

Town of Oakland, Douglas County
Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 7 p.m.
Oakland Town Hall

Present: Jack Byrd, Randy Polson, Laurie Dolsen, Stacy Fornengo, and 7 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 were reviewed prior to the meeting. RP motioned to approve the January 11, 2022, Regular Town Board meeting minutes; JB seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried.

Reports: Clerk Laurie Dolsen reported she has been preparing for the upcoming April election, finishing up year-end reports, getting the office printer fixed, filing, completing the 2% fire dues self-certification, preparing for clean-up day with WM, working on taxes, beginning to prepare for Board of Review, etc. LD also reported that the current Panasonic printer in the town office is quite old and she was told parts for it have been discontinued so there may be a time in the future where we will need to replace it because there won't be parts available to fix it. Treasurer Stacy Fornengo reported she has been working on dog licenses and working on the tax collections. Supervisor Randy Polson reported the roads look good and are sanded. Chair Jack Byrd did not have a report—he will share his discussions with the road crew about replacing a truck later in the meeting. Fire Chief John Melcher reported they had 9 medical runs, 4 mutual aid medical runs, 3 lift assists and 1 ATV accident. Pete Warner will be starting soon as the new assistant fire chief and Ashley Gustafson has been appointed as the new secretary/treasurer. John is looking at getting a driver class scheduled and is working on the fire dues certification. The VFD retirement paperwork needs to be completed. There is also a refresher with the DNR on February 14 at our town hall. RP asked John about the status of purchasing a new equipment van and they are still looking into this. A brief discussion followed regarding the use of ARPA funds to purchase a new equipment van, get a radio in the new hall, or purchase an CBA system. There will be no snowshoe races this year due to an increase in COVID cases, lack of staff, and the need to renew the raffle license. They are possibly looking at doing a meatball dinner later in the year. JM also reported that the County has funds available for reimbursement of the purchase of Narcan. Road crew foreman Brian Conley reported they have been plowing snow, plowing drifted areas due to high winds several times, sanding the roads as needed, working on the town hall heating system, working on FEMA paperwork; working with the prisoners on the Torgerson Road, working on the truck plow, fixing the sander chute and spinner, pushing back turnarounds on the roads, installing motion sensors on bathrooms at the town hall to conserve energy, winging out the roads, delivering garbage/recycling cans, working on truck equipment bids, working on road project grants/specs, meeting with Monroe Equipment to go over bid specs, meeting with Mack trucks to go over bid specs, shoving snowdrifts back with the backhoe on Mikrot Road, winging driveways, preparing the concession stand for the Superior Ice Festival, running to town for parts, working in the shop, and changing the wing blade on the 140H. County Board Supervisor Joe Moen shared it has been quiet and that the County denied the hobby farm application/appeal (this went against the various agency reviews) because it did not have the 2/3rds vote to pass. The rural representatives were for it but the city reps were not.

Bills: RP motioned to approve to pay the bills as presented; JB seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried.

Plan Commission: They did not meet as there were no pending applications to review. Members are continuing to work on the survey data and its formatting. They are currently also waiting on direction for the Northwest Regional Planning Commission.

Dump Truck Update: Brian Conley reviewed the quotes received from Mack and Monroe. Prices to purchase are only going up and currently there is a 13-14 month timeframe to order and build a truck. The longer we wait, the more expensive it will be and the wait time will also be longer. He recommended to the Board that we put down \$1,000 to order a truck so we are at least on the list. No action was taken.

Public Comment: None.

The next town board meeting will be on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 7 p.m. RP motioned to adjourn; JB seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie K. Dolsen, Town Clerk