

**MINUTES**  
**MONTHLY ORONOCO TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**JULY 2, 2018 7PM**

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.

**The monthly Oronoco Town Board Meeting was called to order on July 2, 2018** by Chair Neil Stolp. Supervisors Ken Mergen and Charlie Lacy were present as well as Treasurer Kim Stanton and Clerk Lucy Shonyo.

The **order of agenda** was accepted as presented.

**Minutes Approval:** Correction to June 2018 minutes: Ken Mergen did not attend the PIFD meeting as stated on page 6. Ken Mergen made a motion to approve the corrected June 4, 2018 minutes of the regular monthly Board meeting. Charlie Lacy seconded, motion carried 3-0.

**Agenda Topics**

**Road Report – Scott Schumacher**

- The ditch at Tilly's will be cleaned and seeded starting Tuesday.
- The 12<sup>th</sup> Ave property owner will be responsible for the costs of the additional driveway and culvert. Work is to be coordinated between the property owner and Schumacher's.
- Farmington Township part of 11th Ave NE and 81st NE are deteriorating from the excess traffic due to the US 63 detour route. Neil Stolp will contact Farmington Township.
- Ditch cleaning is needed on 28<sup>th</sup> Ave NW. Water on the road was reported. Schumacher's was instructed not to touch the existing fence, to do the other side only. Scott Schumacher will talk with the property owner before beginning work.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Ave will be bladed to fix the holes.

**OPAC Appointment of Alice Flood**

Neil Stolp made a motion to appoint Alice Flood to a 3-year term on OPAC. Charlie Lacy seconded, motion carried 3-0. Alice Flood replaces Ted Kottem.

**Oronoco Auto Parts – Cross Town Auto**

**Brandon Evans** was present to update the Board. He lives at 360 1<sup>st</sup> St, Oronoco (Oronoco city), next door to Oronoco Auto Parts located in the Township.

- There has been a "slight decrease" in late night traffic and noise. He is awakened a few times each week due to noise.
- He continues to pick up trash (car pieces) from the road (Oronoco city street). He has saved everything.
- Fumes are an issue.
- There is a large pile of tires collecting water and attracting mosquitos.

**Oronoco Auto Parts – Cross Town Auto, continued**

- Mr. Evans spoke of a 2010 Resolution passed by the city of St. Paul in response to a similar legal non-conforming property owned by the same owners of Oronoco Auto Parts when they attempted to expand their business. The ruling was appealed. A “dummy corporation” was created (S.P. Holding), then leased back to the business.
- Per Mr. Evans Olmsted County Zoning Ordinance Section 1.28: Non-Conforming Uses seems to prohibit this intensified business.
- There is no barrier or buffer between the junk yard and neighboring residential areas as required by Section 10.12 of Oronoco Township Zoning Ordinance.
- Mr. Evans wants to be reasonable but is frustrated by the on-going situation.

**Chris Erickson** from Oronoco Auto Parts addressed the Board.

- There has been no second shift, no night operation (after 10pm) since November. People have been laid off. Video camera record street activity. (Neighbors of Oronoco Auto Parts in attendance disagreed; they have documented activity after 10pm.)
- There was no “dummy corporation” named SP Holding, but was a SPS, “not related” per Mr. Erickson. There was a rental agreement between SPS and Mr. Erickson’s business.
- Charlie Lacy asked how common crushing equipment was, Mr. Ericson said it was “more common to dismantle”. The “salvage yard” (Township) would have the crushing equipment.
- Neil Stolp asked what they would do with the “smelter”. Mr. Erickson: “we’d like to set it up in the yard”. The City of Oronoco has denied a permit to operate the furnace in the building located in the city. Mr. Erickson noted that these furnaces operated in neighborhoods in other locations in which they do business.
- Per Mr. Erickson, it is not a “smelter” but rather a furnace that melts aluminum, operates at 1200 degrees, runs on natural gas, and emissions are safe per the MPCA.
- The “brown building” (in the City) will no longer have roll off dumpsters in it.
- In response to a question from Charlie Lacy, Mr. Erickson noted he has talked with Kristi Gross from Olmsted County Planning about options for the salvage yard located in the township.
- Mr. Erickson believes moving equipment into the Township site would be within their current allowable operating provisions.
- Neil Stolp advised Mr. Erickson to talk with the County before anything is changed.

**Sunset Bay Septic** – Sheila Craig was present to update the Board.

**Geo-Tech Study** - It has been determined by MPCA and MFA that the Geo-Tech Study will not be done at this time. Instead it will be done before construction and included in construction costs. There were insufficient funds remaining in the TAG grant to do the study. The remaining TAG funds can be used for other expenses later.

Sunset Bay does not qualify for the PSIG (Point Source Implement Grant) since there are no septic pipes going into the water. Dye studies could be done, but they are expensive and not cost effective in this situation. Ryan's Bay does qualify for PSIG so will qualify for the 75% - 80% grant.

Ms. Craig previously distributed an article by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources about the Cedar Beach septic project.

A motion was made by Neil Stolp to authorize Sheila Craig and Wenck to start the Sunset Bay funding process with MFA. Ken Mergen seconded, motion carried 3-0. It is expected the Board will have a Small Community Grant Application resolution to approve in August.

**Land Appraisal** – Blenkre Appraisal Services appraised the 11+/- acres for the Sunset Bay site at \$110,000. A motion was made by Ken Mergen to offer the landowners \$7,000.00/acre.

Charlie Lacy seconded, motion carried 3-0. The Board asked Ms. Craig to get legal advice from Troy Gilchrist as to the form this offer should take given its two uses.

**Angela Smith**, an Oronoco Township resident updated the Board on the Oronoco Area Wastewater System Project with information from the public information meeting held June 28<sup>th</sup>. The options are connecting to Rochester or doing an Oronoco WWTF, independent of Rochester. This is a city of Oronoco project.

**Ryan's Bay Road Project Update** – The Board agreed to share the cost of a revised engineering plan to be done by Dietrich Flesch, Wabasha County Engineer, to reroute the road to follow the tree line. Mr. Flesch (in a previous email) estimated revision costs at "probably \$1500 or less". When the revised plan is complete, updated bids from the contractors will be needed. Neil Stolp asked that Schumacher's as well as Fitzgerald rebid the project. [This was communicated to Dori Klein, Zumbro Township clerk.]

**Blakely Court NW Road Damage** – A vehicle fire caused damage to Blakely Court NW. Neil Stolp will get an estimate of road repair costs, which will be submitted to the vehicle owner's insurance company. Expected payment from the insurance company will be applied to the estimated \$25,000.00 cost of doing all of Blakely Court. Neil Stolp made a motion to hire Barga Incorporated to do the road repair at a cost of about \$25,000.00. Charlie seconded, motion carried 3-0.

**Fire Call Routing** – The Board discussed the process through which fire calls are routed from the initial 911 call to the appropriate fire station. Charlie Lacy and Kim Stanton will take the question to the next PIFD meeting attended.

It was noted that documents from Olmsted County Planning Dept pertaining to Oronoco Township do not include the Pine Island Fire Dept on distributed documents, but they do include the Rochester Fire Dept. Charlie Lacy will contact the Planning Dept. to ask that PIFD be included.

**Township Road Right of Ways** – A document outlining prohibited activity in township road right of ways will be posted to the website and at the Community Center and Post Office.

**American Humane Society** – The Township will discontinue its contact.

**Fire Permits** – Neil Stolp asked what other townships are doing?

**Appointment of election judges for August 14 primary** – Clerk Lucy Shonyo presenting this motion for Board action: That the following persons be potential appointees as election judges for the election to be held August 14, 2018, pending each person's completion of election judge training: Barbara Armbruster, Amy Britain, Wade Clark, Lucinda Clements, Richard Emerson, Mary Fuller, Judy Haglund, Kathleen Hawkins, Michael Hawkins, Leisa Luis-Grill, Anuradha Luke, Rachel Stanton, Peggy Williams, Beverly Wittlief. Clerk Lucy Shonyo recommends Rachel Stanton be appointed Head Judge. Neil Stolp made the above motion, Ken Mergen seconded, motion carried 3-0.

### **Administrative Business**

The **Treasurer's Report** in written form showed the YTD Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances as of June 30, 2018: Receipts \$97,269.68 and Disbursements \$393,741.74 with an ending balance of \$101,386.42. June payroll totaled \$2,037.79, bills totaled \$6,763.52, with disbursements totaling \$8,801.31. Kim Stanton noted that the first half of property tax collections from the county will be received soon. Ken Mergen made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Neil Stolp seconded, motion carried 3-0.

**Approval to Pay Bills** - The bills totaling \$6,763.52 were presented for payment. Neil Stolp made a motion to approve claims payment. Charlie Lacy seconded, motion carried 3-0.

**OPAC Report – Charlie Lacy**

- Alice Flood has agreed to join OPAC. She was appointed earlier in the meeting.
- OPAC is working on revising their By-Laws. They will eliminate the secretary position as the County fills that role. Article 8 referring to hiring employees will be dropped. They retain the authority to pass a resolution as that is necessary in the event a Conditional Use Permit is issued.
- The County will do a training session probably in September.

**Road Side Trash Pickup** – Neil Stolp will follow-up with the person who expressed interest. Lucy Shonyo also found a company who submitted a bid.

Neil Stolp signed **Minnesota Lawful Gambling LG220**, an application for exempt permit requested by Karl Schuller for a raffle at a Lake Zumbro Forever gathering.

**Variance #OR2018-002VAR** was signed by Neil Stolp. This was approved at the June meeting.

**Variance #OR2018-003VAR** was signed by Neil Stolp. Amended findings were issued. This was approved at the June meeting.

**Comments from the Board or Public:**

- May Building Permits for single family homes – 2
- Next OCTOA (Olmsted County Township Officers Assoc) meeting is July 26.
- Primary election is Aug 14. Polls are open 7am to 8pm, Oronoco Community Center.
- From MN State Demographer: Apr 2017 population estimate is 2,323 (2016 was 2,297), household estimate is 862, unchanged from 2016.
- An animal complaint (dog bite) report was received from Olmsted County Sheriff.

Ken Mergen made a motion to adjourn at 10:30 pm. Charlie Lacy seconded, motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted

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Lucy Shonyo, Clerk

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Neil Stolp, Chair