

**OTSEGO LAKE TOWNSHIP
MINUTES, OCTOBER 16, 2008**

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 four audience members. A motion was made by Brown and seconded by Wohlfeil to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Beginning Balance	\$1,096,314.75
Revenues	31,423.15
Disbursements	34,661.05
Ending Balance	\$1,093,076.85

TAX ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance	\$ 287,823.39
Revenues	1,649,108.27
Disbursements	1,846,540.44
Ending Balance	\$ 90,391.22

FIRE FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 173,346.96
Revenues	60.63
Disbursements	5,874.71
Ending Balance	\$ 167,532.88

TRASH FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 99,650.85
Revenues	128.09
Disbursements	15,286.30
Ending Balance	84,492.64

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

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Report given by Chief Shelly. There were fourteen runs since last month. We have hired two members; both are already trained. Ten members attended the Downed Aircraft training at the bombing range. The firefighter training this month will be on the Jaws. The camera system is installed and operating. There is a firefighting training council for instructors offered in Traverse City this weekend. Cost is \$135.00 and would be beneficial for our Chief to attend. The well at Guthrie Lakes is not deep enough and is subject to freezing. Permission to dig any deeper will have to be given by the DEQ before we can dig any deeper. A motion was made by Baker to purchase the ATV from Extreme Power Sports for \$12,038 and the rescue bogan for \$800 from Mancelona Fire Department. Motion seconded by Brown and carried.

A motion was made by Brown to pay bills for the General Fund in the amount of \$23,234.38, Fire Fund: Actual checks written to date \$4,217.71 and to pay for the tank and well in Michaywe in the amount of \$22,720, the original bid of \$5,290.05 submitted for the dry well in Guthrie Lakes, for a total amount of \$32,227.76. Trash fund \$15,286.30. Seconded by Baker, motion carried. A motion was made by Markovich to

amend the budget for the Election cost center by \$3,000.00. Seconded by Brown, motion carried.

PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT

Report given by Chair Wohlfeil. There was no meeting this month but work was completed to remove forty-four trees and stumps and bark was spread at the township park by Landscape Plus.

CEMETERY REPORT

The cemetery committee met at the township cemetery on October 9th and worked on mapping in preparation to input all information on a computer program. Light on flag has been moved to the side and the water outlet will be moved shortly.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Planning report given by Corfis. Reviewed the minutes of the last meeting. Mr. Drews will be making some changes to the Woodridge Condominium Development and wanted to advise the planning commission that he will be filing the required forms and a site plan amendment with the County. The planning commission heard case PC2008-07, Stuckman's Tree Service, owner Frank Stuckman requesting a Special Use Permit to operate a business that requires outside storage. After discussion Mr. Stuckman was asked to look into the following items at the County level: Allowable uses in a B2 district in 1998, definition of a recycling facility, provide a site plan drawing showing property lines, fencing, and sign and loading dock. Mr. Stuckman will then return to the planning commission with the information received on the above items.

Wagar has received a copy of an ORV Ordinance from John Burt, County Planning & Zoning Administrator. He is asking townships to review the ordinance and voice their opinion. This will be discussed at the next Otsego County Township Officers Association meeting. Baker stated that townships can opt out of this ordinance. There will be a survey in the Herald Times for the public to voice their views on the matter. There was also discussion on the pros and cons of a Subdivision Road Improvement Concept.

At the township meeting last month, the board voted to discontinue collecting the Property Tax Administration Fee. Township treasurer Wohlfeil has done additional research on the subject and would like the board to reconsider and vote to continue collecting the 1% PTAF. The tax generated \$47,745 this fiscal year and is to be used only for administration costs for the treasurer and assessor. This revenue would free up monies from other sources in the general fund that could be used elsewhere, perhaps roads. A motion was made by Markovich to collect the 1% PTAF to be used for administrating purposes in the office of treasurer and assessor. Seconded by Wohlfeil. Motion carried with Baker voting against the motion.

TRUSTEES REPORT

Baker reported on the meeting with the County 911 Director Michael Thompson. This meeting was attended by Trustee Baker, Brown and Chief Shelly. It was a productive meeting and helped explain how the system works. There are things to fix and issues to solve, but these will take time. Part of the problem is the Chiefs 911 representative, Dave Duffield, does not share information with the other chiefs. These issues and problems effect all departments not just Otsego Lake Township. We know that this meeting won't solve all the problems, but perhaps it will be a start for all the departments to work together for the benefit of the residents of Otsego County.

Baker distributted copies of a proposal by Wade Trim for a survey of the park and cemetery property. Estimated cost to do both properties is \$3,150. A motion was made by Baker to hire Wade Trim to do the survey of the entire cemetery property and the township park property from Memorial Drive east to I-75. Seconded by Brown, motion carried. Work also needs to be done to vacate the roads in the cemetery and to clear up ownership of the DAV property at the park. A motion was made by Baker to contact our township attorney to work on these two issues. Seconded by Brown, motion carried.

Brown is no longer on the Thunder Over Waters Committee. The new chairperson is Scot Bicknell, owner of the Waters Inn. The next meeting of the committee will be on Monday, November 10th at 6:00 p.m. at the Otsego Lake Township Hall. At the 911 meeting there was discussion about the reception on fire department radios in parts of Guthrie Lakes and Michaywe. Mr. Thompson stated they would be looking into the process and the cost involved in putting the radio transmitter on the State Police tower. Baker spoke to Romar and they will be starting work on the dry well in Opal Lake next week.

CONSTABLE REPORT

Board reviewed monthly reports. Everything checked out during inspections. Constable received a complaint that a resident cut trees illegally at his property on Chub Lake. This was checked out and the only trees that were cut were two trees at the end of this driveway.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT

County Commissioner Backenstose updated the board on some of the happenings at the county. Also attended the Bagley Township Meeting last month and asked about the proposed bike path. There has been no meeting of the Bagley DDA committee but the majority of the property owners in the affected area are not in favor of the path.

Christine Wohlfeil thanked the board and the township for giving her the opportunity to serve as treasurer after the resignation of Whyte.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m. Next regular meeting will be November 20, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Lorraine Markovich, Clerk
Otsego Lake Township