

**Town of Oakland, Douglas County
Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 7 p.m.
Oakland Town Hall**

Present: Jack Byrd, Randy Polson, Dana Dolsen, Stacy Fornengo, Laurie Dolsen, and 8 Interested Citizens

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Chair Jack Byrd, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, a quorum was present, and the meeting was properly posted. Meeting minutes from the December 13, 2022, meeting were reviewed previously and no changes were made. DD motioned to approve the meeting minutes as presented, RP seconded, all were in favor via voice vote, motion carried.

Reports: Clerk Laurie Dolsen shared she has been very busy—published/posted the approved ordinance, wrapped up the November election, started working on the February primary, worked on VFD retirement, January settlement, began preparing for the Form CT, started working on W2s and submittals, prepared/submitted year end and quarterly reports, worked on Workers Compensation payroll audit, completed the tobacco report, prepped for the caucus, and worked to resolve billing issue with Coordinated Business Systems. Treasurer Stacy Fornengo shared she is working on taxes and dog licenses. Supervisor Dana Dolsen shared she has received good reports from the school bus drivers and the mail carriers for the plowed roads after the most recent storm—all are in very good condition. The Community Events Group is partnering with the Volunteer Fire Department to have the Snowshoe Races this year after being canceled due to Covid (will be held on Sunday, February 26). Supervisor Randy Polson brought up concerns for residents illegally leaving snow on the roads when they plow their driveways and mailbox area and it is posing safety concerns for the motoring public, our workers and equipment, and emergency, bus, and motor carrier drivers—this issue will need to be addressed and residents will be held responsible if damages or injuries occur. Chair Jack Byrd thanked the road crew for the long hours they have been putting in plowing the roads after recent storms and following up with additional cleanup. He also reported that the blower motor for the furnace in the town hall is on backorder but will be installed as soon as it is received. Fire Chief John Melcher was not present but sent an email sharing that in December, they had 7 medical calls, 1 mutual aid medical call, 1 structure fire, 2 mutual aid structure fires, 2 lines down calls, 1 wildland (garbage) fire, 3 lift assists, 1 motor vehicle call, and 1 CO (carbon monoxide) check. Their 2% fire dues audit was recently completed and they passed without issue but the inspector did notice the snow removal around the hall was not completed yet and stated the state statute that the fire department must have facilities capable, without delay, of receiving an alarm and dispatching fire fighters and apparatus and requested that the fire hall be plowed and doors cleaned for occupancy in order to comply with the state statute. VFD is working with the Community Events Group to hold the snowshoe races again this year on February 26 since the VFD is in need of members. John also requested assistance with resolving IT issues (internet and renewal of Microsoft Office Suite). Mouse traps are also needed as there is a resident mouse in the fire hall. A brief discussion was held about installing stairs to the area above the fire hall office (with gates to secure access) and that Greg will need new turnout gear. Road Crew foreman Brian Conley reported they have been busy plowing snow, sanding the roads, and cutting trees that have fallen over the road multiple times due to all the snowstorms we have had. County Representative Joe Moen said towns can apply for emergency assistance if needed for the recent storms, feedback is needed on the ordinance for Zoning, the Forestry Department recently signed a contract for the carbon credit program and the snowmobile trails are slowly being opened as they are able to clear the trails from downed trees due to the recent storms.

Bills: The bills were reviewed and DD motioned to pay the bills as presented; RP seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried.

Plan Commission: The PC did not meet in January as no applications were received but work continues on the municipal operating plan (Brian working on), the Steve Olson information/request is being reviewed; Mary Brill will be attending the Zoning meeting regarding campgrounds; and the Parr Road issue is being addressed—it is a platted road and items at the end of the road need to be removed.

Steamer Replacement: A new unit has been ordered and should be delivered by Friday. The invoice will be delivered to Laurie for payment asap.

Plowing Snow Across the Road: Due to the recent storms, there has been an increase in residents illegally plowing snow over the roads and it will need to be addressed. After discussion, residents will be contacted directly to be informed of the state statute and a list will be kept in case they continue to this type of action. Pics of the correct way to plow snow from driveways may be posted on our website if available. The road crew thanked the board again for the new equipment that has helped greatly with snow removal.

Beaver Contract: The beaver contract received from Dan Zukowski has been received and there are no changes from last year except the date. He provides great service to the town. DD motioned to approve the 2023 beaver contract; RP seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried.

Joint Powers Agreement: The annual Joint Powers Agreement for the 911 dispatch was received and there are no changes from last year except the date. RP motioned to approve the annual Joint Powers Agreement; DD seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried.

Set Cleanup Date: In order to reserve the dumpsters needed this spring, a date needs to be set for Cleanup Day. After looking at the calendar, Saturday, May 20, 2023, from 8-2 p.m. was set.

Public Comment: Representatives from the Amnicon/Dowling Lake District were present and shared that concerns continue on the recreational use of the lake. Dredging cannot be completed. They are also concerned about parking by the public boat landing and requested no parking signs be installed in areas posing safety concerns—signs will be ordered and installed in the spring.

The next town board meeting will be on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 7 p.m. DD motioned to adjourn; RP seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie K. Dolsen, Town Clerk