

**OTSEGO LAKE TOWNSHIP
MINUTES, APRIL 21, 2011**

The regular monthly meeting of the Otsego Lake Township Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Wagar with the Pledge of Allegiance. All board members present and eight audience members.

CLERKS REPORT

A Motion was made by Baker to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Seconded by Jacobs, motion carried. A motion was made by Jacobs to pay the bills for the General Fund in the amount of \$14,496.97, Fire Fund \$5,449.95 and the Trash Fund \$15,141.00. Seconded by Brown, motion carried. A motion was made by Jacobs to approve the new contract for the township assessor for the period ending March 31, 2012. Seconded by Brown, motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Beginning Balance	\$1,372,512.17
Receipts	40,459.69
Disbursements	27,404.07
Ending Balance	\$1,385,567.79

TAX ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance	\$287,669.94
Receipts	1,394.77
Disbursements	80,951.61
Ending Balance	\$208,113.10

FIRE FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 161,944.31
Receipts	69.96
Disbursements	10,453.99
Ending Balance	\$ 151,560.28

TRASH FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 99,921.68
Receipts	19.45
Disbursements	15,141.00
Ending Balance	\$ 84,800.13

A motion was made by Brown to approve the treasurer's report as read. Seconded by Baker, motion carried.

An appeal has been received from Robert L. Watson Jr., who was involved in an accident on I-75 and was billed \$750.00 for services rendered according to the Otsego Lake Township Fire Charges Ordinance No. 19991-02 as amended June 17, 2010. He is protesting the charges because he needed no medical assistance, did not cause the accident and did not require any wrecker service for his vehicle. After reviewing Section 7, paragraph A, which covers the appeals procedure and criteria for waving or reducing the charge which states; "Are there demonstrated practical difficulties in paying the amount billed? Are there unique circumstances that cause the charge to be unreasonable and that are not within the control of the party making the appeal?" After discussion a motion was made by Brown to deny the appeal because it was not subject to the criteria stated in Section 7 of the ordinance. Seconded by Baker, motion carried with Baker,

Markovich and Brown voting for the motion and Wagar and Jacobs voting against the motion.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Report presented by Chief Shelly. Twenty runs since last report, 13 EMS, of which two were missed calls. Fire training will be on hydrant operations. Attended a tabletop training with the DNR, our department will probably be called on more for wild fires as they are understaffed. Attended a Haz-Mat class at Otsego County, the chiefs training committee and meeting. There will probably be a FF class in the fall and an EMS class in August. Fit testing for air paks will be May 24th at our fir station. Bill Klees from Lyons Township conducted an Extrication class. He charges \$85.00 for four hours.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

No report

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Planning member Baker reviewed the minutes of the last meeting and discussed the Discovery Center request to put a billboard on road commission property on Old State Road that abuts I-75. As the ordinance reads now directional signs do not fall under the our billboard ordinance and are regulated under the County Zoning Ordinance. They will need to go to the county to get permission to place a sign on this property. The township planning commission moved to recommend to the Township Board that a moratorium be placed on all signage located in the area subject to the Highway Advertising Act, Public Act 106 of 1972. The final draft of the proposed Highway Interchange Commercial District will be presented to the County Planning Commission.

PARK AND RECREATION REPORT

Report presented by member Markovich. The committee is working to put together a Power Point Presentation and a handout that will be given to area associations at their annual meetings this summer. We are asking for their ideas and input for ideas for future park development for the new recreation plan for the township. We have a new member Marsha Taylor. Our next meeting will be held on May 23rd at the township park at 6:00 p.m.

CEMETERY COMMITTEE REPORT

Report given by member Brown. The committee met on April 7th. Some of the items discussed were a split rail fence near the northeast side of the cemetery in order to separate a parking area from nearby graves. May 16th has been set aside as a work day and will begin at 5:30 p.m. Our next meeting will be June 2nd at 5:30 p.m. at the township hall.

CONSTABLE REPORT

Board reviewed inspection reports. Michaywe golf course and restaurant have applied and been approved for Sunday morning sales.

COUNTY COMMISSION REPORT

Commissioner Backenstose reported that the reappointment committee met and drew up new lines for county commissioner districts. Because of the increase in residents as a result of the last census our township will now have two commission districts.

Mike Thompson, 911 director, reported that new pagers are being provided for all Fire Fighters and EMS in the county. They are narrow bandable.

OLD BUSINESS

Tim Baker, representing Bradley J. Butcher and Associates showed the board pictures of how different colors of siding would look on the fire hall buildings. After discussion a motion was made by Brown to go with the same color scheme that was voted on for the township hall. Seconded by Jacobs, Baker abstained, motion carried.

A request has been received from Michaywe to allow golf carts on the streets in the subdivision. He also received a request from the county sheriff to reconsider our decision in closing all but a few roads in the township. No action was taken on either of these requests.

At our annual road commission meeting it was announced that work on W. Otsego Lake Drive would begin in the spring and Mancelona road was scheduled for some time in August. During the road work on Mancelona road there will be a period of about a week that the road would be closed and traffic detoured onto Passenheim Road. Before that time they are hoping to do some road improvements to Passenheim.

Glen Roberts, representing Michaywe has spoken to Tom Deans of the road commission about again considering a three way split with the township, Michaywe and the road commission for improving Foothills Trail. The road commission will be doing ditching on roads that lead into Foothills to help prevent run off from rain and snow melt.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE TOWNSHIP

Township resident Stults commented on the appointment of a board of review member that was sworn in before being appointed to the board. A motion was made by Markovich and seconded by Brown to reappoint the member to a term ending on December 31, 2012, and to swear him in within ten days. Motion carried. A motion was made by Markovich to change pay category from salary to training. Seconded by Jacobs, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on May 19, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.

Lorraine Markovich, Clerk
Otsego Lake Township