

The Town of Otsego Town Board held a Regular Monthly Meeting on the 8th day of December 2021 at 7:00PM at the Town Building in Fly Creek, NY.

Town Board Members Present:

Meg Kiernan	Supervisor
Tom Hohensee	Councilperson
Carina Franck	Councilperson
Suzanne Olson	Councilperson
Matthew Zwissler	Councilperson

Also Present:

Bill Hribar	Highway Superintendent
Pamela Deane	Town Clerk

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

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Franck, to accept the minutes of November 10th as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor

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

Supervisor Kiernan opened the floor for comments.

Benjamin Baurer thanked Supervisor Kiernan and Councilperson Franck for their great years of service on the Town Board and hoped they will stay involved.

Councilperson Franck stated that she will leave a summary of the unfinished projects for the Town Board to consider in the upcoming year.

Supervisor Kiernan closed the floor for further comments.

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

General Savings:	\$ 4,720.06	General Checking:	\$370,147.12
Highway Savings:	\$ 7,865.57	Hwy Checking:	\$253,588.07
Building Reserve Fund:	\$169,186.68	Hwy Equipment Fund	\$259,301.79

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

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

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

General:	#138-#149	\$ 1,648.06
Hwy:	#623-#642	\$ 46,574.96

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Zoning Enforcement Officer Jess Lanza's monthly report was read by Supervisor Kiernan. Permits issued since last meeting were as follow:

Zoning Permits: 5 Subdivisions: 1 Site Plan: 2 ZBA: 1

MOTION by Supervisor Kiernan, seconded by Councilperson Franck, to appoint Wylie Phillips to the ZEO up-coming vacancy effective immediately.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Superintendent of Highway Bill Hribar reported:

- The State has requested more speed limit signs on Jones Rd. Presently there is 1 – 45mph sign. He plans on placing 5 more.
- People are traveling over Seasonal Rd. which have been closed since November 1st. The roads are now full of ruts. Hribar plans on dumping piles of dirt at the ends of all Seasonal Roads as an attempt to keep the traffic off these roads.
- Hribar is having trouble finding tire chains.

- Hribar stated that he needs a new computer for the hwy department. The one he has is very old and not working properly.
- Land owners of 161 Panther Mt. Rd. have notified him that they plan on being full time residents in 2022. He will have to open that section of the road up and put in a turnaround next year.

The Town Board and Hribar had a short discussion on whether or not it made sense for the town to lease or purchase land on Co. Hwy. 26 to put the new Salt Shed , sand pile and stone pile. Hribar was not in favor of moving the salt shed, sand pile and stone pile. He felt in more convenient keeping them all together with the highway buildings, equipment and fuel.

Hribar informed the Town Board that he needed two Resolutions stating that the Town Board has put Willow Ave. and a portion of Panther Mt. on the Town Road inventory.

Supervisor Kiernan agreed to present the Resolutions for the Boards consideration at the Year-End meeting December 22nd.

Supervisor Kiernan reported that NYSEG will be installing the LED lights at the Town Building and old Hwy Garage in the upcoming January or February.

Councilperson Hohensee agreed to inquire about the Salt Shed Grant and whether or not the Town will be award the Grant. It was decided by the Town Board to purchase a new Salt Shed whether or not the Town is awarded the Grant using funds saved. Placement of the new Salt Shed still needs to be decided.

Councilperson Hohensee stated that he will see if any of the Highway Employees mandatory training for Right to Know, Sexual Harassment, and Workplace Violence need to be updated.

Supervisor Kiernan met with the Towns Health Insurance Agent. The Health Insurance will be going up between 7% and 9%. The Agent suggested that the Town choose a low premium and then bank the deductible for each highway employee. This would equal approximately \$7,000.00. The agent said that usually 60% gets spent leaving 40% banked. The Town Board agreed with the Agents proposal.

Supervisor Kiernan reported talking with Bud Lippitt about the Summer Program. He has been getting a grant through the Scribner Foundation. The Foundation will definitely support the Summer Program one more year but there is no guarantee after that. The Foundation suggested that the Town start slowly adding more money to the Town Budget for the Program.

The Town Board discussed whether or not to opt out allowing cannabis retail dispensaries and on-site consumption sites authorized under Cannabis Law Article 4. A decision deadline is December 31st. Once they opt in they will not be able to reverse their decision and opt back out. But if they opt out they can at a later date opt in.

It was decided to hold a Public Hearing on the subject for December 22nd at 7:00pm. Followed by their Year-End meeting.

Councilperson Franck suggested that a committee be formed to track how well neighboring Towns that have opted in, do.

Supervisor Kiernan presented the Susquehanna SPCA contract for the Town Boards consideration.

MOTION by Councilperson Franck, seconded by Councilperson Olson, authorizing the Town Supervisor to sing the proposed Susquehanna SPCA contract.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

With one more meeting left Councilperson Hohensee and Town Clerk Pam Deane expressed their heart felt thanks to Supervisor Meg Kiernan and Councilperson Carina Franck for their years of hard work and dedication on the Town Board. In return Councilperson Franck expressed her appreciation for the job the Town Board and Town Clerk have done over the years.

MOTION by Councilperson Franck to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Meeting ended Bitter Sweet at 8:27PM.

Next meeting will be December 22nd at 7.00PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Deane/Town Clerk