

**Town of Oakland, Douglas County**  
**Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 7 p.m.**  
**Oakland Town Hall**

Present: Jack Byrd, Randy Polson, Dana Dolsen, Stacy Fornengo, Laurie Dolsen, and 9 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 July 11, 2023, Regular Town Board meeting were previously reviewed, and no changes were made. DD motioned to accept the meeting minutes as presented; RP seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried.

**Reports:** Clerk Laurie Dolsen reported she is working with the Douglas County Clerk to set up a free safety review for our building and/or elections (October 2 or 3); she is working on budget prep which is challenging due to interpreting Act 19 and Act 12 changes as well as shared revenue and the veto of the Transportation Aids increase in the State budget; and she is also beginning preparations for next year's elections and looking at poll worker staffing. Treasurer Stacy Fornengo worked with the previous treasurer, Pat Asbury, and our employees to retrieve the remaining old town documents from her garage and she is researching how long we need to retain some of the records. Supervisor Dana Dolsen shared that she went to Marshfield with road crew employee Greg Dolsen to attend the pre-build inspection on our new dump truck. Supervisor Randy Polson helped put up a sign at the town hall and thanked all who helped. Chair Jack Byrd shared his items are found later in the agenda. Fire Chief John Melcher shared they had 4 mutual aid medical calls, 2 medical calls for our township, 1 power line down call, 2 alarm checks, and 1 explosion call. Two of our firefighters will be attending class being held in Parkland, CPR certification will take place on Saturday, September 16 at 8 a.m., and they are pulling the decals off the new truck, and we will need to get new decals for the truck representing our township to replace those being taken off. Road crew foreman Brian Conley reported they have been ditching on the Neuman Road, cut grass along the roadsides, graded the roads, hauled culverts to the Craig Road for replacement, moved the excavator to Jodell Road, started ditching Jodell Road, seeded and blew hay on Neuman Road, hauled gravel on Rice Farm Road, brought the new grader to Fabick/CAT for the 500 service and oil samples, went to Monroe Trucks for the pre-build inspection, moved the excavator to Koenen Road, started removing debris and ditching on the Koenen Road, and started work on the town hall sign. County Supervisor Joe Moen was not present—no report. Dana Dolsen from the Community Group shared they are preparing for the upcoming Fall Fest on September 16 from 1-3 p.m. There will be a car show, chili cookoff, music, games, crafts, etc. and many volunteers are needed. They will be meeting again on August 16 to continue planning.

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

**Plan Commission:** They did not meet as there were no applications received to review.

**Power Lines:** The fire department is currently establishing an emergency landing zone site in our field (dropping a pin for the coordinates to give to the Douglas County Communication Center) and the power lines will also need to be marked accordingly. We will also need to install a bigger culvert for entry of emergency vehicles onto the field.

**Bank Loan:** Jack spoke with Dan Berg at NBC about redoing our bank loan for the town hall as the 5-year maturity date is August 2. Jack and Laurie met with Dan and signed the new papers on the reprocessed loan—the interest increased slightly.

**Discussion w/Residents on Koenen Road:** The purpose of the discussion was to update residents on the need to take out the banks and ditch along the road as plowing is difficult—all owners were okay with the change.

**Ditching Project Update:** The update is in the Road Crew Foreman’s report discussed above.

**Sign Update:** The approved budget allocated \$30,000 for a sign and no decision has been made yet; therefore, for safety reasons (if an emergency dictates use of the town hall) and for building use reasons, a sign noting this is our town hall and fire garage needs to be put up before a final decision is made. Therefore, a temporary wooden sign will be put up for \$300-\$500 to fill the immediate need. “Fire Hall Entry” and “Town Hall Entry” signs were requested to be placed over the entry doors to eliminate confusion.

**Propane Contract Update:** Three companies have been contacted and no new prices can be quoted until after August 20. An update will be given in September.

**Increase for Copy Requests:** DD asked if we should increase our price of \$.25 per copy due to an increase in Open Records Requests. LD shared that most are done via email and copy costs are minimal. No increase is needed currently.

**Public Comment:** Barb asked about the status of the Parr Road issue. Jack shared he spoke previously with her son, Jason, and nothing will be done until they resolve their road ownership claim—we will continue as we currently are doing until we hear otherwise from them. The question was asked if we responded to Steve Olson’s email as it contains wrong information—Brian will assist with a response.

The next Regular Town Board meeting will be Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 7 p.m. RP motioned to adjourn; DD seconded; all were in favor via voice vote; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie K. Dolsen, Town Clerk