

TOWN OF OTEGO

March 13, 2024

The Town Board of the Town of Otego held a regular board meeting on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 6:00 pm at the Municipal Building, 3526 State Highway 7, Otego, New York. The purpose of the meeting was to audit the bills and any other business coming before the board.

The following members were present:

Joseph Hurlburt	Supervisor
Terri Horan	Town Clerk
Barbara Stanton	Councilperson
Jimmy Hamm	Councilperson
Terry Brown	Councilperson
Royce Livingston	Councilperson
JR Hurlburt	Highway Department Supervisor

Visitors: Brad Walrod, Jim Hurlburt, Dave Sheldon, Kathy Davis

Minutes

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by Royce Livingston, to approve the minutes of the February 7th regular meeting. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Supervisor's Report - Supervisor Hurlburt read the report for February 2024

General Fund townwide beginning balance:	\$552,573.99
Receipts:	304,610.43
Disbursements:	<u>39,780.58</u>
Ending Balance:	\$817,403.84
General Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$ 34,538.75
Receipts:	51,766.14
Disbursements:	<u>1,265.88</u>
Ending Balance:	\$ 85,039.01
Highway Fund townwide beginning balance:	\$508,882.78
Receipts:	388,877.19
Disbursements:	<u>46,356.65</u>
Ending balance:	\$851,403.32
Highway Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$980,164.31
Receipts:	206,403.07
Disbursements:	<u>68.40</u>
Ending balance:	\$1,186,498.98

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by Jimmy Hamm, to accept this report as read. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Dog Control Officer

Mrs. Horan read the dog control report issued by DCO Amy Cross. On February 4, 2024 she received a report of neighbor dogs that were barking, climbing fence, and trying to get through a hole in fence. The resident reported that a dog there had a previous record. DCO visited residence on February 5, 2024. The dangerous dog had been euthanized six months prior. Other dogs in the house were fine, she walked the back yard and the two fenced areas. No dangerous dogs, two unlicensed dogs were licensed within two days. On February 29, 2024 DCO called delinquent dog owners for renewals.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Report

Mrs. Horan presented the Town Clerk report for February and the status of tax collection to date. By the end of February, 73.9% of the property taxes had been collected, for a total of \$1,442,304.55. An additional check has been issued to the county for \$100,000.

County Representative

Mr. Brockway mentioned that a study by the County Administrator on Public Safety that would have cost taxpayers over \$160,000 and would have duplicated previous information was voted down.

Town of Otego/March 13, 2024

Code Officer

Mr. Wilber issued an Order to Remedy to the occupants of 848 County Route 48 in Otego to clean up garbage, refuse, and junk automobiles by 3/30/2024. He reports that efforts to clean the property up have begun.

Highway Report

Mr. JR Hurlburt reported he and 300+ highway superintendents met with Senator Oberacker and other legislators in Schoharie recently to try and get the 60 million dollars in CHIPS funding restored to the NYS budget as well as the 40 million in RTS funding. This funding is crucial to local and rural roadways and bridges to keep them in safe and functional condition. In other news, the highway department is out on the roads working on brush.

Planning Board

Lois Chernin submitted a new planning board fee schedule to the board for approval. This change was necessary to cover increasing costs associated with advertising public hearings in the newspaper. Board member Royce Livingston made a motion, seconded by Terry Brown to accept the new fee schedule for the planning board. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

In addition, Lois reported that they are working on a simple boundary line adjustment and a special use permit for a possible home occupation.

ZBA:

Brad Walrod, of Beilby Road, introduced himself and noted his background on previous ZBA boards. Barbara Stanton made a motion to accept Mr. Walrod to serve the term vacated by John Markus in August 2023. This motion was seconded by Royce Livingston. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

Jim Hurlburt:

Mr. Hurlburt presented his proposition to build a small baseball/softball equipment shed on the upper Little League/Softball Field off of Willow Street. Barbara Stanton made a motion, seconded by Jimmy Hamm, to approve the building of the equipment shed. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

JCAP Grant for Accessible Doors/New Flooring for Courtroom, Hallways and Bathrooms

The JCAP grant was approved for handicap accessible front doors. As soon as the contract is signed, the electricians will schedule work to begin. Door work will precede the new flooring. New quotes were provided for the flooring that included removal/disposal of the existing linoleum and sub-floors first. Royce Livingston made a motion, seconded by Jimmy Hamm, to accept the new flooring proposals. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

Use of Otego Courtroom for Unadilla Town Court

Beth Westfall attended the Unadilla Board Meeting and discussed the offer that the Otego Town Board had made. Renovations on the Unadilla Town Hall/Courtroom are proceeding more quickly than anticipated so they will notify us the Thursday prior to court if they need to use our building.

Warrant #3

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by Jimmy Hamm, to pay the warrant in the following amounts: General Fund vouchers # 52-77 in the amount of \$34,432.89.
Highway Fund vouchers # 22-35 in the amount of \$16,234.37.
Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by Royce Livingston, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Horan
Town Clerk

_____Town Supervisor

_____Town Clerk

_____Councilperson

_____Councilperson

_____Councilperson

_____Councilperson

_____Highway Supt.