

TOWN OF OTEGO

January 10, 2024

The Town Board of the Town of Otego held a regular board meeting on Wednesday, January 10, 2024 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	Deputy Town Clerk
Barbara Stanton	Councilperson
Terry Brown	Councilperson
Royce Livingston	Councilperson
Jimmy Hamm	Councilperson
JR Hurlburt	Highway Superintendent

Minutes

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by Royce Livingston, to accept the minutes of the December 13th, 2023 meeting. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Appointments

The following appointments were made for 2024:

Bank: Community Bank
Newspaper: The Daily Star
Historian: Mary Johnson-Butler
Registrar: Terri Horan
Dog Control Officer: Amy Cross
Code Enforcement Officer: Daniel Wilber
Zoning Officer: Daniel Wilber
Flood Plain Administrator: Dan Wilber
Youth Rec Delegates: Barbara Stanton, Royce Livingston
Deputy Supervisor: Barbara Stanton
Highway Committee: Joseph Hurlburt, Terry Brown
Liaison with Planning Board: Jimmy Hamm
Bookkeeper: Karen Kropp
Health Officer: Fred Price
Dep. Highway Supt.: Kevin Stanton
Insurance Committee: Royce Livingston, Barbara Stanton, Terry Brown
Court Clerks: Katharine Davis, Valerie Hotchkin
Town Attorney: Beth Westfall
Liaison with Town Justices: Jimmy Hamm

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

Mileage Rate

Per the IRS rate, town mileage rate increased to .67/mile.

Supervisor's Report

Mr. Hurlburt read the Supervisor's report for December 2023:

General Fund town wide beginning balance:	\$643,096.42
Receipts:	-18,910.16
Disbursements:	<u>40,034.59</u>
Ending Balance:	\$584,151.67
General Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$ 37,814.08
Receipts:	154.61
Disbursements:	<u>2,330.12</u>
Ending Balance:	\$ 35,638.57

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Highway Fund town wide beginning balance:	\$640,943.20
Receipts:	62,988.51
Disbursements:	<u>149,270.29</u>
Ending Balance:	\$554,661.42

Highway Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$853,102.92
Receipts:	202,071.79
Disbursements:	<u>76,327.51</u>
Ending Balance:	\$978,847.20

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by Royce Livingston, to accept this report as read. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Dog Control Officer

Mrs. Sears read the dog report for the month of December as submitted by Amy Cross.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Mrs. Sears presented the Town Clerk report for the month of December. Tax collection began on January 2nd; tax payments are coming in steadily.

County Representative

Mr. Brockway reported on the Building Assessment Study which looks at all the structures in Otsego County and assessing where and how to apply money towards them.

Ed Frazier is the new County Board Chairman.

Code Officer

In response to a question asked by JR Hurlburt, Mr. Wilber shared with the board details on a new training area for emergency and fire departments. The present training area is unsafe. There is a party interested in funding a portion of it. He has spoken to Senator Oberacker about this issue.

Highway Report

Work on the building has wrapped up and Mr. Hurlburt encourages the board to visit to see the changes.

Mr. Hurlburt believes the new bulldozer was a good investment. The 955 Cat went to auction; the bid was \$17,870.00.

A motion was made by Royce Livingston, seconded by Jimmy Hamm to accept the bid of \$17,870.00 for the 955 Cat. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

The bid for the pallet of filters was \$210.00 at the auction. Mr. Hurlburt believes this is low and would like to counter offer for \$500.00. If this offer is rejected, he would like to sell the filters back to Cook Brothers.

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by Royce Livingston, to deny accepting the bid of \$210.00 for the filters. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Planning Board

Lois Chernin reported that all the planning board members are now in compliance with training hour requirements. The last few months have been relatively quiet.

The Zoning commission is working on the last section of the zoning ordinance to make it more easily readable.

New Business:

1. Mr. Hamm will contact the justices to schedule a meeting to review their books.
2. The town board discussed coverage of the monthly service plan for office telephones. Otsego Telephone has been the provider for the last six years. They wonder if Spectrum can provide those same services on internal equipment or if they only cover the line into the Town Hall. Mrs. Sears will look into this matter.
3. The shared services agreement with the NYS Department of Transportation is due for renewal. The Town Supervisor and Highway Superintendent believe this agreement is beneficial for the town.

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A motion was made by Royce Livingston, seconded by Barbara Stanton, to approve the shared services agreement with the NYS DOT. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by Royce Livingston, to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Enter Executive Session: 6:57 pm

A motion was made by Royce Livingston, seconded by Barbara Stanton, to close the executive session and return to the regular meeting. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Executive Session Closed: 7:11 pm

Warrant # 1

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by Royce Livingston, to pay the warrant— with the exception of the Otsego Telephone voucher—for the following amounts: General Fund vouchers # 1—27 in the amount of \$ 49,329.19. Highway Fund vouchers # 1—6 in the amount of \$ 11,105.68. 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 7:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Sears
Deputy Town Clerk

_____ Town Supervisor

_____ Town Clerk

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Highway Supt.