

The Town of Otsego Town Board held a Regular Monthly Meeting on the 9th day of February, 2022 at 7:00PM at the Town Building in Fly Creek, NY.

Town Board Members Present:

Benjamin Bauer	Supervisor
Suzanne Olson	Councilperson
Tom Hohensee	Councilperson
Chris Kjolhede	Councilperson
Matthew Zwissler	Councilperson

Also Present:

William Hribar	Highway Superintendent
Pamela Deane	Town Clerk

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

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Olson, to adopt the minutes of January 12th, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Bauer read correspondence received since last month's meeting.

Supervisor Bauer opened the floor for comments.

Walter Dusenbery, resident of Cemetery Road, pointed out that that area is historic and one of the oldest parts of the Fly Creek hamlet. In the attempt to make the Town Highway property more attractive he was responsible for securing funds to have berms placed in the front of the property and trees planted along the front. He also was responsible for getting the building painted and, for safety reasons, a fence installed around the sand pile. His complaints and concerns were as follow:

- He was very upset with the Town Board's plan to move the sand pile and erect a salt shed between the old and new Willow Avenue.
- He questioned the stability of the site since a good portion had been filled in with rubble.
- He was extremely concerned with the appearance.
- He thought the Board should do as residents are required to do and submit a site plan.
- He strongly felt the sand and stone pile, along with the salt shed, be relocated on County Highway 26. Highway Superintendent Bill Hribar was strongly opposed to the idea because he felt it would not be efficient to have the trucks and loader at one location and the sand and salt in another.
- In closing it was agreed that Councilperson Hohensee would talk to the engineer about finding out the stability of the site and his recommendation where the salt shed should go.

Sheila Ross stated that the neighboring residents of the highway property were told that the Town Board would work with them. She reminded them that the Town Board would need to factor in the expense of either moving the fence or installing a new one. Ross went on to say the neighbors are not happy and would like the opportunity to discuss options with the Town Board.

Councilperson Hohensee stated that he along with the Town Supervisor met with Mike Stocking owner of Kukenberger Sand and Gravel, on County Highway 26, to discuss the possibility of the Town leasing or buying 3 acres of land for their sand pile, stone pile and salt shed.

Councilperson Hohensee had a number of subsequent phone conversations with Stocking who finally said "No it would not be worth his while". Stocking expressed his concern with the purpose of the town's use given possible interest he may have in development of the land at a later date. Hohensee went on to say that he felt the site needed proper landscaping and he was appalled with the leaching of salt from the existing salt shed into the soil and Oaks Creek. Supervisor Bauer acknowledged that doing nothing was not an option.

Councilperson Kjolhede agreed with Dusenbury that a site plan might be very helpful.

Otsego 2000 Artistic Director of Film Days, Peg O'Dell, explained that Otsego 2000 created Glimmerglass Film Days to showcase independent films and filmmakers for the enjoyment and

education of residents and visitors while bringing business to local restaurants, shops, Inns and B&Bs. O'Dell asked that the Town Board consider awarding Otsego 2000 ARPA Funds to make up for their losses experienced during the pandemic. An award of \$10,000.00 would help regain their momentum and help fund their tenth anniversary Film Days in November.

Councilperson Olson asked what percentage of local people took advantage of the films. Parson stated that 50% are in the Cooperstown zip code, 25% outside of the Cooperstown zip code but still within the Otsego County, and 25% outside Otsego County.

Supervisor Bauer was not ready to make a commitment. O'Dell asked the Town Board to please render a decision by mid-April.

Supervisor Bauer closed the floor for further comments.

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

General Savings:	\$ 4,705.65	General Checking:	\$516,152.22
Highway Savings:	\$ 7,866.54	Hwy Checking:	\$745,786.70
Building Reserve Fund:	\$169,215.42	Hwy Equipment Fund:	\$259,345.84
Building Reserve CD:	\$-0-	Hwy Reserve CD:	\$ -0-

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Kjolhede, to accept the financial report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Town Board reviewed all bills presented.

MOTION by Councilperson Kjolhede seconded by Councilperson Zwissler, to pay the bills and make the necessary transfers.

GENERAL:	#16-#27	\$	5,080.02
HWY:	#688-#708	\$	27,904.27

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Highway Superintendent William Hribar reported on highway concerns and work done since last month's meeting.

- Hribar is still waiting for a new computer.
- Hribar expressed an interest in ordering two portable radios and a charger which he felt would help with communication and safety between the highway employees while flagging, paving, running the tractor and other things. The Highway Department in the past has borrowed radios from the Fly Creek Fire Company. Cost to the Town \$1,592.00.
- Hribar would like to buy a new sweeper. He received 1 quote of \$71,000.00. Town Board requested more quotes.
- Was inspected by Bob Cocivi who found 1 violation which was cracked supply hose. Is currently on order with Mirabito.
- Fuel pump permit has run out. Hribar contacted Full Service Fuel Inspector Tom Yocum who will apply for a new permit with DEC. He will also remove the unused 275 gallon fuel tanks originally used for the furnaces to heat the sand building on Willow Ave. and an old 275 tank use for storing oil for trucks.

Under New Business the Town Board discussed a request from Peter and Maria Deysenroth to purchase two cemetery plots in the Adams Cemetery located on County Highway 26. While the Town Board thought the request reasonable, they wanted to do further research into the existing process and procedure of selling cemetery plots before any formal approval was made.

Dog Control Officer Tom Steele, report receiving 1 running at large dog complaint since last meeting.

Planning Board Member Rosemary Brodersen reported on applications currently being reviewed by the Planning Board.

MOTION by Supervisor Bauer, seconded by Councilperson Kjolhede to go into Executive Session to discuss a litigation issue and employee performance and compensation issue.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor. (9:17PM)

MOTION by Councilperson Kjolhede, seconded by Councilperson Olson, to come out of Executive Session.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor. (9:37PM)

MOTION by Councilperson Olson, seconded by Councilperson Hohensee, authorizing Supervisor Bauer to seek outside council regarding litigation and to advise the Town Board further.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Supervisor Bauer to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Meeting ended at 9:39PM.

Next meeting will be March 9th at 7.00PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Deane/Town Clerk