

**ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024 at 4:00 PM**

Meeting called to order by Supervisor David Meister at 4:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

**ATTENDANCE:** Bob Blackmore, Ed Bradford, Shelli Johnson and Meister.  
Al Taylor was present remotely

**MINUTES:**

Board Meeting of January 10, 2024. **Motion** by Blackmore, seconded by Bradford to approve the Minutes as presented for the Regular Board Meeting of January 10, 2024. M/C

**AMEND AGENDA:** Add Public Property/Private Property Deed to Old Business. Add ADA Request from Taylor to Immediately following this. Move P&R to after Public Comment.

**ADA REQUEST:** A letter was submitted from Taylor requesting that the Township Board allow him reasonable accommodations, due to mobility issues. This is based on the Attorney General's research that was done. **Motion** by Blackmore, seconded by Bradford to grant the request to Taylor. M/C

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**PARKS & REC:** Presentation by John Wemlinger regarding the Village Park Improvement Plan. Phase II to replace the picnic pavilion of like architecture. The Village has \$10,000 as a line item in their Budget. Suggestion for the Township to designate/Contribute a Budget of \$15,000 toward the project. **Motion** by Bradford, seconded by Blackmore to include \$15,000 in the fiscal year budget toward the project contingent on the Village funding toward the project and contingent on the Township residents getting the same rates as the Village residents when renting the pavilion. M/C

Bick Pratt led a discussion on the wetlands and the Grand Traverse Land Conservancy and conserving land. GTLC would like to move forward. Pratt would like to recommend Dr. Brian Allen be the advocate/representative that the GTLC is looking for. **Motion** by Blackmore, seconded by Bradford to approve Dr. Brian Allen to fulfill that representative spot that the GTLC is looking for. M/C.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** Johnson reported the Revenue and Expenses for the month, along with the Trial Balance.

Early Voting starts on Saturday. Onekama Residents will be required to Vote at Manistee Township Hall if they wish to early vote, located at 410 Holden St.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Bradford reported the cash balances and investment reports, along with the investments for the month.

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Jeff Dontz: Joe Suchocki has been selected to fill the vacancy on the Tax Allocation Board. The County Commission will now vote on filling that Board position. The Regional Summit will be held on 9/19/2024. The Dial-A-Ride Resolution 2024-3 has passed. The Sheriff's department has received 3 new vehicles through Enterprise. The department also received a new airboat through a Federal Grant. Katie Mehl has been appointed to the Remonumentation Grant Administrator position. The Airport has recorded its 4<sup>th</sup> best January on record. The 9-1-1 Board has the 800 Mhz radios in line to be programmed.

Janice McCraner: Absent

## NEW BUSINESS

MRA: Eric Thuemmel reviewed a PowerPoint presentation with a Year-In-Review of statistics for county wide activities. The MRA offers activities to adults as well. Last year, the Township's contribution was \$4,100. Regular cost to participants would be \$72/activity. With the Township participating, the cost per participant is now \$30/activity. The Township covers the Village's portion of residents as well. **Motion** by Blackmore, seconded by Johnson to accept the 2024 agreement in the amount of \$3,060. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

Manistee County Housing North: Would like to have someone from this group come in and give a presentation on this vs a contract to sign.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinance 1020-1 ORV: Tabled to March.

Property for Recycle Containers: Waiting on the owners to work through Probate.

DeVoe Litigation: Next Friday, back in court. Everything is to be done by July.

Cost Recovery Ordinance: Tabled until March

Proposed Draft Budget: Brief Discussion on items. Public Hearing on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 5:00 PM \*Because of the amount of sales that took place, there will most likely be a Headlee Rollback.

Deed for the Privately owned Public Property: **Motion** by Johnson, seconded by Blackmore to pay for the Deed on the property that is Public Access on Privately Owned property, 3 individual checks. M/C

Civic Plus: **Motion** by Bradford, seconded by Blackmore to approve the Civic Plus website Agreement in the amount of \$3,888.25. M/C

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS:

**FIRE:** Report by Chief Rob Johnson. The month of January was extremely busy with over 40 calls. 11 Mutual Aid, 4 lift assists, 5 to Brown Township, and several other fire and medical

related calls. We had a call for our Drone to be used on Manistee Lake, where we assisted the City of Manistee FD, Tribal Police, and Manistee DPW. Discussion taking place to work on a plan to try and alleviate some of the calls to the Bear Lake area. This is a work-in-progress as we navigate through this complicated situation. One member resigned from the Department and that puts us at 10 members. **Motion** by Blackmore, seconded by Johnson to accept the resignation of Matt Erts. M/C Thank you to Matt for the years of service and dedication to the fire department. Your hard work, time, and energy are greatly appreciated!!

**ASSESSOR:** Assessment notices went out today. Everyone should have them by Monday.

**ROADS:** Table the Wick-et-e-wah topic until March.

**HARBOR COMMISSION:** Report received from Jim Simons. Conversations are taking place with the DNR to try and get things done with the ramp this year.

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** Report received from Dave Wallace. There isn't any news on PPI, so they are letting it rest until they reconvene in April.

**BOR:** Board of Review will be in March. Johnson to get with Amber Sedelmaier on publishing in the Newspaper.

**INVASIVES:** Taylor reported that the 2023 Lake Report has minor revisions and corrections for April. This is PLM's last year for the contract.

**PLA:** Progress continues ahead.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Comment received on the ORV ordinance.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Correspondence received from Five Cap. Correspondence received regarding Opioid Lawsuit.

**BILLS TO BE PAID:**

**Motion** by Blackmore, seconded by Bradford to pay the incoming regular January Bills.  
M/C

**ADJOURNED AT 5:34 pm**

---

Shelli Johnson, Clerk