

Town of Oakland, Douglas County
Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 11, 2019, at 7 p.m.
Oakland Town Garage

Present: Jack Byrd, Jens Gregerson, Laurie Dolsen, Pat Asbury, and 14 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. The meeting minutes from the May 15 regular town board meeting had been previously reviewed and no changes were made. JG motioned to accept the May 15 regular town board meeting minutes as presented; JB seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried. Clerk Laurie Dolsen reviewed the significant correspondence and reported she has been spending most of her time putting together the FEMA documents; the Form CT has been submitted to the Department of Revenue by Donn Berquist; and she has also been gathering the information as requested by the town's lawyer as part of the pending lawsuit. Treasurer Pat Asbury did not have a report. Supervisor Jens Gregerson did not have a report but did thank the road crew for all of their hard work on the roads this past spring. Supervisor Shelby Barnard was not present due to a death in the family. Chair Jack Byrd did not have a report. Fire Chief John Melcher thanked everyone for the donated food for clean-up day; two new members are finishing up Firefighter training and all eligible members have completed their entry level driver training. Due to the high level of calls from residents, the VFD is considering filling pools again as a fund raiser and have been working on putting together a contract (with board approval) to use—they have been reaching out to other townships to get more information on their processes; we received a DNR grant and that money should be received soon; John also wanted to thank those who provided monetary donations to the Fire Department on clean-up day—it is greatly appreciated. In May, they had 4 mutual aid medical calls, 1 mutual aid fire, and 1 tree down on Tri-Lakes. The town board members present thanked both members of the VFD and the road crew for the awesome job done during Clean-up day. Road Crew Foreman Brian Conley reported they have been doing a lot of grading, hauled gravel to Oakland Road, put a culvert in on the Oakland Road, cleaned up a large amount of garbage that was left by an individual on the Tri-Lakes Road, met with Paul Wells for concrete prep, cut lots of trees from the snow/wind storm event recently, put in a new culvert at the shop that failed during Clean-up Day, hauled the mattresses away, hauled scrap metal that was collected during Clean-up Day, picked up old culverts from last year, worked on FEMA paperwork 3 times, hauled the excavator and culvert to Tri-Lakes for an installation (and we also did a little ditching), brought the excavator and dozer to the new town hall, graveled McKinley and Pine Grove Roads, hauled sand to the new town hall, did bid locates for the new culverts, set up a meeting w/DNR on the Dowling Lake boat landing, fixed signs, brought the old Mack in for repairs, did site prep for the stoops and sidewalks, started sloping rear of town hall, and installed new culverts on Torgerson and Pearson Roads. County Supervisor Joe Moen shared the Forestry Department had a recent timber sale, there is a committee working on zoning for deer farms, Land and Development is looking at various fairground options, and he reported there is a huge deficit in the Health and Human Services budget they are working on (\$2 million shortfall).

Bills: Bills had been reviewed previously; LD shared we are getting dangerously low in town funds and we will need to hold onto a \$95,000 bill from Stack Bros. until the loan has been closed and funds disbursed (which should be very soon). JB motioned to pay the bills as presented and to pay the bill to Stack Bros. as soon as the funds were disbursed; JG seconded; all were in favor with a voice vote; motion carried.

Plan Commission: The PC met and discussed the Hope's request for a variance (they are building a garage and this was the only logical place to put it). After reviewing the site and meeting prior to this meeting, the PC recommends the board approve the application for a variance. After much discussion, they have opted to table discussion regarding short-term rentals around the lakes and cabins (we are not really having any problems right now and the State does require a license to operate a rental). Discussion then followed regarding the Dowling Lake Access issue and signage at all the access sites (taking a look at all the options and coming up with a plan). Dan Corbin also recommended that the PC work together with the Lake District to identify each location, determine which locations need signage, and which ones to possibly vacate, etc. Requirements from last year still pertain to Najar's dock that was placed at the public access. Finally, the PC is still working to update our garbage ordinance from 1989, including what the cost would be for extra cans, etc. Upon completion of the discussion, JG motioned to approve the Hope's Application for a Variance; JB seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried. JB then motioned that our PC should work with the Lake District to identify, sign, or recommend the town vacate the public accesses on the lake; JG seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried. The Lake District meets in July at the Civic Club.

Liquor/Beer License Renewal: Kopper Kettle has submitted their applications to renew their Class B Beer and Liquor License and also their Tobacco License. Their renewal has been published accordingly, they have met all of their qualifications, and all of the fees have been paid. JG motioned to approve both of the license renewal applications if everything was clear; JB seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried.

Town Hall/Fire Storage Garage Update: Sandee Pease shared that one entrance door would be put in next week and the other entrance door would be put in most likely the following week. They are working on cleaning up both inside and out; electrical is currently in the process of being finished; exterior stoops and sidewalks are almost done being poured; Brian Conley indicated there is a lot of landscaping work to do as well as completing a parking lot; and they are working on a change order for the handicapped pads (same price as blacktop). Missinne Greenhouse has offered to plant some trees at the new hall (donation) and we need to find a place to put up the donated playground equipment we received. JG motioned to approve the handicapped pad change order; JB seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried. Regarding the bill received from Stack Bros that we are currently holding until loan funds are disbursed, JB said he would contact Bill Stack about the bill to see if it would be a problem if we held the bill until the loan monies became available in a week or two.

Public Comment: A huge thank you was given to members of the board, the road crew, and members of the volunteer fire department for their work on clean-up day—it was another great success and the food was delicious. A thank you note will be sent to Gronks for their donation of the pulled chicken, buns and sauce for the workers.

The next regular town board meeting will be on July 9 at 7 p.m. at the town garage. JG motioned to adjourn; JB seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie K. Dolsen, Town Clerk