

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE OTSEGO TOWNSHIP BOARD
HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Otsego Township Board was held on Monday, August 10, 2020 at the Otsego Township Hall, 400 North 16th Street, Otsego, Michigan.

Members Present: Supervisor Winn, Clerk Squibbs, Treasurer Lunarde-Alexander, Trustees McPherson, Moll, Bumgart and Burns.

Members Absent: None.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Winn.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Consent Agenda:

A motion by Squibbs with support by Lunarde-Alexander was made to approve the consent agenda consisting of the July 13, 2020 Board Minutes, Agenda Items and Payment of Bills in the amount of \$90,817.50.

Roll Call: Yes – McPherson, Burns, Moll, Bumgart, Lunarde-Alexander, Squibbs, Winn.

No – None.

Motion carried.

Open Forum:

No comments were made.

Old Business:

Sewer/Water Project Update: Mike Schwartz was present from Prein and Newhof to give a presentation on the process for the application for a USDA/Rural Development loan. Andy Campbell was present from Baker Tilly Financial Advisors to provide information on the financial aspect of creating the project. An explanation was given for the two options of financing the costs associated with the individual parcels in the project through either the creation of a special assessment (involuntary) district or a voluntary hookup program and Mr. Campbell indicated the funds would probably be a combination of loans and/or grants to pay for the construction costs. A decision about how the Township will proceed will be needed after the application is submitted to and reviewed by USDA/Rural Development.

Fire Department/Medical Runs: A letter was received from the City of Otsego requesting decision regarding the provision of medical first response by the Otsego Fire Department to the residents of Otsego Township.

Motion by Winn with support by Bumgart to continue to pay for medical first response by Otsego Fire Department to the residents of Otsego Township through the next licensing period with extends from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

Roll Call: Yes – McPherson, Burns, Moll, Bumgart, Lunarde-Alexander, Squibbs, Winn.

No – None.

Motion carried.

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Public Works Employee: Interviews of candidates for the full-time position in the Public Works Department were conducted by Bryan Winn, Chuck Cushman and Karen Burns. The Township received five applications for the position and selected three individuals to interview. A recommendation to the Board was made to hire Todd Sturgis. Motion by Squibbs with support by Winn to offer the position of Public Works Employee to Todd Sturgis with a starting wage of \$19.50 per hour for the first three months, increasing to \$20.00 per hour and \$600 per month payment in lieu of health insurance. Roll Call: Yes – McPherson, Burns, Moll, Bumgart, Lunarde-Alexander, Squibbs, Winn. No – None. Motion carried.

New Business:

ZBA Appointments:

Motion by Winn with support by Moll to appoint Tom Burns, Zana Williams and Chet VanderPloeg to the Zoning Board of Appeals through 2023. Yes – 7, No – 0. Motion carried.

110th Street Reconstruction Bid: Received a bid from the Allegan County Road Commission to complete reconstruction/rehabilitation of 110th Avenue from 12th to 15th Street and 15th Street from 110th Avenue to 111th Avenue. The lowest bid exceeds the amount budgeted in this fiscal year for road reconstruction. Money budgeted for repaving can be reallocated to construction but will still be insufficient to cover the entire amount of the bid.

Motion by Winn with support by McPherson to accept the bid from Brenner Excavation in the amount of \$532,683.40 contingent upon ACRC deferring a portion of the payment until the next Township fiscal year.

Roll Call: Yes – McPherson, Burns, Moll, Bumgart, Lunarde-Alexander, Squibbs, Winn. No – None. Motion carried.

Ballot Language Resolution: A resolution was presented to the Board to place a proposal on the November 2020 ballot requesting up to 2 mills in new taxes to fund public safety costs within the Township. Money raised from this millage would pay for fire services, medical first response, a contract deputy from the Allegan County Sheriff Department and ambulance services.

Motion by McPherson with support from Winn to adopt the resolution to place a proposal on the November 2020 ballot requesting up to 2 mills for public safety in the Township.

Roll Call: Yes – McPherson, Burns, Moll, Bumgart, Lunarde-Alexander, Squibbs, Winn. No – None. Motion carried.

Communications and Reports:

The August 2020 ballot proposal to increase the recycling surcharge to \$50 per year for the next ten years passed.

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Supervisor Winn indicated there is a need for Board of Review members and asked board members help in seeking interested people for the positions.

With no further business before the Board, a motion by Winn with support by Moll was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Yes – 7, No – 0. Motion carried.

Joan Squibbs, Clerk

Bryan Winn, Supervisor

I, the undersigned Joan Squibbs, the duly qualified and elected Clerk for the Township of Otsego, Allegan County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of certain proceedings taken by the Township Board of said Township at a regular board meeting held on the 10th day of August, 2020.

Joan Squibbs, Clerk
Otsego Township