

TOWN OF OTEGO DRAFT

December 8, 2021

The Town Board of the Town of Otego held a regular board meeting on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 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
JR Hurlburt	Highway Supt.

Minutes

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by David Sheldon, to accept the minutes of the November 10th meeting. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Supervisor's Report

Mr. Hurlburt read the Supervisor's report for the month of November:

General Fund townwide beginning balance:	\$631,952.45
Receipts:	-9,094.67
Disbursements:	<u>24,958.51</u>
Ending Balance:	\$597,899.27
General Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$ 25,997.90
Receipts:	135.20
Disbursements:	<u>1,109.50</u>
Ending Balance:	\$ 25,023.60
Highway Fund townwide beginning balance:	\$663,608.97
Receipts:	671.63
Disbursements:	<u>107,244.17</u>
Ending Balance:	\$557,036.43
Highway Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$752,880.30
Receipts:	11,573.52
Disbursements:	<u>5,398.85</u>
Ending Balance:	\$759,054.97

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 gave the dog report for November 11th—December 7th: 3 reports of loose/stray dogs; 1 unverified/unable to catch/no complaint; 1 ticket issued; and 1 dog taken to the shelter. One dangerous dog case has been resolved and one is at large, but a ticket issued.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Report

Teresa Sears presented the Town Clerk report for the month of November, and gave a few updates. The Shared Services Agreement with Franklin recently arrived. Follow up on the consolidation of the health districts revealed that it will be finalized in January.

There is virtual training for any new elected officials on January 6—7. Anyone interested may speak to Mrs. Sears.

A complaint was made on Election Day about the lack of a railing at the entrance to the building for the disabled. Mr. Wilber looked at the entrance and said it would be possible to add, though the railing would be small. The board will consider this addition.

Code Officer

Construction season is wrapping up. There are two manufactured homes being installed. One awaits a Certificate of Occupancy. Mr. Wilber has issued an Order to Remedy on the Layton property.

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County Representative

Mr. Brockway introduced the two guests he invited to the meeting: Josh Beams, County Administrator, and Eric Scrivener, Director of Otsego County Planning. Tammie Harris, Senior Planner for Otsego County Planning also attended. A slide show was presented to the board on:

1. I88 Corridor Study:

A study was done on the I88 corridor to identify property meeting necessary criteria for an industrial park. Two one hundred acre parcels were identified in Otego. Money has been budgeted by the county to begin looking into this. If the town/village is interested, the county will begin moving forward with the process.

2. Shared Services Plan:

The 2022 Emergency Medical Services plan will provide necessary emergency medical services to all the towns in Otsego County. Startup and operational costs are being absorbed by the county. Through sharing these services, taxpayer dollars will be reduced. The plan would be eligible for a one time matching grant from New York State.

There will be a meeting on December 15th to review and discuss the plan. A vote of the panel members will take place after.

Highway Report

Mr. Hurlburt acknowledged and thanked David Sheldon for his years of service on the town board. He appreciates his contribution as a member of the highway committee.

There's an increase in the cost of culverts, so Mr. Hurlburt purchased stock when at a lower cost. He had to take what was available, but he did receive it after waiting a month and a half.

The trucks are ready for winter. A new part time worker was recently hired: Randy Schmitz, a retired CDL driver from Franklin.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Barbara Stanton, to pay the new part time highway employee \$17.50 per hour. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

There was a highway superintendent's meeting yesterday. All would like to see a shared services agreement between all the towns in the county. Work to initiate that will begin in January.

Planning Board

Ms. Westfall, the town attorney, gave Mr. Wilber the long seeker form to complete for the sale of Hometown Auto. A public hearing may be scheduled for January.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Royce Livingston, to schedule a public hearing in January. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

David Merzig, legal representative for Keith Leggett, will attend the meeting on the 21st. The planning board is being asked to approve the boundary line adjustment made in 2015. This was originally approved by the county, bypassing the town planning board, and the attorney for Custom Electronics would like retroactive approval.

The planning board members are having difficulty completing the four hours of required training by years' end. Due to changes resulting from the pandemic, available training is limited. Ms. Chernin wonders if this requirement may be waived until next year.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Barbara Stanton, to waive the required planning board training until next year. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Delaware Valley Humane Society

DVHS has sent a contract renewal for 2022. They will no longer shelter dangerous dogs due to incidents that occurred in the recent past.

A motion was made by Royce Livingston, seconded by Terry Brown, to accept the 2022 contract. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Tractor Purchase

The Notice of Adoption of Resolution for the purchase of the Massey-Ferguson tractor was published in The Daily Star on November 18th. No questions, comments or complaints have been received.

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Grievance Day Change

In January, the town board will move ahead with a public hearing to change the day grievances are heard in May.

Court Report

An emailed was received today from Justice Karen Liddle expressing interest in the vacant justice position in Otego. Since she is a resident of Oneonta, it is unlikely she can serve in this position. She will be kept in mind for a future temporary position should it become available.

Terry Brown and Royce Livingston reviewed the past four years' receipts and disbursements for the court, received from the bookkeeper and court clerk. This information was shared with the town board.

Town Clerk Farewell

Barbara Stanton thanked Mrs. Sears for her four years of service to the town as town clerk/tax collector.

Warrant #12

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by Royce Livingston, to pay the warrant in the following amounts: General Fund vouchers # 232--250 in the amount of \$ 108,709.47 . Highway Fund vouchers # 140--150 in the amount of \$ 68,984.97 . Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Sears
Town Clerk

_____ Town Supervisor

_____ Town Clerk

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Highway Supt.