

The Town of Otsego Town Board held a Regular Monthly Meeting on the 14th day of April 2022 at 7:00PM at the Town Building in Fly Creek, NY.

Town Board Members Present:

Benjamin Bauer	Supervisor
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 Kjolhede, seconded by Councilperson Hohensee, to accept the minutes of March 9<sup>th</sup> as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Kjolhede, to accept the minutes of April 4<sup>th</sup> as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: Supervisor Bauer, Councilpersons Zwissler and Hohensee vote yes. Councilperson Kjolhede abstained.

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

Supervisor Bauer opened the floor for comments.

Walter Dusenbery submitted photos showing water backing up onto his lawn from improper drainage at the Town Highway site located on Willow Ave. He believed the cause was from all sorts of debris such as old metal, broken cement, dead trees, and dirt obstructing the water flow.

Sheila Ross echoed Dusenbery's concerns. Her feeling was the water problem was also being caused by the addition of the new Willow Ave. In closing she asked that the Town Board abandon the newly built Willow Ave. and keep the current Willow Ave. open.

Cathy Bissell also a resident of Cemetery Rd., complained of dust and salt constantly blowing in her house. There was a time when she enjoyed sitting on her porch but no more.

Tony Croker of 150 Cook Rd. complimented the Highway crew for the work they do but then commented that they are plowing up the road. It has gone from a paved road to gravel. He would like it if there was a 5-year Road Maintenance schedule that residents could refer to.

Jeff Umbach, who resides on Willow Ave., stated that the plows have damaged his lawn and he would like that fixed. He pointed out that none of the residents on Willow Ave. are in favor of Willow Ave. being moved and he asked that it be dropped, and the current road be left as it is.

John Schallert listed several complaints concerning the conditions of the town roads, culverts, drainage, and bridges.

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: \$ 4,721.43	General Checking: \$452,594.70
Highway Savings: \$ 7,872.83	Hwy Checking: \$705,102.78
Building Reserve Fund: \$169,237.77	Hwy Equipment Fund: \$259,387.77
Building Reserve CD: \$-0-	Hwy Reserve CD: \$ -0-

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

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Town Board reviewed all bills presented.

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

GENERAL:	#52-#62	\$	3,835.99
HWY:	#731-#757	\$	32,241.40

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Highway Superintendent William Hribar reported on highway concerns and work done since last month's meeting. Items reported were as follow:

- Hribar stated that the telephone at the highway garage does not work.
- The highway employees have completed CPR Classes with Bob Satriano at the County. They are now cleared to run chainsaws. Upcoming is the Sexual Harassment Class.
- Hribar reported having 54 tires that need to be disposed of. Cost ranges from \$10/each to \$25/each depending on size. He estimated the total cost to dispose of the 54 tires would be \$710.00. It was suggested that going forward he not wait until he has so many to dispose of. It was agreed he should get rid of all tires no longer useful.
- Boom mower has gone back.
- Four 6ft. deep holes were dug in the proposed area for the new Salt Shed and no debris was found.
- Hribar hopes to finish the newly re-routed Willow Ave. by fall.
- Councilperson Hohensee requested that Hribar correct the water basin, so water does not back up but flow, freely towards Oaks Creek.

The Town Board discussed at great length the purchase and placement of a new Salt Shed. The following was decided:

- Additional land will not be purchased.
- The Salt Shed will be built between the current and new Willow Ave. subject to Engineer approval.
- The Town Board suggested that the Sand pile stay where it is for the time being and small loads of sand brought over to the salt shed, mixed with salt and reloaded onto the trucks.
- A privacy barrier will be installed along Mr. Umbach's property.
- The next step is to talk with the engineer.

Dog Control Officer Tom Steele reported receiving 2 barking dog complaints and 1 dog bite complaint since last meeting.

Cooperstown Mayor Ellen Tillapaugh asked if the Town Board would consider moving the Town line putting three uninhabited properties located on Linden Ave. in the Village of Cooperstown. This is called Annexation of Uninhabited Territory.

The three parcels under consideration are:

- | <u>Tax Map #</u> | <u>Owner</u> |
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Mayor Tillapaugh pointed out that the Town of Otsego does not have a Police Department and although the Village of Cooperstown Police patrol the area, they have no authority to issue tickets for illegal parking or mischief activity. Another point she brought out was the Village/Town Boundary divides Linden Ave. and she thought it in the public's best interest to have a single jurisdiction of a roadway for purposes of paving, plowing, etc. At present all

parcels are tax-exempt. In closing Mayor Tillapaugh felt the proposal would reduce liability for the Town of Otsego and eliminate the need for shared service agreements and /or service contracts for Fire/Ems Services, Law Enforcement Protection and Water /Sewer Agreements.

Supervisor Bauer thanked Mayor Tillapaugh for coming and promised that the Town Board would give the proposal a lot of thought.

Supervisor Bauer stated that the Town Board needs a Town Attorney. He has approached Attorney Will Green who agreed to take the job if it was offered to him.

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Zwissler, to accept Ryan Miosek's resignation as Town and Planning Board Attorney.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Kjolhede, seconded by Councilperson Zwissler to hire Attorney Will Green to act as the Town Attorney with a salary of \$500.00/month.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Bauer reported that he attended the Demolition of Historic Building Committee Meeting on April 12<sup>th</sup> to review the Fly Creek Hotel Application for Demolition. He felt the meeting was successful. After going through the first process the Fly Creek Hotel was overwhelmingly deemed Historic. A Public Hearing was set for May 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM.

Supervisor Bauer asked the Town Board if they had any suggestions where ARPA money could be used. Everyone felt a great use would be to help After School Programs.

Supervisor Bauer expressed his desire to launch the updating of the Town's Comprehensive Plan. After a short discussion it was agreed to create a committee of a diverse mix of residents that would report back to the Town Board. Supervisor Bauer agreed to look to OCCA for suggestions on how to get the word out for volunteers.

MOTION by Supervisor Bauer, seconded by Councilperson Hohensee, to go into Executive Session to discuss an ongoing Town Litigation.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor. (9:30PM)

Before leaving Otsego County Representative Andrew Marietta strongly suggested to the Town Board that they might talk to the IDA (Industrial Development Agency), also known as Otsego Now, about what benefits the Town may lose out on if they were to relinquish those properties to the Village of Cooperstown.

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

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor. (9:36PM)

MOTION by Supervisor Bauer to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Meeting ended at 9:39PM.

Next meeting will be May 11th at 7:00PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela Deane/Town Clerk