

**MINUTES**  
**MONTHLY ORONOCO TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**December 7, 2020 5:30 PM**

**This was a conference call meeting.** The Board adopted Resolution 2020-05, Resolution Establishing the Ability to Conduct Open Meetings by Telephone at the April 6, 2020 meeting. The public can join meetings toll free by calling 844.855.4444, access code 841351#. This number remains the same for all township meetings. Meeting documents will be posted on the township's website, oronocotownship-mn.gov. To locate documents, click the star on the meeting date, the first Monday monthly at 5:30pm.

**The monthly Oronoco Town Board Meeting was called to order on December 7, 2020 by Chair Charlie Lacy.** Present: Supervisors Charlie Lacy, Ken Mergen and Tammy Matzke, Treasurer Kim Stanton, Clerk Lucy Shonyo.

The **agenda** was accepted as presented.

**Agenda Topics**

**OR2020-013MB, Rucker**

This info is condensed from the Olmsted County Planning Department's Staff Report.

**Request:** The request is to split .67 acre from parcel 039693 to be combined with parcel 039692.

**Location:** The property is located in the SE ¼ of the NW ¼ of section 10, T108NR14W, just north of White Bridge Road. The parcel to be divided is just north of 2337 White Bridge Rd NW.

**Zoning:** A-2 Agricultural Protection District

**Background Information:**

There is currently a garage on the area to be divided. The purpose of the split is to attach the garage to the existing parcel to the south. No new parcels will be created with the split. The remnant parcel will remain a farm parcel.

**Staff Recommendation:** "The proposed metes and bounds is in compliance with the requirements of the Olmsted County and Oronoco Township zoning ordinance requirements. Planning staff recommend approval of the split of .67 acres to be combined with the parcel to the south. The applicant must complete and submit a lot combination form to combine the .67 acre parcel with the adjacent 1-acre parcel to the south."

**Kristi Gross, Olmsted County Planner was on the conference call.** Ms. Gross noted that the Staff Report indicated "an easement should be created through the .67 acre parcel so that the remnant to the west of the property has connectivity to the remnant parcel to the east." Ms. Gross noted that on further examination this easement was not necessary.

**Tammy Matzke moved to approve OR2020-013MB based on staff findings and recommendation, inclusive of the condition that the applicant combine parcels, and inclusive of the easement not being necessary. Ken Mergen second, motion carried 3-0. [Lacy-aye, Mergen-aye, Matzke-aye]**

**Road Report – Ken Mergen**

Scott Schumacher reported through Ken Mergen that blading is done.

There is a washout on **Cedar Beach Drive** that will need attention in the spring. It will be examined by the board during the spring road tour.

**Ryan’s Bay Road** should be finished by the end of the week.

**LRIP (Local Road Improvement Program)** - Tammy Matzke noted LRIP dollars are available through MNDOT. The application process requires an engineer/county sponsor and covers construction costs only. This program is for road improvement, not road maintenance. The maximum amount available per township is \$1,250,000. Charlie Lacy will consult with Mike Zillgitt.

**Intersection of Frederichs Dr NW - 85<sup>th</sup> St NW - 11<sup>th</sup> Ave NW** – Ken Mergen consulted with Olmsted CO Public Works about requested stop signs and/or speed limit signs. There are criteria used to determine if these can be used, including number of accidents in a year and traffic volume. Speed restrictions are probably not enforceable. Ken Mergen and Charlie Lacy will schedule a meeting with Captain Chris Wallace to discuss. Clerk Lucy Shonyo will post this meeting when details are known.

**The flashing stop sign at the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> St NE and White Bridge Rd (CR12) is working only intermittently.** Ken Mergen will talk with Olmsted CO Public Works about repair. Oronoco Township will repair if Olmsted CO cannot service it. There was discussion of reverting to a non-flashing stop sign. It is an expensive sign. There may be liability issues if not lighted. **Charlie Lacy moved to authorize Kim Stanton and/or Ken Mergen to spend the amount needed to repair the LED sign. Ken Mergen second, motion carried 3-0. [Lacy-aye, Mergen-aye, Matzke-aye]**

**Cedar Beach Septic Update** – The regrading work has been completed per Chad Knudson, Olmsted CO Senior Code Enforcement Inspector - Well and Septic. Per Pat Loomis, Gopher Septic, it will be spring before it is known if the issues were corrected. A secondary issue: Tom Moyer noticed wet holes around his garage. There has been no rain or snow melt. Mr. Moyer talked with Mr. Knudson about this. Mr. Knudson will examine. Charlie Lacy will followup with Mr. Knudson. Additionally there are some big holes after regrading, partially rock filled, resulting in uneven surfaces. There was discussion about additional fencing and/or No Trespassing signs around the septic site to keep people out. Alice Flood thought residents would prefer a more robust living fence over a physical fence.

**Cedar Beach Parking Ordinance** – Ken Mergen moved to adopt Ordinance 2020-01, Ordinance Regulating Parking on Cedar Beach Drive. Tammy Matzke second, motion carried 3-0. [Lacy-aye, Mergen-aye, Matzke-aye]. Lucy Shonyo will publish and distribute the ordinance as statute requires.

**Broadband** – Kim Stanton contacted Bevcomm with a counter-proposal: The township will withhold \$10,000 of the \$50,000 to fund assistance to remote households, but Bevcomm still agrees to connect 220 households. Bevcomm agreed. This agreement “moves us up the list” for broadband connection, vital for working from home citizens and distance learning for students.

**Charlie Lacy made a motion to adopt “A Partnership Agreement with Bevcomm for a Fiber Broadband Expansion Project in Oronoco Township”. Ken Mergen second, motion carried 3-0. [Lacy-aye, Mergen-aye, Matzke-aye].**

**Zumbro Township Easement** – Zumbro Township, Wabasha County, requested a Permanent Utility Easement for their Ryan’s Bay Sewer Project [formerly known as Sunset Bay Sewer Project].

**Tammy Matzke moved to adopt Permanent Utility Easement, Ryan’s Bay Sewer Project. Ken Mergen second, motion carried 3-0. [Lacy-aye, Mergen-aye, Matzke-aye].** The easement will be recorded with Olmsted County.

#### **Administrative Business**

##### **Minutes Approval –**

**Ken Mergen moved to approve the November 2, 2020 Oronoco Town Board minutes. Charlie Lacy second, motion carried 3-0. [Lacy-aye, Mergen-aye, Matzke-aye]**

##### **Treasurer’s Report – Kim Stanton**

The YTD Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances as of November 30, 2020 shows: Receipts \$643,193.52, Disbursements \$589,165.52 with an ending balance of \$594,921.30. November net payroll (paid in December) totaled \$6,408.14. Payroll includes election judge payroll of \$4,285.01 which the City of Oronoco will reimburse 40%. Claims totaled \$165,562.45. Claims include two early payments approved by the board Nov 2 totaling \$21,834.63 (checks 7208 and 7209). Payment was sent in November but is shown on the December disbursement report.

[Clerk Lucy Shonyo notes that check 7210 was spoiled.]

Kim Stanton’s CTAS was not functioning properly. Repairing it required assistance from the Office of State Auditor which kept him from completing the usual analysis in time for this meeting. A quick analysis showed a mis-match between the bank statement, the treasurer’s CTAS account and the clerk’s CTAS account. Treasurer Stanton’s January report will provide an accounting.

##### **Approval to Pay Bills –**

Claims totaling \$165,562.45 and net payroll totaling \$6,408.14 were presented. **Ken Mergen moved to approve claims and payroll payments. Tammy Matzke second, motion carried 3-0. [Lacy-aye, Mergen-aye, Matzke-aye]**

**OTPAC Report – Charlie Lacy** – OTPAC heard OR2020-004CUP, Oronoco MHC, LLC. This was for an expansion of 20 dwellings to Oronoco Estates manufactured home community. OTPAC approved the CUP.

**Charlie Lacy moved to adopt Resolution 2020-10, Resolution Designating Annual Polling Place. Tammy Matzke second, motion carried 3-0. [Lacy-aye, Mergen-aye, Matzke-aye]**

**Other Topics**

Charlie Lacy asked about **projected 2021 PIFD [Pine Island Fire Dept] costs**. Per Kim Stanton it was not discussed at the last meeting. Concern was raised about keeping our levy asking in check.

Tammy Lacy received an **Oronoco Auto Part update** from MPCA. Refuse is being removed from the site. There was discussion of the OAP property and whether the township would be interested if offered for sale, and what possible uses might be.

**Oronoco Town Board candidate filing** for (1) supervisor and (1) treasurer will be accepted Dec 29 - Jan 12, 2021 at 5pm. Contact Clerk Lucy Shonyo.

**Ken Mergen moved to adjourn at 6:59pm. Tammy Matzke second, motion carried 3-0. [Lacy-aye, Mergen-aye, Matzke-aye]**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Lucy Shonyo, Clerk

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Charlie Lacy, Chair