

OTISCO TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
At the OTISCO TOWNSHIP HALL
November 14, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M.

Supervisor Desmond Pike called the Otisco Township Board meeting to order at 7:00 pm, in attendance were John Feuerstein, Joe Borek, Paula Byrne, Desmond Pike and Lynda Sower. Desmond Pike asked Commissioner David Hodges to open with a prayer. Desmond Pike thanked Commissioner Hodges and the township fellowship stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Desmond Pike called for the approval of the agenda with additions, added under New Business E approve the 2024 meeting dates, and F two weeks before the meetings mail out agenda and minutes to Board Members for review. John Feuerstein moved to approve the agenda with changes, seconded by Paula Byrne, motion passes 5-0

Public Comment; Jeff Hunter addressed that he heard a rumor that either Dave Sheid or Ben Jonas is going to build the new addition to the Township Hall. Supervisor Pike replied that Ben Jonas was not interested in building hall, he has his work lined up for next year and is not interested.

Khristie Walls asked about ordinances being available on the township website. They had been there in the past, three or four years ago. She asked if we could do something about getting those back on the website so the public has means to find them without having to come into the office and request copies. Del Pike, Desmond's deputy, stated that the Zoning Ordinance Book has been on the website. He did not believe we have ever had the ordinance book on the website. When the Township moved from the previous website only the Zoning Ordinance book files were there to be transferred. He stated that is something the Township will have to do; produce the ordinance book files in a PDF format to put on the new website.

Approval of Minutes; Motion by Paula Byrne supported by Lynda Sower to approve the October 10th minutes, no discussion, all in favor, motion passes 5-0.

Payables and Payroll; Motion to approve moved by Joe Borek supported by Paula Byrne; no discussion, motion passes 5-0.

Communications; Halloween Hot Dog Party – Thank you to Joe Borek for cooking up the hot dogs. Joe Borek thanked those that came out in the cold to share in the Halloween fun. This may become an annual event.

Reports:

Treasurers printed report available.

Township Deputy, not present, no report available.

Assessor, see printed report, she will be invited to attend a future meeting.

Cemetery Committee, No meeting, no report.

County Commissioner, David Hodges gave an update on the employee changes and employee benefit changes at the Ionia County Road Department. "It's running smooth, as Township supervisor you're going to like dealing with the new people".

Planning Commission; discussion on keeping the Gathering Ordinance, input was the Township should keep it. Additional discussion regarding the Wind and Solar survey being sent out. Proposal is that we just keep the current ordinance. If the survey is to go out in the upcoming tax statement Paula Byrne and her deputy will have to insert them hand by hand. Paula Byrne will need to find out from Ionia County if there is a deadline that needs

to be met to still get the survey inserted into the tax bills before they go to the Ionia County Post Office. The bills are already being printed. Paula Byrne will call Ionia County and notify the Planning Commission of the dates.

Zoning Board of Appeals; no November meeting, there will be a December meeting.

Hall Expansion Committee; no report except that neither David Scheid nor Ben Jonas will be doing the construction.

Unfinished Business; None

New Business; disposal of old drop box, Desmond Pike called for a motion and approval to dispose of the old township drop box. A suggestion was made to take seal bids on it next month. Lynda Sower commented that she liked its size compared to the size of the new boxes, it was larger and held manila envelopes and legal-size papers. It was determined that the township will hold on to the old drop box for the time being.

Public Gathering Ordinance Hearing; public meeting closed at 7:33 pm. Darwyn Hassert and Dan Stephens are representing the Planning Commission, the ordinance has good points for the gatherings in the community, some problems like people leaving trash on the roadside or persons property. The ordinance allows us to collect a \$500 to hold in an escrow account, it is to be returned, unless there has to be clean-up after the event, or gathering. The point of the ordinance is that people have a stake in the event or gathering to go back and clean up their mess. We can't take a deposit of \$500 without an ordinance. Close Public Hearing at 7:39 pm.

Public Gathering Ordinance - Board discussion; The ordinance doesn't affect family gatherings, graduations, other private events, the only thing it affects is events you charge an admission fee to or if you have alcohol. Motion made by Lynda Sower that we leave the ordinance with no modifications, supported by Paula Byrne, brief final comment, "When has a gathering permit ever been denied?", the answer was "never." No permit has been denied, the township has added some conditions on some gathering permits when issued. Motion passes 4-1.

Goals for 2024 Desmond Pike and Del Pike are starting to think about the 2024 budgets and where the township needs to put money and maybe where the township doesn't need to put money. They would also like feedback from the residents of Township and asked for suggestions to be brought to the December meeting. Budget Meetings to be scheduled after first of the year, in January and February.

2024 Meeting Dates; motion by Paula Byrne supported by John Feuerstein to approve the meeting dates for 2024. Motion passes 5-0

Agenda and Meeting Minutes Two Weeks Ahead; Joe Borek stated that Planning Commission folder has the minutes and agenda about two weeks before the meeting so there is time to review. Desmond Pike stated that he will attempt to have the agenda available ahead of time, also noting that there are last minute additions and subtractions to the agenda. John Feuerstein felt seven days was enough time before the meeting; Paula Byrne also said a week prior to the meeting was acceptable and asked about emailing or mailing the agenda to Board Members.

No closing Public Comment.

Motion to adjourn made by Joe Borek supported by Paula Byrne, passes 5-0
Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted
by Laura J Staats

For Payroll ID: 248 Check Date: 12/11/2023 Pay Period End Date: 11/30/2023

Check Date	Bank	Check Number	Name	Check Gross	Physical Check Amount	Direct Deposit	Status
12/11/2023	GEN	7399	BAILEY, KENDRA S	206.00	190.24	0.00	Open
12/11/2023	GEN	7400	BANNISTER, ANGIE R	738.00	650.17	0.00	Open
12/11/2023	GEN	7401	BOREK, JOSEPH M	358.33	315.69	0.00	Open
12/11/2023	GEN	7402	BYRNE, PAULIA	1,739.58	1,488.18	0.00	Open
12/11/2023	GEN	7403	CHRZAN, LYLE S	387.00	340.95	0.00	Open
12/11/2023	GEN	7404	FEUERSTEIN, JOHN G	358.33	315.70	0.00	Open
12/11/2023	GEN	7405	FRAIN, SALLY A	1,950.00	1,496.27	0.00	Open
12/11/2023	GEN	7406	MERCER, LARRY	1,754.75	1,509.55	0.00	Open
12/11/2023	GEN	7407	PIKE, DESMOND L	1,583.33	1,462.20	0.00	Open
12/11/2023	GEN	7408	SOWER, LYNDIA	1,675.00	1,245.50	0.00	Open
12/11/2023	GEN	7409	SOWER, LYNDIA	333.34	293.67	0.00	Open

Totals: Total Physical Checks: 11 Number of Checks: 011 11,083.66 9,308.12 0.00

Total Check Stubs:

Check Date	Bank	Check	Vendor	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
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Bank FIRE FIRE

Check Type: Paper Check

11/27/2023	FIRE	1038	BEL FIRE	BRIDGING FIRE DEPT.	3RD QUARTER 2023 -- JULY 1-SEPT. 30, 20	15,476.00	
						Total Paper Check:	15,476.00

FIRE TOTALS:

Total of 1 Checks: 15,476.00
 Less 0 Void Checks: 0.00

Total of 1 Disbursements: 15,476.00

Bank GEN GEN FUND

Check Type: Paper Check

11/27/2023	GEN	7382	ACCIDENT	ACCIDENT FUND	AUDIT PAYMENT	100.00	
11/27/2023	GEN	7383	KERKSTRA	KERKSTRA	HANDICAP PORTABLE RESTROOM RENTAL	175.00	
11/27/2023	GEN	7384	LYLE	LYLE CHRZAN	PAINT FOR CEMETERY GATES	49.70	
11/27/2023	GEN	7385	QUILL	QUILL.COM	CLERK INK	573.44	
11/30/2023	GEN	7386	IONIA PO	IONIA POST OFFICE	POSTAGE FOR MAILING OF TAXES WTEBER2023	879.48	
12/04/2023	GEN	7387	ACCIDENT	ACCIDENT FUND	PREMIUM - AUDIT --- 8/22-8/23	100.00	
12/04/2023	GEN	7388	FOS-SWIFT	FOSTER SWIFT COLLINS & SMITH PC	CLIENT REGARDING ORDINANCES	247.50	
12/04/2023	GEN	7389	RANSFORDG	FRESH COAST PLANNING	FIRST HALF OF RETAINER FEE FOR 2024	1,875.00	
12/04/2023	GEN	7390	DRAIN COMM	IONIA COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSION	DRAINS FIXED-JACOBY-BRICKER-HOMES-SNOW-	2,920.31	
12/04/2023	GEN	7391	JOHNHANCK	JOHN HANCOCK	ELECTED OFFICIALS PENSION	577.49	
12/04/2023	GEN	7392	KERKSTRA	KERKSTRA	PORTABLE HANDICAP TOILET	175.00	
12/07/2023	GEN	7393	CONSUMERS	SPECTRUM PRINTERS, INC.	PAPERWORK FOR RUNNING FOR POSITIONS FOR	138.00	
12/07/2023	GEN	7394	CONSUMERS	CONSUMERS ENERGY	ALL ELECTRIC BILLS FOR TOWNSHIP	257.08	
12/07/2023	GEN	7395	MANER	MANER COSTERSIAN	CONSULTING -YEAR END WORK--RECONCILIATI	8,597.65	
12/07/2023	GEN	7396	PIT BOW FI	PITNEY BOWES FINANCIAL SERVICE	POSTAGE FOR METER	473.51	
12/07/2023	GEN	7397	PITSCH	PITSCH RECYCLING & DISPOSAL, INC.	LAND FILL VOUCHERS	400.00	
12/07/2023	GEN	7398	VIEW	VIEW NEWSPAPER GROUP	PUBLIC NOTICE K. THOMAS - OUTDOOR GATH.	326.50	
12/11/2023	GEN	7380	DTE	DETROIT ENERGY	HEAT AT HALL	106.31	
12/12/2023	GEN	7411	DRAIN COMM	IONIA COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSION	DRAIN AT LARGE	2,993.26	
						Total Paper Check:	20,965.23

GEN TOTALS:

Total of 19 Checks: 20,965.23
 Less 1 Void Checks: 2,920.31

Total of 18 Disbursements: 18,044.92

Bank ROADS ROADS

Check Type: Paper Check

12/07/2023	ROADS	1071	DRAIN COMM	IONIA COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSION	DRAIN PROJECTS - SNOW-BRICKER-BENEDICT-	2,993.26	
						Total Paper Check:	2,993.26

IONIA COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSION

DRAIN PROJECTS - SNOW-BRICKER-BENEDICT-

Total Paper Check: 2,993.26

Check Date	Bank	Check	Vendor	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
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ROADS TOTALS:

Total of 1 Checks: 2,993.26
 Less 1 Void Checks: 2,993.26
 Total of 0 Disbursements: 0.00

Bank SHERI SHERIFF ACCT.

Check Type: Paper Check

12/04/2023	SHERI	1055	ICTREAS	IONIA COUNTY TREASURER	SHERIFF DEPUTY COVERAGE NOV. 2023	3,639.13
					Total Paper Check:	3,639.13

SHERI TOTALS:

Total of 1 Checks: 3,639.13
 Less 0 Void Checks: 0.00
 Total of 1 Disbursements: 3,639.13

REPORT TOTALS:

Total of 22 Checks: 43,073.62
 Less 2 Void Checks: 5,913.57
 Total of 20 Disbursements: 37,160.05