

Town of Oakland, Douglas County
Regular Town Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 7 p.m.
Oakland Town Hall

Present: Jack Byrd, Randy Polson, Dana Dolsen, Laurie Dolsen, and 10 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 from the April 11, 2023, regular town board meeting and the April 25 special town board meeting were reviewed and no changes were made. DD motioned to approve the minutes as presented; RP seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried.

Reports: Clerk Laurie Dolsen reported that the annual ARPA fund report was submitted to the IRS as required by the deadline, the April election documentation was completed, Open Book and Board of Review were held and she completed the training, the Annual meeting was held and books were reconciled to the penny through March 2023, she is working with the accountant to submit the Form CT (town's taxes) by the May 15 deadline, updated the calendar and posted, completed an open records request, met with Mary Brill regarding the Parr Road document search, has been assisting the Town of Summit clerk with questions as needed, brought the election equipment in for its annual maintenance by the vendor, completed the Olson correspondence for the board, prepared and submitted the payroll quarterly reports, provided flood paperwork to Brian for processing, and is looking into the project for Douglas County that is due by June 30. Treasurer Stacy Fornengo was not present but reported that the ATC payment was received as well as the Highway Aids and the insurance payment from Lifelink (for windows and paint), and the last of the FEMA money from the 2018 flood was also received. Supervisor Dana Dolsen—no report. Supervisor Randy Polson reminded everyone the town cleanup is Saturday, May 20, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and volunteers are needed and appreciated. He also watched the webinar on grant opportunities for roads and bridges. Chair Jack Byrd shared the fun event done in conjunction with Four Corners School kids/parents/PTA to name the new graders for the Towns of Oakland, Summit, and Superior was recently held. It was a great success culminating with an ice cream social for all the kids and prizes and model graders being awarded to the winners. Winning names were: Oakland—Darth Grader; Summit—Mater Grader; and Superior—Duck, Duck, Grader. Fire Chief John Melcher was not present—no report. Road crew foreman Brian Conley reported they have been grading roads, fixed the roads from spring runoffs, winged ditches open, hauled gravel, delivered garbage/recycling cans, fixed brakes on the 93 Mack, put summer blades on the grader, pulled beaver dams, started taking the wings off the graders, and ordered culverts for Craig Road. The price increased on the culvert/overflow pipes for the Craig Road culvert replacement project and the invoice will be sent to Brian—residents will need to be notified (on town letterhead) for when and how long the project will take place as it is a dead-end road. Brian is also working on spring flooding paperwork while he was off and needs any pictures taken and slips from Phoenix Farms for gravel. He thanked the crew for keeping everything going while he was out. County Supervisor Joe Moen said it has been quiet at the County level right now—for Forestry, they are doing a flyover to see the damage caused by this winter's record-breaking snowfall as it is a large loss. In Land and Development, Keith Allen retired and a new chair is needed. In Zoning, a campground ordinance is being worked on. Other—the WTA meeting will be held on May 15 in the Town of Summit.

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

Plan Commission: The Plan Commission met on May 9, and are continuing to work on reviewing and updating various ordinances if needed. They are also working on the Emergency Operations Plan and will be available prior to next month's meeting to go over changes/updates, etc., and will have a resolution ready for approval. Regarding short-term rentals, the PC is looking for direction from the board on if we should pursue an ordinance or go with what the County is pursuing as it is a very complicated process—do we need, have we received complaints, etc. These rentals are currently licensed through the Health Department. They are also looking for

the revised resolution creating the Plan Commission (2008) to see if updates are needed. LD searched the files and could not find anything.

Clean-up Day Final Check-in: Vendors and food are all lined up and dumpsters will start to be delivered on or about Wednesday that week. It should be busy as a lot of calls have been received regarding this event.

Community Events Group Update: The rummage sale will be held on June 17 with drop off days on June 14, 15, and 16, with setup on the 16th. Fall Fest will be on September 16 and a Health and Wellness Fair will be held on October 14. They are also possibly looking at holding a pancake breakfast again as well.

Parr Road Update: An interested citizen is gathering information from past discussions, etc. This needs to be resolved legally by the resident and there is no additional information at this time.

ARPA Funds/Fire Equipment Update (combined): ARPA funds received need to be earmarked by 2024 and spent by 2026. Discussion followed regarding options/amounts to earmark for both the fire department (a new equipment van/truck is needed) and the roads (grants are available and town funds are also needed when applying). After much discussion, RP motioned to earmark \$40,000 of the ARPA funds for the Volunteer Fire Department to purchase a new equipment truck with the remaining money to be earmarked for roads and bridges to apply for grants; DD seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried. We will look at past road inspection reports to determine needs for the roads and bridges.

Fire Department Training: Valuable training for our fire department members is being missed (recently held were ice rescue, electric car safety, a live burn in Iron River, and QPR suicide prevention) due to communication difficulties. DD will contact Fire Chief John Melcher to find out how training opportunities are received/communicated and members are notified so future training opportunities will benefit our members.

Propane Contracts: In order to save money, we should start now to check with local companies to find the best pricing and set up contracts for winter. RP will make calls to local companies to get price quotes.

Public Comment: LD shared she just received notice from NBC regarding one of our town loans reaching a maturity date in August and we will have to re-evaluate the loan. She also shared she talked with the Assessor Barrett Brenner regarding budgeting for a full reassessment for the future (last one was completed in 2013) as we are currently out of compliance—for budgeting purposes, an amount of \$43,000 to \$46,000 would be needed in a few years for a full reassessment of the properties in our township. The next regular town board meeting is on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 7 p.m. RP motioned to adjourn; DD seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie K. Dolsen, Town Clerk