

TOWN OF OTEGO

MAY 12, 2021

The Town Board of the Town of Otego held a public hearing followed by a regular board meeting on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 6:00 pm at the Municipal Building, 3526 State Highway 7, Otego, New York. The purpose of the meeting was to hold a public hearing on Local Law #1 of the year 2021, thereby authorizing the reduction of members from five (5) to three (3) on the Board of Assessment Review; to vote on Local Law #1; to audit the bills and any other business coming before the board.

The following members were present:

Joseph Hurlburt	Town Supervisor
Barbara Stanton	Councilperson
David Sheldon	Councilperson
Terry Brown	Councilperson
Royce Livingston	Councilperson
JR Hurlburt	Highway Supt.

Public Hearing

Mr. Hurlburt opened the public hearing on Local Law #1 of 2021. The town attorney presented a condensed summary of the proposed law which will reduce the number of members on the Board of Assessment Review from 5 to 3, effective November 1, 2021. No discussion or questions ensued.

The hearing was closed at 6:05 pm and the regular meeting opened.

Minutes

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by Royce Livingston, to accept the minutes of the April 14th meeting. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Supervisor's Report

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

General Fund townwide beginning balance:	\$630,148.72
Receipts:	-6,181.49
Disbursements:	<u>60,921.88</u>
Ending balance:	\$563,045.35
General Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$ 35,359.29
Receipts:	260.27
Disbursements:	<u>2,311.39</u>
Ending balance:	\$ 33,308.17
Highway Fund townwide beginning balance:	\$540,625.60
Receipts:	24,405.36
Disbursements:	<u>46,755.60</u>
Ending balance:	\$518,275.36
Highway Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$897,906.68
Receipts:	14,918.17
Disbursements:	<u>2,214.00</u>
Ending balance:	\$910,610.85

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 April 14th to May 12th: 2 reports of loose/stray dogs;

Town of Otego/May 12, 2021

1 warning/1 ticket issued; 1 bark complaint with warning; 1 cat; 1 out-of-area; 1 lost.

Town Clerk Report

Mrs. Sears gave the Town Clerk report for April. Tax season is now complete; she will settle with the county next week.

County Representative

Progress has been made with hiring a county administrator. Sales tax revenue should be up this summer with the return of baseball camps.

The county will be holding Household Hazardous Waste Day this year. Friday, August 20th, businesses may bring hazardous waste to the Unadilla Town Barn from 8:00—11:00 am; and Saturday, August 21st, homeowners may do the same at the Meadows Complex from 8:00 am—noon. See the county website for more details.

Code Officer

Mr. Wilber gave the town board a list of problem properties in the town that he will be addressing. There are a few building projects coming up, but he believes the cost of lumber will prohibit building.

Highway Report

Clean-up Day on May 8th went well; only tires were received. There has been a request for this to be advertised in the paper next year. Proof of residency will be mandatory.

Upper Green Street was paved last week. The highway department is waiting to borrow a shoulder machine to complete the work.

There is a fiber optic underground project on Marcy South beginning next month. The new truck is back from Syracuse, but now in Oxford due to a recall. Mowing the school property has begun; working on sand continues.

Mr. Hurlburt has received a request from the Roland B. Hill Memorial Museum to mow their property, since the school no longer provides this service. There are problem trees that will have to be cut down. Buzz Hesse shared that the museum had an agreement with the town, which included maintenance, at no cost to the town. Mr. Hesse volunteered to contact the head of the museum to ask him to contact Mr. Hurlburt. The town board would appreciate Mr. Hesse doing this, and in the meantime, would like the highway department to continue mowing.

Catskill Center for Independent Living

JR Hurlburt met with Don Wyckoff about the memorial walk near the pond. They discussed a more practical possibility of a shorter walk near the front, instead of around, the pond. Mr. Hurlburt did reiterate, however, that any plans for this project cannot require work or upkeep from the town, and will have to first be approved by the town board.

Mr. Hesse recommends exercising caution. The village planning board consensus is to meet with the town planning board to decide what should be done with this piece of property. He believes the boards should have a plan in place before hearing proposals from outside groups.

Ms. Westfall agrees with being cautious, but believes the town board should hear the presentation first.

The town board believes it is best to wait for a meeting between the two planning boards until after hearing the CCIL presentation in June.

Planning Board

The planning board has a land division that requires help from the Code/Zoning Officer. Work on the by-laws continues and should be ready next month. The zoning commission meets every 2 weeks.

Shared Services Agreements

The Highway to Highway and Otego to Franklin shared services agreements have expired.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Terry Brown, to accept the 5 year shared services agreement with the Town of Franklin. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Town of Otego/May 12, 2021

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Royce Livingston, to accept the 5 year shared services agreement between the Otego Highway Department and the highway departments listed in the agreement. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Local Law #1 of 2021

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by Terry Brown, to adopt Local Law #1 of 2021 authorizing the reduction of members on the Board of Assessment Review from five (5) to three (3). Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

ZBA Vacancy

William Boerner's term on the Zoning Board of Appeals has expired. He does not wish to renew.

Deanna Feyerabend has sent an email expressing her interest in serving in this position. The board thanks her for volunteering.

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by David Sheldon, to appoint Deanna Feyerabend to fill the vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Warrant #5

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by Terry Brown, to pay the warrant in the following amounts: General Fund vouchers # 97—112 in the amount of \$29,683.50. Highway Fund vouchers # 58—68 in the amount of \$27,533.46. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by Royce Livingston, to enter executive session to discuss tax assessment and cyber security. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Enter Executive Session: 7:47 pm

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Royce Livingston, to leave executive session. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Executive Session Closed: 8:19 pm

HSFC Tax Assessment

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by David Sheldon, to accept the tax assessment offer by HSFC New York Funeral Service, Inc. 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 8:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa Sears
Town Clerk

Town of Otego/May 12, 2021

_____Town Supervisor

_____Councilperson

_____Councilperson

_____Councilperson

_____Councilperson

_____Highway Supt.