

**TOWN OF OTEGO**

**September 10, 2014**

The Town Board of the Town of Otego held a regular board meeting on Wednesday, September 10, 2014 at 6:00 pm at the Municipal Building, 3526 State Highway 7, Otego, New York. The purpose of the meeting was to audit the bills and any other business coming before the board.

The following members were present:

Joseph Hurlburt	Town Supervisor
Maryalice Brown	Town Clerk
Terry Brown	Councilperson
George Dolezel	Councilperson
Barbara Stanton	Councilperson
David Sheldon	Councilperson
JR Hurlburt	Highway Supt.

Minutes

A motion was made by George Dolezel, seconded by Barbara Stanton, to accept the minutes of the August 13 meeting. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Terry Brown, to accept the minutes of the September 3 meeting. Motion: 5 yes, 0 Nays.

Supervisor's Report

Mr. Dolezel read the Supervisor's report for September:

General Fund townwide beginning balance:	\$349,781.01
Receipts:	9,366.39
Disbursements:	<u>27,254.06</u>
Ending Balance:	\$331,893.34
General Fund outside village beginning balance:	10,982.46
Receipts:	175.08
Disbursements:	<u>1,044.10</u>
Ending Balance:	\$ 10,113.44
Highway Fund townwide beginning balance:	\$ 337,988.30
Receipts:	5,512.21
Disbursements:	<u>14,701.35</u>
Ending Balance:	\$328,799.16
Highway Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$439,986.39
Receipts:	12,221.77
Disbursements:	<u>26,148.23</u>
Ending Balance:	\$426,059.93

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by Barbara Stanton, to accept this report.

Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

Dog Control Officer

Ellen Dwyer gave her report: 2 reports of loose/stray dogs, no dogs taken to shelter and no tickets issued this month.

AFLAC Representative

James Farnham addressed the board about AFLAC supplemental insurance. It is available to full and part time employees and there is no direct cost to the town. A minimum of three people must sign up for it to be offered. JR Hurlburt will talk to the highway employees and see if there is any interest.

County Representative

Kathy Clark reported that closing for the sale of the Manor should be in the next couple of weeks; the county is negotiating with the unions; solid waste department is now operating in the red, and the tipping fees may be reduced; the IDA will be contacting the towns, they are doing a broadband study.

### Code Officer

Mr. Wilber reported that two garage permits and one pool permit were issued this month.

### Planning Board

A draft of the comprehensive plan was given to the board. There is still some work to do and then the planning board will be scheduling a public hearing. The plan is not final but if anyone wants a copy they can submit a FOIL request.

### Highway Report

Mr. Hurlburt reported that Starr Rd has been paved. There was discussion about having a lower posted speed. A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Terry Brown, to request a study by NYSDOT to reduce the speed on Starr Road from County Rte. 8 to the town of Morris. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

The highway dept. is currently working on Chamberlain Hill Rd.

The town is still waiting for the remaining payment from FEMA for the Green St bridge mitigation.

Carson Ave needs oil and stone. The supervisor wants an estimate of cost to see if the expense could be covered by the Park & Rec cd.

The stipend for declining the town health insurance was located in the employee handbook.

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by David Sheldon, to pay the health stipend of \$750 to Cory Wilber now and \$750 in January 2015. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

### Climate Smart Communities

There was discussion among the town board and residents about Climate Smart Communities. The town attorney reiterated that even though there are no ramifications for not taking any action if you pass the climate smart resolution, the town should pass the resolution with the intention of following through with the pledge. Residents spoke for and against the resolution. Mr. Downey submitted a written statement urging the board not to join the program but adopt "JR's rule": if it works, if it is cost effective, if it is also "green", then consider trying it.

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by David Sheldon, that the town does not pass the resolution to join Climate Smart Communities. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

### Town Assessor

The town received four applications for the town assessor position. The board spoke to Mario Arevalo before the board meeting.

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by David Sheldon, to appoint Mario Arevalo to fill the term of town assessor left vacant by the resignation of H. Marie Lawrence. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Anna Hein asked if there will be a signed contract with the assessors covering office hours, any benefits, or other requirements such as site visits. This hasn't been considered by the board.

### Board of Assessment Review

There is a vacancy on the BAR. Joseph Loerch does not wish to be reappointed.

### Zoning Board of Appeals

The town board has received a letter of resignation from Shirley Sherwood, which leaves a vacancy on the ZBA.

### Justice Court Grant

The following resolution was put forth by David Sheldon, seconded by George Dolezel:

WHEREAS, the Otego Justice Court is a local court processing approximately 1300 traffic cases, 105 criminal cases, and 30 civil cases per year, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to maintain the court facility in good working order,

WHEREFORE, the Otego Town Board authorizes the town supervisor to sign the Justice Court Assistance Grant application to obtain state funding to improve the operation and safety of the local justice court.

Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

### Local Law #1 of 2014

The town board will again consider a local law authorizing the board to raise the tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law. The town attorney will get a copy of the law to the board members in a timely manner.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by George Dolezel, to hold a public hearing on Local Law #1 of 2014 on Wednesday, October 8, 2014 at 6:00 pm. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

2015 Budget

There will be a budget workshop on October 15 at 6:00 pm.

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by David Sheldon, to hold a public hearing on the 2015 budget on Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2014 at 6:00 pm. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Warrant #9

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by David Sheldon, to pay the warrant in the following amounts: General Fund vouchers # \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Highway Fund vouchers # \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Maryalice Brown, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ Town Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_ Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ Councilperson

\_\_\_\_\_ Councilperson

\_\_\_\_\_ Councilperson

\_\_\_\_\_ Councilperson

\_\_\_\_\_ Highway Supt.