

**Town of Oakland, Douglas County**  
**Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, November 9, 2022, at 7 p.m.**  
**Oakland Town Hall**

Present: Jack Byrd, Randy Polson, Dana Dolsen, Stacy Fornengo, Laurie Dolsen, 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 for the October 13 Regular Town Board Meeting were reviewed previously and no changes were made. DD motioned to approve the October 13 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes as presented; RP seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried.

**Reports:** Clerk Laurie Dolsen reported that yesterday's November 8 General Election was very busy with 586 ballots cast (98 were absentee ballots). She thanked the election workers for a job well done. She has also been working on the budget documents, is gathering all the documents for the tax bills, is working on the retirement for a volunteer fire fighter, attended the visitation for the son of an election inspector (and picked up a plant), has been working on the insurance issue with Lifelink III, is preparing and processing the financing for the grader (with the bank) and the new truck (with the financing company); and has been dealing with email issues now that the service has switched over to Brightspeed from Centurylink. Treasurer Stacy Fornengo shared that tax collection time is coming up; she researched new printers from local vendors for the town office and has a quote for review (a refurbished one is about \$3,200 and is in stock for immediate delivery and a new one would cost about \$7,200 and would be a 6-8 month wait for delivery from order placement). Supervisor Dana Dolsen shared she received a thank you from the Superior School District for the Angel Fund donation of \$900 from the Community Events Group's Fall Fest. Supervisor Randy Polson shared that Steve Kimmes from Holdens Insurance is here to discuss insurance needs (to be covered later on the agenda) and he received an email from Midland for the contract price previously quoted and contracts will be sent for the board to sign. Chair Jack Byrd stated he has been working on the insurance issue for the damage that occurred to a volunteer firefighter's car when Lifelink III negligently landed in the wrong landing zone that was not set up by our fire fighters (they landed in the parking lot instead of the field and flying gravel damaged her car and our building). Fire Chief John Melcher was not present and did not have a report, but Stacy Fornengo shared they recently discussed possibly discontinuing the Snowshoe races due to lack of members to carry it on or possibly coordinating with the Community Events Group to continue to hold the event. It has been cancelled the last two years due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Landing zone training was recently held at the town hall and only 3 persons attended. Road crew foreman Brian Conley shared they have hauled salt and sand for storage; graded the roads; worked on the WISLR paperwork and submitted the report electronically; put the wing on the 140H trade-in, removed the front blade, and cleaned and removed the tires; installed a culvert on Turbett Road; installed a driveway culvert on Mabel Nelson Road; picked up a trencher from London Road Rentals and trenched wire for a new sign; returned the trencher and finished up the wire installation; installed a culvert on the Tri Lakes Road; picked up debris and garbage on the Tri Lakes Road; ditched Old Lyman Lake Road; worked on truck and grader financing documents; and started to ditch the Neuman Road. County Representative Joe Moen was not present—no report.

**Insurance Policy for the Town/Volunteer Fire Department:** This agenda item was moved up since Steve Kimmes from Holden Insurance was at the meeting to discuss the matter. Our current insurance policy with Rural Mutual is coming due December 1 and due to the fact that we found out our volunteer

firefighters do not have coverage on their vehicles while on duty serving the town (Stacy explained the situation that occurred with Lifelink III negligently landing their helicopter in the wrong area—not the established landing zone—that damaged her personal car that was being used as part of the landing zone setup and the problem she has run into regarding Rural Mutual not covering the damage other than her deductible if she turns it into her insurance company). Lifelink III has been contacted as they were negligent by landing in the wrong landing zone and it is currently in their legal department under review. Discussion followed with Steve regarding various options, coverages, and costs. The board will meet separately to look over and cover this item more in depth with Steve. That meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 14, 2022, at 6 p.m. Since the board will be together, the annual bargaining meeting was set for 7 p.m. that same night.

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

**Plan Commission:** The Plan Commission met on Monday, November 7, at 2:30 p.m. and they continue to work on language in the current ordinances (Sandy Pease is working on the Temporary Road Closure ordinance). Brian has been at the courthouse looking for deeds to the town's access points on the maps for Dowling Lake and Lyman Lake. The access point maps have been added to the Land Use website for reference. Correspondence was received from the County requesting the town's opinion/input on campgrounds and after careful review and discussion, the PC recommends the town go with the more restrictive option listed in a resolution that was prepared. Brian reviewed the Resolution with the Board and why they are recommending the more restrictive option. DD motioned to approve the Plan Commission's recommendation to go with the more restrictive option outlined in the Resolution and to approve the Resolution with our recommendation; RP seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried.

**Approve 2023 Town Budget/2022 Town Tax Levy (for collection in 2023):** At the Budget Hearing and Special Town Board Meeting held at 6 p.m. prior to this Regular Town Board Meeting, the Town voters voted to approve the 2023 Budget as presented and to approve the 2022 Town Tax Levy of \$400,780. DD motioned to approve the 2023 Budget as presented and approved by the Town voters; RP seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried. DD motioned to approve the Town Tax Levy of \$400,780 as approved by the Town voters; RP seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried.

**Set Annual Bargaining Meeting Date:** Monday, November 14, 2022, at 7 p.m.

**Public Comment:** Brian Conley thanked the election inspectors for their work with the recent election—he came to the hall to vote and shared that it was well run, set up nicely and with ease and safety in mind. Greg Dolsen also thanked the town for purchasing the new grader—it is working very well.

The next Regular Town Board Meeting is set for Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at 7 p.m. DD motioned to adjourn; RP seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie K. Dolsen  
Town Clerk