

The Otsego Town Board held a regular monthly meeting on the 10th day September, 2014 at the Town Building, Fly Creek, NY at 7:00 PM.

Town Board Members Present:

Anne Geddes-Atwell	Supervisor
Thomas Hohensee	Councilperson
Bennett Sandler	Councilperson
Carina Franck	Councilperson
Julie Huntsman	Councilperson

Also Present:

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

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

MOTION by Councilperson Huntsman, seconded by Councilperson Sandler, to accept the minutes of August 13th as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Geddes –Atwell read correspondence received since last meeting.

Supervisor Geddes-Atwell opened the floor for public comment.

Caroline Sever thanked the Town Board for their support in preventing NYS D.O.T from taking properties along the west side of Otsego Lake. Sever also expressed gratitude to County Representative Rick Hulse, Senator Seward and several residents for their support and involvement. As a result three properties which were scheduled to be torn down located on St. Hwy 80 along Otsego Lake, have been put on hold. She asked that the Town Board continue to stay vigilant in supporting residents targeted by the State's take over by requesting the State to submit proof of ownership of these properties. She believes that this issue is far from over.

Betty Van Huesen informed the Town Board that seventy signatures have been added to the sixty signatures already listed on the open letter that was submitted last month. She learned that part of the scenic-by-way on St. Hwy. 20 includes a 30 mile radius which includes St. Hwy. 80 along the west side of Otsego Lake. She further learned that there is funding for the scenic-by-way and one of the contributors is the Clark Foundation. Van Huesen also felt that this incident is far from over and asked the Town Board for continued help and support.

Lee Stockwell expressed her gratitude for the Town Board's involvement. She also did not think this issue was over.

County Representative Rick Hulse questioned whether or not NYS D.O.T. actually owns the land they claim to own along St. Hwy. 80.

Town Attorney Kennedy made it clear that this is a property owner matter not a Town matter and therefore the Town can be a resource but will not be able to take legal action.

Helen Rees asked Attorney Kennedy if the Town would be able to get involved in instances where NYS D.O.T have denied residents along St. Hwy 80 to upgrade or repair their septic systems. Attorney Kennedy thought that because the water quality could be threatened the Town could file a FOIL request with the State.

Fork Shop Rd. resident Carol Krish reiterated her water problem discussed at great length at last months meeting. She could not see where the water has been redirected. Highway Superintendent John Schallert did not feel that there was any more that he could do. Schallert told Krish that highway employee and Fly Creek Fire Chief Michael Thayer plans to schedule a drill with Fly Creek Firemen and flush out her plugged drain. Schallert is hopeful that this will alleviate the flooding problem in her back yard.

John Phillips hoped the Town Board will conduct a full financial study on the saving if any, the Town would benefit from solar panels placed on Town Buildings. He felt that a project of this magnitude

should go before the residents as a referendum.

Councilman Sandler stated that the Board is looking at no cost to the Town and the Town Board is looking at conducting an energy audit to the Town Buildings.

Fly Creek resident Sheila Ross agreed with John Phillips and did not think there would be much of a savings, if any, given the buildings are not in use all that much.

Lee Stockwell was concerned about all the camps that are rented above capacity along the Otsego Lake and over taxing the septic systems. She asked the Board if they would consider addressing this issue.

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler, seconded by Councilperson Huntsman, to close the floor for Public Comment.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Geddes-Atwell gave a financial report. Balances are as follows in the various accounts:

General Savings: \$ 4,674.79	General Checking: \$ 621,604.47
Highway Savings: \$ 7,794.83	Hwy Checking: \$ 761,260.27
Building Reserve Fund: \$150,597.68	
Hwy Equipment Fund: \$ 127,927.68	

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

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler, seconded by Councilperson Huntsman, to approve the purchase of a new router, not to exceed \$160.00.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

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

GENERAL: #149-#157	\$ 16,433.10
HWY: #315-#326	\$ 17,164.71

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Dog Control Officer Tom Steele reported picking up one dog since last meeting.

Zoning Enforcement Officer Tavis Austin gave his monthly report discussing Planning Board activity, current zoning violations, and litigations. The following permits were issued since last meeting:

Zoning Permits: 2

Town Attorney Michelle Kennedy reported receiving from Harrison Hummel III's attorney a copy of a survey that Hummel had done. Hummel's survey was different from the one obtained by neighbors. Hummel has complied with the Town's Stop Work Order and there has been no new construction.

Supervisor Geddes-Atwell submitted for the Boards review two new roof estimates for the Town Building. The estimates were as follow:

Leslie Home Improvements:	\$21,500.00
Loitsch Construction Co.:	\$24,890.00

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler, seconded by Supervisor Geddes-Atwell, to approve the lowest estimate offered by Edward Leslie providing his estimate includes labor and material and work can be done no later then mid November.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Highway Superintendent John Schallert submitted his Expenditure of Highway Money and road maintenance proposal for the Town's CHIP's project.

MOTION by Supervisor Geddes-Atwell, seconded by Councilperson Sandler, authorizing pre-payment approval once paving is completed so application for reimbursement can be submitted before the deadline.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler, seconded by Councilperson Huntsman, to accept Schallert's proposal of Expenditure of Highway Money and list of roads for maintenance under the CHIP's funding.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Schallert submitted the Snow and Ice Agreement between the Town of Otsego and Otsego County.

MOTION by Councilperson Huntsman, seconded by Councilperson Sandler, to approve the Snow and Ice Agreement offered by Otsego County.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Councilperson Huntsman and Councilperson Frank mentioned that they plan to meet with members of the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals to review the Town's Land Use Law and address issues that are or maybe problematic.

The Board discussed the need for a Budget Workshop. It was decided that they would meet Monday evening, September 15th, at 6:30PM.

Supervisor Geddes-Atwell informed the Board that that the issue with the parking ticket money collected by the Town Court and allocated for the Village of Cooperstown has been sorted out. The State has agreed to correct the billing showing how the fine money is to be separated out between the Town and the Village.

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler, seconded by Councilperson Huntsman, to pay the Village of Cooperstown \$49,348.00 owed them for July parking fees.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler, seconded by Councilperson Huntsman, to pay the Village of Cooperstown \$250.00 which is the Town's portion of the cost for the distribution of organic herbicide by NYS D.O.T.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler, seconded by Councilperson Hohensee, to go into Executive Session to discuss litigations before the Town.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor. (time: 8:47PM)

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler, seconded by Supervisor Geddes-Atwell, to come out of Executive Session.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor. (time: 8:53PM)

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler to adjourn.

Meeting ended at 8:55PM.

The next regular meeting will be at the Town Building in Fly Creek on the 8th day of October, 2014 at 7:00PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Deane
Town Clerk

