

OTTAWA TOWN BOARD

Meeting Minutes January 9, 2023

The meeting of the Ottawa Town Board was called to order by Chairman Rupp.

Roll call attendance was taken, and Town Supervisors Graham, Smukowski and Wiedenman were present. Chairman Rupp announced we have a Super Majority.

Supervisor Graham made a motion to accept the Treasurer's monthly activity report. His motion was seconded by Supervisor Wiedenman and carried.

Supervisor Graham made a motion to accept the Building Inspector's monthly activity report as presented. His motion was seconded by Supervisor Wiedenman and carried.

The next item on the agenda was the Town Engineer's status report. Town Engineer Sean Sullivan was present. Supervisor Smukowski made a motion to accept the Engineer's report. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Wiedenman and carried.

Western Lakes Fire District sent an email update which Chairman Rupp and Supervisor Wiedenman shared excerpts from.

Chairman Rupp moved forward to item #7 on the Agenda for the 2023 road program review. Town Engineer Sean Sullivan presented maps to the Board as well as a break-down of costs for the base bid as well as alternate bids should the Board wish. Chairman Rupp inquired about an estimate for the Engineering fees. Mr. Sullivan stated that for the bid itself it would be around \$7500.00. Project fees will depend on the contractor and items discussed at a pre-construction meeting.

Chairman Rupp stated she would reach out to Genesee about a shared road and the Engineer will reach out to Dousman about a shared road.

Supervisor Graham made a motion to move forward with the base bid roads and add mandatory alternates of Tall Grass, High Prairie, Springhouse and Waterville roads in the areas indicated on the Engineers map. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Smukowski and carried.

Chairman Rupp announced that Public Comment would now begin and reminded those who wish to speak to keep the comments within a three-minute time frame. She also added that there was a sign-up sheet should anyone wish to have a Town Board member reach out to them to discuss any concerns or questions one on one.

Warren Mundschau, Hardscrabble Rd., spoke. He feels his portion of the fire fee charge is too high. He believes that there are low incidents of barn fires and that farmers are disproportionately charged. He suggested a cap limit on the amount of the charges. He feels farmland fire is very rare. He asked the board to consider this for future billing.

Mark Ridgeman, Hwy D, spoke. He stated that his family has been here for five generations. His property is a farm only and no profit. He has many outbuildings and asks the board to consider building use in the future.

Dave Salas, Fox Hill Dr, spoke. He was not sure of how the charge came to be after the levy referendum failed. He inquired about how it was calculated and also how the re-evaluation and assessment affected his tax bill.

Justin Kutchenreuter, Walters Rd., spoke. He also had questions about the fee in relation to the referendum. He asked if the Town paid for additional WLFD staff for the whole district or just the Ottawa area.

Ray Lauber, Hwy D, spoke. He worries the fee would allow a blank slate for the fire district to charge whatever they want.

The next item on the agenda was for Resolution 1-23 approving the detachment and attachment of property from the Town of Ottawa to the Village of Dousman for the Talbot's Woods project. Supervisor Graham made a motion to approve Resolution 1-23. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Smukowski and carried.

The next item on the agenda was for moving funds designated in Town Land Acquisition to the undesignated General Fund. Chairman Rupp shared what the land acquisition money was set aside for. Moving these funds would be something that can be done at a later date if needed. Supervisor Graham made a motion to keep the funds in designated Town Land Acquisition. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Wiedenman and carried.

Item #10 on the agenda was for 2022 Budget amendments. Supervisor Graham made a motion to amend the budget to transfer the following from surplus to: Highway & Transportation Road Repairs \$81,000; Engineering fees \$21,000; Fire Protection \$8500. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Smukowski and carried unanimously.

Clerk Geyman gave an update on the tax collection process.

Chairman Rupp wanted to discuss the timing for discussing employee performance and pay. Instead of February, it would make more sense to have those discussions closer to budget time to take affect the following year so it can be implemented. Supervisor Graham made a motion to table this item to the February 12, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Wiedenman and carried.

Supervisor Wiedenman gave an update on Lakes. He stated there is a School Section Lake meeting being held on January 11th.

There was no park update. Chairman Rupp did mention that she had spoken with the Town Planner who shared some grant information for playground equipment.

Supervisor Graham made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Smukowski and carried.

Chairman Rupp shared correspondence from OASC, Lake Country Municipal Court and John's Disposal recycling report.

Supervisor Graham made a motion to pay bills as listed, in addition to payroll and associated withholding payments for L Geyman and M Barnhart, We Energies, Cardmember Services as well as tax collection payments for KM schools, PE schools, Oconomowoc schools, WCTC, WLFD, Waukesha County, MFL, SSLMD and PLPRD. His motion was seconded by Supervisor Wiedenman and carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Smukowski and seconded by Supervisor Wiedenman to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori J. Geyman, WCMC
Clerk/Treasurer, Town of Ottawa.