OTSEGO LAKE TOWNSHIP BOARD

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

November 14, 2024

The Otsego Lake Township meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7PM by Supervisor Wagar. There were 9 guests.

Also present: Fire Chief Jeff Schermerhorn & Constable Mike Coutant.

Roll call of Board Members Present: T Wagar: J Bergel; M Brown; D Pallarito; J Brown

Board Members Absent:

Conflicts of Interest: None

Additions to Agenda: NEMCOG Invoice and Planning minutes clarification

Approval of Agenda: Mary Brown made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Jerry Brown. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Brief Public Comment on agenda items: None

County Commissioner Jason Clement: Absent

Supervisor's Report: Tom gave an update on the cemetery, the seeding and topsoil are almost done, and it looks very good, the project will be done soon. JR will come back in the spring to touch up any seed that washed out. Dave Matelski will be back as Supervisor on November 21st as he won the election. Tom stated he enjoyed being back on the township board even for the short time serving our constituents. He encourages the Supervisor to be involved in making sure all township properties are maintained, there are signs at township entrances that need to be painted, siding on the fire hall missing, the FD North building should be painted to match fire hall, etc. Tom also suggested we piece meal the maintenance contract on what we want done, it would probably save a substantial amount of money. Tom recommended that the garbage cans be put back in the parks as people expect to have them when they go to a park! The Road Commission will be meeting for the annual meetings with townships in January or February, looking to partner on roads. They will be following the phaser ratings that are in place. The township needs to budget enough for those projects.

Meeting Minutes Presented by Mary Brown for October 17, 2024, regular meeting and October 31, 2024 special meeting minutes. A motion was made by Denise Pallarito to accept the meeting minutes as presented for the October 17 and October 31 meetings: second by Jeff Bergel. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED. Election Update**: We had a total of 2079 voters, that included 500 early voters, 935 absentee voters and 644 in person voters. We have very good Election Inspectors that work our election and I really appreciated their hard work. Reminder that **MTA has New Officials training** on January 15th, let me know if you want to attend. **REMINDER**: Any purchases made with the township credit card require the receipt to be turned in immediately. If you change your banking information for **direct deposit**, please fill out a new form right away and turn it in to the clerk. Board of Review appointments need to be made at December's meeting.

APPROVED

BY: Board DATE: 12-19-2024

Clerk's Report: Presented by Mary Brown: Township Bills for the period October 18, 2024, to November 15, 2024, with a total amount of $82,197.41. Motion made by Denise Pallarito to pay the township bills as presented; with total of $40,854.64 from the General Fund; $9,298.40 for the Fire Fund and $32,044.37 for Trash Fund, higher amount because we closed the Huntington Bank account to open State Savings bank account, seconded by Jeff Bergel. All ayes: **MOTION CARRIED**

Treasurer's Report presented by Jerry Brown. Motion made by Jeff Bergel to accept the Treasurer's report for October 31, 2024, second by Denise Pallarito. All ayes: **MOTION CARRIED.**

Correspondence: Otsego County Zoning letter on Public Hearing on November 18th and letter from NEMCOG for Hayes Township's master plan. Certificate of Compliance for the Treasurer to sign so I can send it back to Department of Licensing and Regulator Affairs to stop receiving payment for liquor inspections.

FIRE & EMS REPORT: 18 total calls, 10 EMS, 4 Fire, 4 Missed Calls. The Fire Chief gave his report. Chief Schermerhorn said the Trunk or Treat held on 10/31 was a huge success; the drain repair is completed; batteries are not needed for 514 as previously stated; the new roof should be done in the next couple of weeks; the fire department would like to do their annual Christmas Santa parade on December 16th and 17th. Jerry Brown made a motion to allow the fire department to do the parade; second by Mary Brown. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED**. The chief will be looking at the new fire truck soon.

Constable's Report: Mike Coutant **final Constable report**..... Everything checked out. The Township Board thanked Mike for his many years serving Otsego Lake Township, very much appreciated.

TRUSTEES REPORT:

Denise Pallarito:

PLANNING COMMISSION:

At our planning meeting we discussed the proposed Dollar General Store. In talking to several people, everyone is happy to see the store coming to Waters. The Planning members reviewed the site plans and had a presentation from the general manager and architect. It was asked if they would put a sidewalk in front of the store. NEMCOG will be working on the master plan. They will be doing a survey for public opinion to start the master plan.

NEMCOC Invoice: We received an invoice for the master plan totaling $16,100.00. The board understood the previous contract was finished when the approved money was used. So why do we have a balance due from the previous contract? Also, Mary questioned the corrections to the **Planning minutes for September 5th**, the minutes stated the supervisor cancelled the contract and Denise didn't know if the other board members had been informed. Mary also questioned why the master plan would have a safety plan with the Otsego County Emergency Director instead of just our Fire Department? After some discussion Denise Pallarito will contact NEMCOG for clarification on the invoice. Al Blackburn asked why Denise would contact them as he is contact person for Planning? It is a board action because it is an invoice to the township, Mary will be out of town so Denise will contact them. The NEMCOG invoice cannot be paid until the grant money has been received.

Jeff Bergel:

PARK & RECREATION COMMITTEE: There is no update on the trail head project. The DNR contact is still out on medical. The Park Committee would like to move forward on the lighting at the parking lot. The park equipment is not going to happen until after winter. There is a recommendation from Christine Boyak-Wohlfeil to appoint Dan Wagar as an alternate Park Committee member. Dani & Christine's terms are ending 12-31-24. Mary Brown made a motion to renew Christine and Dani's terms for three years, ending 12-31-2027; second by Jerry Brown. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED**. Mary Brown made a motion to appoint Dan Wagar as an alternate member; second by Jerry Brown. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED**.

Mary reminded all committee members to have their annual reports, meeting schedule for 2025 and budget requests to the Clerk before the December board meeting.

Supervisor Wagar brought up **pickle ball** demand at our park. This issue has been discussed in the past and it would be a nice addition to the park, about 2/3rds of the surveys returned said they wanted it. Tom Wagar made a motion to budget approximately $70,000.00 in next year's budget to put in 2 pickle ball courts near the Memorial Pavilion area, providing expenses are not outrageous: second by Jeff Bergel. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED**.
Randy Stults recommended having the next budget in place first
Al Blackburn asked if any decision can be overturned in the future.

NEW BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: Cemetery driveway and seeding is nearing completion and looks good, the Fire Department roof will be done in next couple of weeks.

Public Comment on non-agenda items:

Meeting adjourn meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Brown

Mary Brown, Clerk

Minutes approved at Board Meeting on December 19, 2024