

MINUTES
MONTHLY ORONOCO TOWN BOARD MEETING
November 2, 2015

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The monthly Oronoco Town Board Meeting was called to order on November 2, 2015 at 7:00 pm by Chairman Mark Thein. Supervisor Neil Stolp, and Treasurer, Kim Stanton were present.

Mark Thein made a motion to approve the October 2015 minutes, Neil Stolp seconded. Motion carried.

The order of agenda was accepted as presented.

The Treasurer's report in written form showed the year to date "Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances" as of October 31, 2015, YTD: Receipts \$303,401.72, YTD and Disbursements \$475,248.56 with an ending balance of \$279,011.93. Mark Thein made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Neil Stolp seconded. Motion carried.

There was not an OPAC meeting in October.

First Responders reported that there were four township runs in October.

The bills were presented for payment, a total \$11,657.33. Neil Stolp made a motion to approve the October bills. Mark Thein seconded, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Sheila Craig Cedar Beach Sewer Project

Sheila reported that she had sent emails to all the officers, submitting a form that needs to be signed by a Township official, then forwarded to Anita Gallentine. Kim Stanton will fill sign the form and submit it to Anita.

She discussed the budget. She has submitted bills to Kim Stanton of around \$14,000.00 that need to be submitted to Anita Gallentine for reimbursement in November.

Sheila has had 9 people sign up. She had been waiting for more residents to meet with her when the Township meeting started. She will send emails to those who didn't come that night, and set up another time to meet with them.

She reported that we need to record a Subordinate Service Agreement, and that it needs a legal description. She passed out the form, "Affidavit of Creation of a Subordinate Service District." Neil moved that we sign and send in the form, creating a Subordinate Service District. Mark Thein seconded. Motion carried.

Sheila reported that the Engineer of the project wants the easements signed. He was authorized to do a work study which was completed last week. He is working on the design, and had the surveyor there to look at it.

David Martino gave an update on the Sunset Bay Road/Ryans Bay Road petitions (see minutes Sept, 2015.) He repeated much of what had been discussed in the September Oronoco Township meeting. He brought a map of the elevation and grading that would be necessary to regrade the road, and suggested that it was perhaps too ambitious to try to move the road as had previously been discussed. He suggested alternatively that if the existing road could be regraded, it might be a more affordable plan and make it easier to get the residents and Zumbro Township's approval. That might accomplish 80% of the goal which is to make the hill safer for all concerned. Neil Stolp brought a packet of notes taken on the project dating back to 1991. Dave took the notes, left the meeting, and returned after reading the notes. Dave pointed out that there were many references over the years of notes to joint support of the project. Neil Stolp said that Zumbro Township had put money into the farming area of the road, but that it was the Lake residents that wanted Oronoco Township to take the project forward. Neil explained that it is the residents themselves that must bring this forward, since they are the ones that will pay for it.

David asked if the Townships would bear the cost of it?

Mark stated that the Township won't fix the road, etc, then afterwards bill the residents. The residents will have to pay for it, not the Townships. He pointed out that this would need to be addressed in the Zumbro Township's upcoming Annual Meeting in March, or it would be at least 2 years before anything got started. Dave stated that according to the notes Neil brought, this problem has been on record since 1962.

Mark reiterated that the Oronoco Township Board would like to see this problem addressed, but that the Zumbro Township needs to get back to them with a fair proposal.

NEW BUSINESS:

Theresa Peterson presented a form to renew the liquor license at Fisherman's Inn. Neil Stolp moved to renew the license, Mark Thein seconded, motion carried.

John Stancyk presented a form to renew the liquor license at Uncle John's Restaurant. Neil Stolp moved to renew the license, Mark Thein seconded, motion carried.

Linda Gammel reported that the septic tanks were inspected by the County and are OK at King's Park. There is garbage on the empty lot (retaining bricks, debris, and old palettes, etc.) She said it is very unsightly. Neil Stolp suggested putting up a no dumping sign. He said Roger Ido from the County would put it up then bill the Township. Mark Thein took his contact info from Neil and will call Roger Ido.

Linda stated that most neighbors are OK with the tanks, though some complain. One neighbor was putting on an addition to his house, and wanted the tank moved. Mark Thein said he can move the tank if he wants to, but needs to pay for it himself. Linda said that the engineers from the Cedar Beach project came over and looked at it, and said it was OK.

Stephanie Rouse from the Olmsted County Planning Department was present to bring forward a recommendation that the Township initiate a Special District at Cedar Beach. She presented a packet that outlined district garages and broke it up into 2 zones. She stated it would not fix all the problems, most property owners would need rezoning for garages. The plan called for reduced setbacks of garages only, not residences. Mark Thein asked what the process would be, and Stephanie stated that it would go to the Planning Commission, to OPAC, and to the County Board, making it a 3 – 4 month process. Neil Stolp moved to initiate the creation of a Special District, Mark Thein seconded, motion carried.

Stephanie revisited the Text Amendment that was discussed at the September meeting concerning solar farms in Olmsted County. John Harford had sent out a one page memo concerning the Text Amendment. The county wants to make solar farms possible under various conditions. Stephanie said the Township could adopt the County's policy with conditions. Mark Thein asked what would happen if the Township didn't adopt it? Stephanie said solar farms would not be allowed, but home use of solar would be. Mark asked if we adopted the County's policy could we amend it later? Stephanie said yes, that would be possible. Neil Stolp moved that we adopt the same policy as the County concerning solar farms, Mark seconded, motion carried.

Kim Stanton stated that he had talked to the County about the parcels in King's Park that have been forfeited to the State. They are really just roads with a sliver of land. Neil had a map which showed the parcels. Kim said there is a concern that if the parcels went up for auction, someone could buy the parcels which could then deny someone else access. Mark Thein said that the job of the Township is to provide access. Mark observed that the Township maintains the road, even if they don't own it, so there is no reason not to own it. Mark asked Kim to direct the County that we will take the parcels. Kim will communicate that to the County.

Neil Stolp brought up an issue with Minnesota Ave on the East side, the Credwig pit. He said he sees there are test holes being dug, which would indicate they are expanding the pit. He has heard that the pit may be changing hands. He feels we should review Conditional Use of the road if the pit is changing hands, as the road is a muddy mess from trucks coming and going. He said the access road could be rocked to keep down the dust and mud. City Council called Mark Thein to say that they will keep the Township informed about change of ownership.

Neil Stolp asked about blacktopping the loop on King's Park. He would like to have an estimate on the cost. Mark Thein stated that the loop is 3660 feet, and would cost approximately \$200,000 for a 4 inch lift, and \$300,000 for a 6 inch lift based on the current prices of asphalt

Neil Stolp brought an article from the paper about cemetery access. It was agreed that the Oronoco Cemetery Constitution should be reviewed with an eye to access issues.

There was discussion about 50th Ave to Frasier Pit being graded.

There was discussion about a township 457b plan. Kim Stanton will confirm what the maximum township matching is.

Neil Stolp moved that the meeting be adjourned, Mark Thein seconded, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Mark Thein, Chairman _____ Rachel Stanton, Acting Clerk _____