

**Town of Oakland, Douglas County**  
**Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, March 12, 2019, at 7 p.m.**  
**Oakland Town Garage**

Present: Warren Dolsen, Jack Byrd, Shelby Barnard, Pat Asbury, and 9 interested citizens (Laurie Dolsen was unable to attend due to vacation and Dana Dolsen volunteered to take the minutes in her place).

The meeting was called to order by Chair Warren Dolsen at 7:02 p.m.; the Pledge of Allegiance was recited; a quorum was present; and the meeting was properly posted. The meeting minutes from February 12, 2019, were reviewed previously and no changes were made. JB motioned to approve the February 12, 2019, regular board meeting minutes as presented; SB seconded; all were in favor; motion carried.

**Reports:** Clerk Laurie Dolsen was not present—will report next month. Jack reviewed the significant correspondence as follows: Douglas County Forestry invite (Brian/Greg to attend); Superior Days; Invasive Species free workshop; Rural Transportation Conference on April 16; DNR land management; free pavement seminar; Centurylink Block Grant Programs (April 1 changes); US Census Bureau; Life Saver brochure; Douglas County Zoning correspondence. Treasurer Pat Absury had no report. Supervisors Jack Byrd and Shelby Barnard had no report. Chair Warren Dolsen stated the WTA Douglas County Unit meeting is next Tuesday, March 19, at Bennett at 7 p.m.—agenda topics include inspections, block grants, Superior Days update, and ATV road routes. Fire Department—no report. Road crew foreman Brian Conley reported they have been plowing roads (winged roads back); set up for the meeting; plowed Anna Gene Park for the snowshoe races; Brian attended required MSHA training at the union's training facility; prisoners worked on brushing Jacksino Road; fixed the circle drive gear on the grader with Jack's help and parts that came from Singapore; fixed the plow carriage on the truck plow; winged back driveways; plowed at the new town hall site; pulled ice away from the new hall so they could install the windows/doors; met with the new FEMA rep about mitigation; estimated mitigation costs and submitted; shoveled snow off the sign shed; sanded and plowed forest roads. Regarding the FEMA mitigation, we are waiting to hear on Lucas Road. County Board Supervisor Joe Moen reported that on March 5, there was \$1.4 in timber sales. He also asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding septic. April 9 is the open house with loggers. There is a maintenance agreement in Land Development; he sat in on the interview process with the Youth Development; and asked if there were any concerns regarding CWD and deer farms. Insurance agent Al Schiefelbein shared they are in the preliminary stages of the fire recovery from the fire on Madeline Island (fire hall a complete loss). He highly encourages towns to snap pictures of and inventory everything—especially the fire hall contents (i.e., tools, equipment, gear, etc.) and keep an itemized list off site (include serial numbers and costs if available) in case there is ever a fire.

**Plan Commission:** No meeting was held this month so there are no action items. Stan is working on researching information on CWD ordinances. Neighbors would like to purchase a vacant lot on the back side of Dowling Lake. Discussion will be needed on how this should be handled.

**Bills:** The bills were reviewed and SB motioned to approve the bills as presented; JB seconded; all were in favor; motion carried.

**Clean-Up Day:** Shelby contacted fire chief John Melcher of the fire department and they are on board to provide assistance during clean-up day. Jack checked with After Life Electronics and they are on board to provide their services again this year. Jack is waiting to receive correspondence regarding how tire recycling/disposal will be handled (i.e., prices). Clean-up Day this year is on Saturday, May 18, 2019, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the current town garage location.

**Snow Plowing/Snow Across the Roads:** Jack stated there have been reports, complaints, and calls from citizens and school bus drivers as well as the road crew of snow being plowed across the roads by residents. This leaves snow debris and ice ridges on the road causing dangerous road conditions (not even half of a lane open in some locations). Jack delivered letters to each of the addresses where this occurred to notify residents it is illegal to do this practice when plowing snow. We have not heard back from the residents. Shelby reported that turnarounds are plowed for the school buses and for the town's road crew to use. Brian suggested reminding taxpayers of the law and of where the turnarounds are located by putting the information on colored paper and placing it in the tax bills next year.

Resident Dave Hansen asked why the end of his driveway was sanded. Brian stated the logger in the area using the access asked the road crew to sand it due to dangerously slippery conditions. Dave stated he should have been notified it was going to be sanded and it was stated that the loggers who requested the roads and driveway be sanded should have notified the residents who were impacted. Dave also asked about private driveways that are being plowed; WD asked which ones he was referring to and there was no reply. JB stated that roads are plowed first and then driveways of the road crew and members of the volunteer fire department if needed (plowing of these driveways are allowed in order to ensure prompt response to emergencies for the VFD and the ability for the road crew to respond during on-call snow events). JB also stated a member of the road crew had permission to plow their driveway as it was on the way back to his regular route after assisting another road crew member who became stuck. All roads are being plowed and sanded properly. The road crew foreman also reminded everyone that a vacant position was created by a recent retirement of an experienced operator and that position has not been filled. This has resulted in the current road crew taking on additional routes and delays road clearing time slightly but they are doing the best they can with the staff and equipment they have at the present time.

**New Town Hall/Fire Storage Garage Update:** Construction is progressing and Sandee Pease reported that some doors and windows have recently been installed. Four of the 5 overhead doors on the fire department side were installed but they are currently being held up by brackets until a welder can be brought in. Sheetrock is going up on the ceiling as well as the vapor barrier. Brian shared that Sandee is doing a great job getting everything together and keeping the job on track. Sandee stated a color scheme needs to be decided. Lois Dolsen stated that lighter colors such as ivory were discussed. Sandy Waletzko stated compensation should be given to Sandee for her time and commitment to this project—the board has indicated she will be compensated but has not discussed it yet. Sandee also said that Stack Brothers and Young Plumbing are doing a great job providing input on ways to save money. She also said that sometimes things are held up due to waiting on decisions to be made. Things are progressing nicely now.

**Public Comment:** None.

The next regular town board meeting will be Tuesday, April 9, at 7 p.m. The Town's annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 16, at 7 p.m. at Country Peace Presbyterian Church. JB motioned to adjourn; SB seconded; all were in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Dolsen on behalf of  
Laurie Dolsen, Town Clerk