

TOWN OF OTEGO

January 8, 2020

The Town Board of the Town of Otego held a regular board meeting on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 5:30 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 Superintendent

Minutes

Approval of the December 2019 minutes is postponed until the February meeting due to unforeseen computer problems.

Appointments

The following appointments were made for 2020:

Banks: Community Bank
Newspaper: The Daily Star
Historian: Mary Johnson-Butler
Registrar: Teresa Sears
Dog Control Officer: Ellen Dwyer
Code Enforcement Officer: Daniel Wilber
Zoning Officer: Daniel Wilber
Youth Rec Delegates: Barbara Stanton, Royce Livingston
Deputy Supervisor: Barbara Stanton
Highway Committee: David Sheldon, Terry Brown, Joseph Hurlburt
Liaison with Planning Board: David Sheldon; alternate Royce Livingston
Bookkeeper: Karen Kropp
Health Officer: Fred Price
Dep. Highway Supt.: Kevin Stanton
Insurance Committee: Royce Livingston, Barbara Stanton, Terry Brown
Court Clerks: Katharine Davis, Jamie Smith
Town Attorney: Beth Westfall

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

Mileage Rate

Per the IRS rate, town mileage rate decreased to .575/mile.

Supervisor's Report

Mr. Hurlburt read the Supervisor's report for December 2019:

General Fund town wide beginning balance:	\$398,588.46
Receipts:	54,509.68
Disbursements:	<u>32,003.09</u>
Ending Balance:	\$421,095.05
General Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$ 23,438.16
Receipts:	280.20
Disbursements:	<u>1,115.02</u>
Ending Balance:	\$ 22,603.34
Highway Fund town wide beginning balance:	\$521,600.32
Receipts:	937.50
Disbursements:	<u>112,772.39</u>
Ending Balance:	\$409,765.43

Town of Otego/January 8, 2020

Highway Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$550,115.45
Receipts:	89,635.97
Disbursements:	<u>16,807.62</u>
Ending Balance:	\$622,943.80

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

Mrs. Sears read the dog report for December in Ms. Dwyer's absence: 2 reports of loose/stray dogs—1 ticket issued and 1 taken to shelter; 1 lost/1 found.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Teresa Sears presented the Town Clerk report for the month of December. Tax collection began January 2nd and is off to a good start.

The Association of Towns Conference information is available if any board member is interested.

Code Officer

Mr. Wilber will be attending the annual training in March. He has received one housing complaint, and is requiring it be submitted in writing.

Supervisor Hurlburt raised a concern about a recent fire in a rental property in the village. Mr. Wilber recommends calling the village code officer and documenting the call.

Highway Report

Snow maintenance is well underway. Mr. Hurlburt reported on the overhead door that recently came crashing down; a replacement will cost \$4700.

A highway committee meeting is scheduled for January 22nd at 3:00 pm.

Town/School Agreement

Mrs. Stanton gave the new agreement to Ms. Westfall to review. The town clerk received a phone call from Mark Daneau, a representative from OCA, about the use of the elementary school fields. The board agreed that Unatego will have to present their school schedule for OCA to work around, but that both schools will have to respect each other's schedules once set.

Mr. Hurlburt (Hwy Supt.) requested that the new mower stay on the premises and not be used for any other mowing. Supervisor Hurlburt has expressed the same to the village mayor.

Shared Services Agreement

Ms. Westfall has been discussing removal of the automatic renewal clause, in the agreement with the City of Oneonta, with Dave Merzig, city attorney. She will continue working with him on this.

Mrs. Sears has not received an agreement yet from the Town of Oneonta.

County Representative

Mr. Brockway attended his first county meeting on January 2nd, and was sworn in. He will serve on the health and education committee. The flu virus is ahead of schedule this year and hitting hard.

There is a proposal for a 2% increase on the bed tax, which will be designated for roads and bridges. The proposal is tabled until next month.

Signatures are being collected for the Otsego 2A Sanctuary petition aimed at protecting our 2nd Amendment rights in this county. The petition will be presented at the March meeting. Mr. Brockway is hoping to collect 6000 signatures. Petitions are also being distributed in Delaware and Schoharie counties.

Delaware Valley Humane Society

The town board accepted the 2020 agreement with the shelter and it was signed by the supervisor.

Department of Agriculture and Markets

Supervisor Hurlburt received the results of the dog control officer inspection. Debra Toth, the state animal health inspector, found the services satisfactory.

Planning Board

The town board received a letter of resignation from Kate Lawrence, planning board chairman.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Terry Brown, to appoint Katie Higgins to fill the remainder of the term vacated by Kate Lawrence. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Town of Otego/January 8, 2020

Alumni Association

Dick Downey introduced Keith Bachman, the new president. They would like to make residents aware of the association and are hoping to expand. They plan to reach out to different community groups to increase support for alumni.

There will be two inductions into the Hall of Distinction on Saturday, January 11th, at the wrestling tournament. Steve Hall (1983) and Aaron Foster (2010) will be inducted.

The association hosts alumni weekend and offers scholarships to graduating seniors. They publish 3 newsletters per year.

Court Audit

The annual audit of the justices' records is scheduled for January 22nd at 4:30. Date and time will be confirmed with the justices.

Warrant #1

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Barbara Stanton, 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.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Terry Brown, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Sears
Town Clerk

_____Town Supervisor

_____Town Clerk

_____Councilperson

_____Councilperson

_____Councilperson

_____Councilperson

_____Highway Supt.