

Town of Otego

August 12, 2020

The Town Board of the Town of Otego held a regular board meeting on Wednesday, August 12, 2020 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
Teresa Sears	Town Clerk
Barbara Stanton	Councilperson
David Sheldon	Councilperson
Terry Brown	Councilperson
Royce Livingston	Councilperson

Minutes

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by Barbara Stanton, to accept the minutes of the July 8th meeting. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Supervisor's Report

Mr. Hurlburt read the Supervisor's report for July:

General Fund townwide beginning balance:	\$522,904.23
Receipts:	22,588.93
Disbursements:	<u>18,278.24</u>
Ending Balance:	\$527,214.92
General Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$ 28,042.00
Receipts:	335.23
Disbursements:	<u>1,250.24</u>
Ending Balance:	\$ 27,126.99
Highway Fund townwide beginning balance:	\$668,171.72
Receipts:	8,273.01
Disbursements:	<u>7,655.78</u>
Ending Balance:	\$668,788.95
Highway Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$706,769.01
Receipts:	145.66
Disbursements:	<u>19,738.48</u>
Ending Balance:	\$687,176.19

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by David Sheldon, to accept this report as read. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Dog Control Officer

Ellen Dwyer was absent.

Town Clerk Report

Teresa Sears presented the Town Clerk monthly report for July.

County Representative

Mr. Brockway reported on the effects of the coronavirus shutdown to the county. With the loss of tourism this summer, there will be a 12.2 million dollar loss in revenue. New York State has yet to send the 6.5 million owed from last year, and it is his understanding that there will be a 20% loss in all state reimbursements. Consequently, though there is a hiring freeze, cut in spending, and layoffs, the county may have to raise taxes.

Code Officer

Dan Wilber was absent.

Highway Report

The Flax Island bridge project is completed. The highway department has paved Gulf Road and seeded between the restored park and former elementary school. No money has been received yet from CHIPS or PaveNY.

Mr. Hurlburt reported that the recently purchased truck will not be ready until next year. The highway department trailer was destroyed this past month when loading an excavator. Insurance will cover \$9,500.

A motion was made by Royce Livingston, seconded by David Sheldon, to purchase a trailer out of the DA5130.4 machinery contractual account. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

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School Land Maintenance

Dr. Richards expressed his appreciation for the cooperation of both the town board and attorney. He would like clarification on two items in the contract, however. Concerning field maintenance, he does not believe the school has the proper equipment for the job. The board clarified that this includes things like spring cleanup, lining the fields, etc. Dr. Richards also questioned the "fee charge" in the contract. The town board assured him that they have no intention of charging a fee for field use and will change the clause in the contract.

Dr. Richards reported on the progress of the school reopening plan. There will be 3 Zoom meetings with the public at the beginning of next week.

Planning Board

Mr. Hurlburt read the resignation letter from Teresa DeSantis, planning board secretary, and her email about the going pay rate for this position.

Colleen Bushnell has agreed to temporarily serve in this capacity.

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by David Sheldon, to accept the resignation of Teresa DeSantis as planning board secretary. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by Royce Livingston, to hire Colleen Bushnell as planning board secretary at a rate of \$13.33 per hour until December 31, 2020. Motion: 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstention.

Mr. Hurlburt read a letter from Lonnie Ridgeway who would like to serve as an alternate on the planning board.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Royce Livingston, to appoint Lonnie Ridgeway to the position of planning board alternate. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Lois Chernin reported on the work being done by the planning board and zoning commission.

Pavilion Use Form

The town clerk has revised the pavilion use form to reflect the language recommended for inclusion by NYMIR. The board feels this form is satisfactory.

Assessor Office Air Conditioner

The air conditioner in the assessor's office was damaged by a recent storm and is not able to be repaired; a replacement is needed. JR Hurlburt is willing to find a window unit.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Terry Brown to purchase a window air conditioner, not to exceed \$600. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Records Retention Schedule

New York State has modified the Records Retention Schedule so that all schedules in the state will be the same.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Barbara Stanton, to accept the Records Retention modification. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Constitution Pipeline Agreement

Constitution Pipeline wishes to void the 2016 agreement with the town.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Terry Brown, to accept the termination agreement. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

LED Street Lighting

NYSEG has contacted the town about the cost savings of using LED lighting for street lamps.

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by David Sheldon, to change the town street lighting to LED. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Bags Landfill Meetings

A representative from the town board is requested by the Landfill board to attend the meetings to vote. The next meeting is September 21st at 4:00 pm. Mr. Hurlburt will plan to attend.

Warrant #8

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.

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Executive Session

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Terry Brown to enter executive session to discuss Article 7 and court related matters. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Barbara Stanton, to end executive session. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Terry Brown, to adjourn the meeting. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa Sears
Town Clerk

_____ Town Supervisor

_____ Town Clerk

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Highway Supt.