Jordon Clements from Otsego County Soil and Water, to the April meeting to discuss reasons why the Town should reapply for the grant.

Councilperson Franck told the Town Board that there is available a mini grant for \$1,000.00 to be used for the reimbursement of a conservation expense. The Town Board was in agreement to apply for this grant as well.

Councilperson Potrikus plans on presenting a power point demonstration at the April meeting pertaining to the Heirloom Barn revisions.

Councilperson Sandler suggested digital applications for site plan review. Everyone agreed that concept should be explored.

Councilperson Franck suggested a press release before each monthly meeting listing what the Top Three Topics of the evening will be.

Deputy Supervisor Hohensee asked the Town Board how they felt about raising the permit fees. Right now the cost for most permits is \$25. After a short discussion Deputy Supervisor Hohensee and Councilperson Franck agreed to research what other Towns in the area charge and will have a recommendation for the April meeting.

Deputy Supervisor Hohensee stated that Supervisor Kiernan learned from Michael Kenneally from NY Comp Alliance, that the Town may be able to reduce the number of Town Justices from 2 to 1 by adopting a Resolution subject to a Permissive Referendum at the November Election. The County is looking into a Floater Arraignment Justice, which would mean Town Justices, would no longer need to be on call. The question of whether there was a time constraint in getting it on the ballot was also raised and will need to be addressed.

Councilperson Sandler wondered how much of a savings there would be if the Town were to make the change from two Justices to one. He asked Town Justice Kuch to draft a budget with only one Justice.

Further discussion was tabled until the hiring of a County Floater Arraignment Justice is verified and if there will be any savings to the Town.

Deputy Supervisor Hohensee stated that the Town Board that Town Assessor Richard Maxwell's term ends September 31<sup>st</sup> and he has asked to be reappointed.

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler, seconded by Councilperson Potrikus, to reappoint Richard Maxwell to the Town Assessor position termination date 9/31/25.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Deputy Supervisor Hohensee stated that Lynn Casale has applied for the Planning Board Alternate #2 vacancy.

After a short discussion it was decided to interview Casale at 6:15pm before the April 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Deputy Supervisor Hohensee read a letter from New Lisbon Town Supervisor Edward Lentz to the Otsego County Board of Representatives on the Public Works Committee. In it he proposed that the County not grant leases to cell service providers unless the providers commit to utilizing less commercially attractive towers in underserved areas. He encouraged the Town Board to send a letter to the County Public Works Committee asking them to please improve cell service to the towns. There are so many places where there is no service.

County Representative Andrew Marietta stated that the County hired Diamond Towers to manage the Counties towers. The County Public Works Committee is working toward improving cell service throughout the County. He encouraged the Town Board to send a letter supporting Lentz's suggestion to the Public Works Committee.

MOTION by Councilperson Franck to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Meeting ended at 9:26PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela Deane/Town Clerk