

ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP BOARD TRUTH IN TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING

AND

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2008, 8:45 A.M.

The Truth in Taxation Public Hearing was called to order at 8:55 a.m. by Supervisor David Meister.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members present: Trustee James Wisniski, Trustee Roland Clement, Treasurer LaVonne Schafer-Beebe, Clerk Helen Mathieu.

MILLAGE RATE: Millage rates are: Township: 1.4536; Fire: .8709; Roads: .9691.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

The regular Township Board meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. by Supervisor Meister.

MINUTES: Under Commissioner Ed Haik correct “negotiation” to “negotiating”. **Motion** by Wisniski, second by Clement to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Received and placed on file.

AMEND AGENDA: Add Fishery Grant to Unfinished Business, add Poverty Grant and Web Site under New Business.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

COMMISSIONER ED HAIK: Absent.

COMMISSIONER JANICE MCCRANER: Absent.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Clement reported the planning commission held a workshop and discussed short and long term goals, functions of the commission, etc. The commission will conduct a public hearing Thursday, March 13, 2008 at 6 p.m. for Northwoods Development. It will be followed by the regular monthly meeting, originally scheduled for March 20.

CEMETERY: Wisniski reported that Abonmarche offered to do a digital survey and update of the cemetery. The consensus of the board is to obtain a proposal from Abonmarche for the project, and invite a representative from the firm to attend the April meeting to discuss it with the board.

BOARD OF REVIEW: Meister reported the board held an organizational meeting March 4 and will conduct the mandated meetings for 2008 assessments on Monday, March 10 from 2 to 5 and 6 to 9 p.m. and on Wednesday, March 12 from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: No appeals for February.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: Mary Lou Millard reported: No land use permits, five violation letters written to residents. Public hearing scheduled for March 13 for Northwoods Development.

FIRE/RESCUE: Fire Chief Lawrence Hrachovina reported: 9 rescue runs, 1 meeting, 8 fire runs, 4 meetings and 1 workshop for January; 11 rescue runs, 4 fire runs, 2 meetings and 1 special workshop for February. He explained that the county firefighters are joining together to conduct training for the county for one year, which would include many varieties of classes, at a cost of \$1,000 per township for the year. There is no limit on the number of fire personnel who can attend from each township. Consensus of the board to approve Onekama's participation and approve the funding for it.

SUZANNE SCHWING: Schwing again addressed the board regarding the proposed land acquisition on lakefront property in the village. No township commitment at this time.

PORTAGE LAKE HARBOR COMMISSION: Chairman Jim Mrozinski introduced members Dave Combs, Chuck May and Jim Simons. He reported attending meetings with the Army Corps of Engineers and discussion of formation of a Harbor Coalition. He said dredging of the Portage Lake Channel could possibly start around June 1st, although the date is not firm yet.

Danny Blue will attend a meeting Wednesday, March 5 in Lansing on Aquatic Basic Species. A member of the commission will attend a workshop on "Helping Communities Protect Water Resources" on Thursday, March 20 in Traverse City.

Harbor Commission member chuck May reported on the Michigan Small Harbor Coalition.

He outlined the goals of the coalition which is to unify the small harbor communities to work together as one body with the Army Corps, Administration, Congress, State Legislature and agencies to change the harbor maintenance funding process. It is the group's goal to advocate for all the harbors (ultimately Great Lakes wide) and to obtain a dedicated and adequate budget

-1-

process to support the ongoing viability of Michigan harbors. Currently there is no budget for "recreational harbors (35) and "commercial harbors" (24) are inadequately funded. The group

created a steering committee to prepare for the next meeting on April 29 in Lansing. Harbors have been notified. May said the coalition's primary challenge is to motivate all Michigan small

harbors to attend the next meeting. He said interest has also been shown by the other Great Lakes states.

It was the consensus of the board that all information and inquiries go through the Harbor Commission. The board asked Chairman Mrozinski to submit a monthly report.

MTA-Local: No meeting.

PARKS & RECREATION: No meeting.

PORTAGE ST. FISHERY GRANT: Mathieu reported the township has received a check for \$36,865.50 from the Great Lakes Fishery Trust which completes the Portage Street project.

POTTER ROAD: Meister reported maple trees have been cut down on Potter Road.

AVENUE E: Judgment completed, only item remaining is reimbursement of attorney fees to the township.

MANISTEE RECREATION ASSN: **Motion** by Wisniski, second by Beebe to authorize Meister to sign a two-year contract at \$2,975 annually. Roll call vote: Wisniski, yes; Clement, yes; Meister, yes; Beebe, yes; Mathieu, yes. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP WAGES/ SALARY/CHARGES RESOLUTION. See attached.

GENERAL FUND RESOLUTION: See attached.

FIRE FUND RESOLUTION: See attached.

NORTH POINT PARK RESOLUTION: See attached.

POVERTY RESOLUTION:

POVERTY RESOLUTION 2008—06

WHEREAS, the homestead of persons who, in the judgment of the supervisor and board of review, by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute to the public charges is eligible for exemption in whole or part from taxation under the General Property Tax Act; and

WHEREAS, the township board is required by Section 7u of the General Property Tax Act. Public Act 206 of 1893 (MCL 211.7u), to adopt guidelines for poverty exemptions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, pursuant to MCL 211.7u, that Onkama Township, Manistee County, adopts the following guidelines for the supervisor and board of review to implement.

The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year.

To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

- 1) Be an owner and occupy as a homestead the property for which an exemption is requested.
- 2) File a claim with the supervisor or board of review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the homestead, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year.
- 3) Produce a valid driver's license or other form of identification if requested.
- 4) Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested, if requested.
- 5) Meet *the federal poverty income guidelines as defined and determined annually by the United States Office of Management and Budget OR the current poverty income guidelines adopted by the township board.* **(NOTE: If you plan to adopt guidelines other than the federal guidelines, the alternative guidelines adopted by your unit may be higher than the federal poverty guidelines--making it easier for a person to be eligible for the exemption—but cannot be lower than the federal poverty guidelines—making it harder to be eligible).**
- 6) Meet additional eligibility requirements as determined by the township board, including:

	SIZE OF FAMILY/ HOUSEHOLD	2008 MAXIMUM TOTAL INCOME
1	\$10,210	
2	\$13,690	
3	\$17,170	
4	\$20,650	
5	\$24,130	
6	\$27,610	

7	\$31,090
8	\$34,570
Additional Person	\$ 3,480

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the board of review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption, unless the board of review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why there should be a deviation from the policy and federal guidelines and these are communicated in writing to the claimant.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member LaVonne Schafer Beebe and supported by Board Member James Wisniski.

Upon roll call vote the following voted "Aye": James Wisniski, Roland Clement, David Meister, LaVonne Schafer-Beebe, Helen Mathieu. : "Nay": None.
The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

Clerk

I, Helen Mathieu, the duly elected and acting Clerk of Onekama Township, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the township board of said township at the regular meeting of said board held on March 4, 2008, at which meeting a quorum was present by a roll call vote of said members as hereinbefore set forth; that said resolution was ordered to take immediate effect.

Clerk

CALENDAR

ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP MEETING CALENDAR

Fiscal Year 2008-2009

Regular Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month.

NOTE: PLEASE TAKE NOTICE OF DATE CHANGE: (MAY 7, AUGUST 6, NOV.5, 2008 will be on Wednesday)

April 1, 2008	9:00 a.m.	October 7, 2008	9:00 a.m.
May 7, 2008	WED 9:00 a.m.	November 5, 2008	WED 9:00 a.m.
June 3, 2008	9:00 a.m.	December 2, 2008	9:00 a.m.
July 1, 2008	9:00 a.m.	January 6, 2009	9:00 a.m.
August 6, 2008	WED 9:00 a.m.	February 3, 2009	9:00 a.m.
September 2, 2008	9:00 a.m.	March 3, 2009 (Public Hearing	

8:45a.m.prior to reg. 9:00 a.m. meeting)

MARCH 3, 2009 MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 8:45 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING ON TOWNSHIP

BUDGET PROPOSAL. Meetings will be held at the Township Meeting Room, 5435 Main St..

Meeting date changes will be posted and notice put in the Manistee News Advocate.

BOARD MEMBERS: Supervisor, David Meister; Clerk, Helen Mathieu; Treasurer, LaVonne Beebe; Trustees, Roland Clement and James Wisniski

LAND USE PERMITS: Contact Zoning Administrator, 5435 Main St., Onkama, MI 49675. (231) 889-3308

PLANNING BOARD, APPEALS BOARD, BOARD OF REVIEW, PUBLIC HEARINGS, TOWNSHIP BOARD special meetings will be posted on the Onkama Township Office

Bulletin Board.

ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Fiscal year 2008-2009

April 17, 2008

October 16, 2008

May 15, 2008

November 20, 2008

June 19, 2008
2008

December 11,

July 17, 2008

January 15, 2009

August 21, 2008

NO FEBRUARY MEETING

September 18, 2008
2009

March 19,

Planning regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of the months listed above at 7:00 p.m.

NOTE: DECEMBER 11, SECOND THURSDAY

PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS: Chairman, Dan Behring; Vice-Chairman, Jim Mrozinski; Secretary, Mary Lou Millard; Members – Rudy Gross, Dennis Wickstrom, Phil Joseph, Roland Clement.

ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEALS

Organizational meeting to be conducted at the first hearing of the year. Hearings will be held whenever required and will be posted on the Township Bulletin Board.

APPEALS BOARD MEMBERS: Chairman, Tom Gerhardt; Secretary, Roland Clement; Dennis Beebe -- Alternates: Joann Hilliard, Jim Millard.

BURNING PERMITS: Burning permits issued by calling the DEQ at 866-922-2876

*****Township residents: Keep in mind when calling for burning permits, that you are (Twp. 23 N. and Range 16 W) and your section number. **FIRE CHIEF: Lawrence Hrachovina, 889-4240 (fire building); 889-3308 (twp. office).**

TOWNSHIP OFFICE PHONE: (231) 889-3308; FAX: 889-5587. Leave message on office answering machine if you need assistance after hours. E-Mail:onekamatwp@charterinternet.com.

This notice is posted in compliance with PA267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA

41.72 (2) (3) and the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

The Onekama Township Board will provide necessary and reasonable auxiliary aids and services.' Onekama Township requires two week's notice of the need for such aids.

NOTE: Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Onekama Township Board by writing or calling the following:

Helen Mathieu, Clerk – 5435 Main St. P.O. 458 , Onekama Mi., 49675; (231) 889-3308.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR POSITION : The interview committee presented its recommendation of two candidates for the position of zoning administrator to the township board. **Motion** by Clement, second by Wisniski to hire Christopher Grobbel for two, eight hour days at a salary of \$14,000 per year for the part time position of Zoning Administrator. Roll call vote: Helen Mathieu, yes; LaVonne Schafer-Beebe, yes; David Meister, yes; Roland Clement, yes; James Wisniski, yes. Motion carried.

TIMBER CONTRACT: To be decided at the May meeting.

ORDINANCE FEE POLICY: Place on April agenda.

WEB SITE: Meister explained a proposed web site for the township and the village. Consensus of the board to support the web site project.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Comments received from Mike Acton on the Watershed Forever Project, which includes a plan to build up funding to help communities. He said the township and village are working together on water quality.

ROAD COMMISSION: Wisniski reported that work on Milarch Road and Coates Highway may not be done because money is not available.

COMPUTER: Consensus of the board to order a computer for the assessor/supervisor for 4700.

BILLS: **Motion** Wisniski, second by Beebe to pay all regular and incoming bills. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

---Manistee Revenue Sharing ---MTA ---DEQ#07-51-0048-P

---DEQ#07-51-0041-P ---DEQ#07-51-0028-P ---DEQ#07-51-0038-P

---MI Wildlife Conservancy ---Sen. Carl Levin

ADJOURN: 12:28 p.m.

David Meister, Supervisor

Helen Mathieu, Clerk

LaVonne Schafer-Beebe, Treasurer

Roland Clement, Trustee

James Wisniski, Trustee