OTSEGO LAKE TOWNSHIP BOARD

APPROVED SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

September 8, 2023

The Otsego Lake Township meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 4:30 p.m. by Supervisor Matelski.

Rollcall: Board members present: J Brown; D Matelski; M Bown; D Pallarito

Members absent: J Bergel

Also present: Parliamentarian Randy Stults & Chief Dale Tucker

Guest: 6

Conflicts of interest: None

Passenheim Road crossing: The Road Commission gave an estimate to put a protective covering on Passenheim near Dodge Lake for snowmobile crossing. It would be up to $4,000.00 total, the Road Commission agreed to pay 50% of total. A motion was made by Denise Pallarito to pay up to $2,000.00 for the protection to Passenheim; second by Mary Brown. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED**. Al Blackburn thanked the board for taking care of the snowmobile crossing to protect Passenheim.

Fire Chief's contract: Chief Tucker had comments regarding his contract as chief the expires September 30, 2023. He stated there seemed to be issues suddenly with him not living in the township, there have been no problems with him as fire chief for 10 years, his original contract never stated he had to live in the township. The housing market is the issue for him, it would be foolish to buy a house. He has been in Lewiston for three years.

Jerry Brown is concerned about Dale living outside the township and not being available; also concerned with not following budget process recently on a few occasions.

Denise Pallarito has had 3 complaints about Dale not living in the township. She feels like something else is going on but is not sure what it is. Thinks it is between Dale and the Browns!

Mary Brown stated that the fire department business meeting this past Tuesday Dale allowed his officers to almost come to blows without stepping in, he was rude to me during the meeting and acted like he was never talked to about Brittany wanting to take the EMT class. He was asked about it by Brittany and Jeff, Nikki thinks everyone by-passed Chief! There is a lack of effort to move into the township, even after telling Dave & I that you were looking at a review we had with Chief Tucker on April 11th. I have talked to numerous members of the fire department, and they all expressed concerns that their chief doesn't live in the township along with people outside of the department. There is a policy that members must be within 8 miles/8 minutes response time to be a member of the department.

Chief Tucker then proceeded to say Mary was paid to do the SOG's for the department and never did them. Mary stated she was not paid to do them! They are at the fire hall along with department policies!

A motion was made by Jerry Brown to not approve the fire chief's contract; second by Mary Brown.

Denise Pallarito made a motion to table the motion (made by J Brown), second by Dave Matelski.

Ayes; 3 (Matelski, Pallarito, M Brown), Nos; 1 (J Brown). **MOTION CARRIED**.

APPROVED
by board DATE: 9-21-23

Parliamentarian Randy Stults suggested board members do independent research with Fire Department members and community members for information.

Adjourn at 5:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Brown

Mary Brown, Clerk