

ORONOCO TOWN BOARD
Monthly Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2023

The monthly Oronoco Town Board meeting was called to order on May 8, 2023 at 5:30 pm by Chair Ken Mergen. Present: Supervisors Ken Mergen, Tammy Matzke and Joel Johanningmeier; Clerk Lucy Shonyo, Treasurer Kim Stanton, and Deputy Clerk Jody Schroeder.

The **agenda** was accepted as presented.

Road Report

Scott Schumacher noted spring rocking was finished except for Ryan's Bay Rd. Chloride will be applied on township gravel roads the week of May 15. After that is done, there's generally no more blading.

[The Quality Propane quote for magnesium chloride was accepted at the road tour meeting.]

Tom from Schumacher's graded and reshaped a curve on Ryan's Bay Road.

There was discussion about Schumacher's taking over Ryan's Bay Road and off-shoot roads. The board discussed the relationship between speed limits and preservation of gravel roads. There was discussion about the 18th Ave and 75th St corridor, and access during roundabout construction.

There has been a truck parked on 11th Ave on a blind hill in the ROW.

There was discussion about Lake Front Lane off Postier Dr NW. Supervisor Mergen asked Scott Schumacher to continue winter plowing until told differently. Lake Front Ln has not been accepted as a township road.

Bargen and Fahrner will have quotes for the June meeting for road repairs identified on the spring road tour.

Supervisor Matzke sent communication to Joe Palen, City of Oronoco Engineer, about the condition of Minnesota Ave south of 100th. Restoration work by Fitzgerald Excavating and Trucking is unsatisfactory. Mr. Palen agreed that more work is needed, and he is in contact with Fitzgerald Excavating.

Sergeant Adam Rinn is the sheriff deputy now assigned to the township.

Administrative Business

Minutes Approval

Supervisor Matzke moved to approve the **April 10, 2023 town board meeting minutes** with correction of the entity who purchased the former equestrian center. Supervisor Mergen second, motion carried 3-0.

Supervisor Mergen moved to approve the **April 17, 2023 Local Board of Appeal & Equalization minutes** with a name corrected. Supervisor Matzke second, motion carried 3-0.

Supervisor Mergen moved to approve the **May 1, 2023 Road Tour minutes** with Bargen quote detail is added. Supervisor Johanningmeier second, motion carried 3-0.

Treasurer’s Report – Treasurer Stanton

The YTD Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances as of April 30, 2023 shows: receipts \$74,298.94; disbursements \$347,105.02 with an ending balance of \$1,368,840.74. There is an overage of \$225 between the clerk’s and treasurer’s ending balance compared to bank statements. This is believed to be part of a payroll correction. Clerk Shonyo and Treasurer Stanton will investigate.

Our next tax receipts arrive in July, estimated to be about \$480,000.

The interest gained on CDs goes into the MMDA accounts.

Treasurer Stanton will make schedule 1 line items “Shorewood Lane Paving” and “Ryan’s Bay Road Construction” inactive. Line item “Sunset Bay Septic O&M” shows no activity but once Zumbro Township starts septic construction, Oronoco Township may be eligible for refunds for funds paid when some Oronoco Township properties were part of the project. Treasurer Stanton will check with PFA.

Ameriprise – A letter from the Secretary of State was submitted to Ameriprise as evidence of the township’s legal existence. It is hoped this will qualify. This letter will be placed in the township’s safe deposit box for future needs.

ARPA – This process continues. Treasurer Stanton is being advised by a person at MAT.

Treasurer Stanton told the board he will be moving out of the area. He hopes to continue as treasurer from his new location for a time, commuting to meetings.

Supervisor Johanningmeier moved to approve the treasurer’s report. Supervisor Matzke second, motion carried 3-0.

Approval to Pay Payroll and Claims including Electronic Transfers - April net payroll (paid in May) was \$2,956.80. Claims totaled \$78,162.72. There was discussion about the Roberson rock invoice. Last year’s invoice was about \$77,000, compared to \$50,000 this year. Ryan’s Bay Rd will be rocked next week. Lake Shady Ave was rocked for the first time this year.

Supervisor Mergen moved to approve payment of payroll and claims including electronic transfers. Supervisor Matzke second, motion carried 3-0.

OTPAC – Supervisor Matzke

OTPAC is looking at the Land Use Plan across all township zones, and is incorporating stronger language relating to housing options like tiny homes, shouses and barndominiums, and is considering how they are taxed.

King’s Park Township Owned Land – Supervisor Matzke

Lake Zumbro Forever Inc is interested in acquiring the township owned property for a mini-dredging project. There are deed restrictions on the property. Supervisor Matzke has contacted town attorney Bob Ruppe. Mr. Ruppe has requested a copy of the deed and other pertinent records to determine if transfer is possible.

Supervisor Mergen moved to move forward with the potential land transfer, pending legal review. Supervisor Matzke second, motion carried 3-0.

T and M Properties of Oronoco, LLC – Tammy Matzke

Olmsted County has served a stop work order for work being done on property on Minnesota Lane. Work was started before permits were approved. This is a county enforcement action.

Oronoco Auto Parts – Tammy Matzke

The MPCA will conduct subsurface excavation soon based on soil borings done last fall. There is a Ramsey County court hearing scheduled for August, 2023.

Aspen Ridge Special Meeting

Aspen Ridge developers would like the board to hold a special meeting to approve the final plat. OTPAC is expected to approve it Monday, June 15. **Supervisor Mergen moved to hold a special meeting of the board on Monday, June 22, 5:00pm, if the final plat is approved by OTPAC on June 15. Supervisor Matzke second, motion carried 3-0.** Clerk Shonyo will verify this works for County Planning.

Driveway Permits – Tammy Matzke

Minutes from October 2022 state “Supervisor Mergen will use Olmsted County’s Road Access Policy as a basis for a township policy. It is thought an initial fee of \$50 would be charged to the property owner. A supervisor would assess the desired driveway location and determine if it meets safety standards as stated in our policy. If standards are not met, and the property owner wants to move forward, the property owner would be responsible to hire an engineer.” Olmsted County’s Access Management Ordinance, Ordinance 17-9, was distributed to the Board along with a draft Driveway Ordinance done by town attorney Bob Ruppe. Supervisor Matzke requested the board devote time to this at June’s meeting. Part of this discussion was driveway culverts: who installs, who pays, who replaces when needed, control of size and condition of culvert, etc. Mailbox standards were also discussed as were engineering services.

MN Statute 484.87

In 2018 the township registered for an ORI number with the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to enable the township to receive a portion of fines collected for misdemeanor roadway infractions committed in the township. Our attorney advised the township to not sign a Prosecution Services Agreement requested by the County Attorney. The township has not realized any revenue. Renewal is required every 5 years. The town board agreed to not renew our ORI number.

Clerk Notes

Jody Schroeder was made deputy clerk on April 13th.

The board received the First Responder Contract with the City of Oronoco executed in 2012, Minnesota Statute 169.14 related to speed limits, and a Township Road Overview published by MAT (Minnesota Association of Townships).

Board Comments

Supervisor Matzke

Supervisor Matzke received a call from a realtor about a 19 acre riverfront property for sale on 115th St, asking how many houses could be put on it. Because of shoreland and cliff standards, two houses may be possible, but that would be determined by the county.

Supervisor Mergen moved to adjourn at 7:55pm. Supervisor Matzke second, motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lucy Shonyo, Clerk

Ken Mergen, Chair

Tammy Matzke, Supervisor

Joel Johanningmeier, Supervisor