

Town of Oakland, Douglas County
Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 9, 2018, at 7 p.m.
Oakland Town Garage

Present: Warren Dolsen, Jack Byrd, Shelby Barnard, Laurie Dolsen and 7 Interested Citizens

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m.; the Pledge of Allegiance was recited; a quorum was present; and the meeting was properly posted. Meeting minutes from the December 12, 2017, regular town board meeting were reviewed previously and no changes were needed. JB motioned to accept the December 12, 2017, regular town board meeting minutes as presented; SB seconded; all were in favor; motion carried.

Reports: Clerk Laurie Dolsen reported that the Joint Powers Agreement was received from Douglas County today and will need to go on the agenda for approval at next month's meeting as it was too late to make the posting to take any action at this month's meeting. WD will sign the agreement and it will be forwarded to Douglas County as this is the standard agreement we sign with them every year. LD is busy with year-end reporting, preparing W2s, and gearing up for the Spring Primary to be held on February 20, 2018, at Country Peace Presbyterian Church—only a judgeship is on the ballot so turnout will be very light. Also, she reported that the town office colored printer is toast and will need to be replaced. Treasurer Pat Asbury was not present due to an injury recently received but she did share with LD that taxes have been coming in and the January settlement will be processed soon. Supervisors Jack Byrd and Shelby Barnard did not have anything to report. Chair Warren Dolsen did not have anything to report but he did inform LD that Erma Harty will not be available to serve as a greeter for any elections due to ongoing medical issues. No one from the fire department was present, but LD shared that the fire department said they are preparing for the annual snowshoe races to be held the weekend of February 17-18 and raffle tickets are available for purchase. In December, they had 6 medical calls, 1 CO check, and 1 mutual aid structure fire. Road crew member Brian Conley shared they have been sanding and pushing drifts back on various roads. They also put new brakes on the Mack truck. Douglas County Supervisor Dan Corbin shared that the Superior Days agenda has been set and consists of various topics such as Medicaid rates for nursing homes, raising the PILT on county forest land, local control for shoreland, changing tipping fees, etc. Other topics Dan shared were requesting money for North Country Trails, supporting energy coops, broadband issues (trying to write grants, etc.), a possible prison expansion in Douglas County and a public information meeting regarding Superior Days will be held on Monday at 12 noon in Brule.

Plan Commission: A request for a variance has been received from Bill Marsh —some of his buildings have been found to be on others lots and he is currently working out details with his neighbors. The Plan Commission has met to review the application and Bill was at the meeting and answered any questions they had. The PC recommends approval of the variance request as received. No correspondence has been received from Douglas County Zoning recently. The dog ordinance continues to be worked on. SB motioned to approve the variance request for Bill Marsh; JB seconded; all were in favor; motion carried.

Bills: The bills have been reviewed and are ready for approval. JB motioned to accept and approve the bills as presented; all were in favor; motion carried.

Clean-up Day Preparations: Spring is fast approaching and a day needs to be set for this year's spring clean-up so LD can contact Waste Management and order the garbage bins. Jack will continue to coordinate this event. The same number and size of bins will remain as what we have had in years past. Contacts will need to be made to Afterlife, Liberty (tires), and Gronks (food). JB motioned to set this year's clean-up date as Saturday, May 19, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; SB seconded; all were in favor; motion carried. JB will also check with the fire department to see if they can volunteer to assist us.

Randy Martin's Retirement: Randy turned in his retirement letter and after 27 years of service to the town and our community as an operator and a fire fighter/emergency first responder, he will be retiring effective February 9, 2018. His wife Debbie will be retiring from the fire department and as an emergency medical first responder as well. LD asked if the board planned to do anything to celebrate his service. Randy has stated he does not want anything but the board would like to recognize his service somehow. Possible options would be to take him out to breakfast, have a BBQ, hold an open house type celebration, etc. WD will talk with the fire department to see if they plan to do anything and will let others know when something has been decided.

Road Crew Training/MSHA Training: We recently received an invitation from Udeen Trucking to attend refresher MSHA training; however, our crew needs the initial training first. Dan Corbin stated the Town of Summit was also interested in sending their crew for MSHA training as well. He will contact the training firm to see if something can be set up and will check with other townships to see if they would also be interested in order to possibly keep the costs down. Our crew is definitely interested and the Board would like to see them receive the training. It was also recommended the road crew look at attending trainings put on by their operator's union to help improve their skills and maintain safety standards.

New Town Hall/Fire Storage Garage Status Update: The trusses are being set and they hope to be installing the sheeting this week; however, it is now getting cold so work may slow down until spring. SB recently contacted the WTA attorneys to discuss any possible options for the town if they need to discuss contract issues.

Public Comment: WD shared that they will be having a 50th wedding anniversary party on February 10 at the Log Cabin bar starting at 5 p.m. and invited everyone to come and help them celebrate. Their actual wedding anniversary date is January 27. Brian Conley commented that the board is doing a fine job so far. The next regular town board meeting was set for Tuesday, February 13, 2018, at 7 p.m. SB motioned to adjourn; JB seconded; all were in favor; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie K. Dolsen, Clerk