

DRAFT

ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2017, 9 A.M.

The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. by Supervisor David Meister.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members present: James Wisniski, Robert Blackmore, LaVonne Beebe, Shelli Johnson, David Meister.

MINUTES: Motion by Blackmore, second by Wisniski to approve the minutes of the Dec. 6, 2016 Regular Meeting with the following correction: Remove Blackmore's name from the "members present" list and list him as absent. He arrived at 9:26 a.m., which is noted in the meeting minutes. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: Clerk Johnson reported there are no changes in the budget numbers. She met with the auditors who confirmed that the Fire Fund owes the General Fund \$16,251.26, which has already been transferred to the General Fund. The new Manistee County Road Commission meeting schedule is posted in the township lobby.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Beebe reported the General Fund Balance for the month ending December, 2016 is \$86,582.59; ending balance for the Fire Fund for the month ending December, 2016 is \$164,650.91.

AMEND AGENDA: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Comments and correspondence received from Dan Behring.

COMMISSIONER PAULINE JAQUISH: Absent.

COMMISSIONER JEFF DONTZ: Absent.

FIRE/RESCUE: Fire Chief Clinton Osborn reported 3 fires, 17 rescues, no meetings for the month of December. For the year 2016 there were 180 medical calls, 81 fire calls, totaling 261. This total also includes 911 calls, standbys and meetings. Four fire department members responded to over 100 runs each in 2016. They are Kaitlin Kubiskey, Roger Cody, Thomas Koon and Clinton Osborn. In 2016, the department received grants including \$3,776 from the Michigan Townships Participating Plan for backup cameras and chevrons for several department vehicles, \$4,400 in Revenue Sharing Board for 2 chainsaws, 5 carbon fiber SCBA cylinders and help in upgrading the fire hall lights to LEDs.

The department received delivery of a 2017 E-One Watermaster 3,500 gallon vacuum tanker. This replaces the Kenworth Tanker 102, which has been sold to the Hovland Volunteer Fire Department in Minnesota. Osborn said it took 3 minutes and 15 seconds to fill the new tanker, compared to 10 minutes in filling the old one.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

---**Article, No. 1007:** Vice Chairman Al Taylor reported the commission discussed deletion of Article 10, Section 1007 B, Average Waterfront Setback and agreed to recommend to the board to delete this section. **Motion** by Blackmore, second by Wisniski to take the commission's recommendation and delete Section 1007 B. Roll call vote: James Wisniski, yes; Robert Blackmore, yes; Shelli Johnson, yes; LaVonne Beebe, yes; David Meister, yes. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

---**PPI Update, Time Extension:** Taylor said the commission is awaiting reports from the experts on Traffic, Marina and Zoning. With mutual agreement with developer Bob Gezon the timeline for consideration of the amendment to the SUP for Portage Point Inn is extended to March 1.

---**Article 10, Section 1012-No. 3, Non-Certified Platted Roads:** The planners agreed that their general sentiment is this issue may not require further regulation.

BOARD OF REVIEW/ASSESSOR: Meister reported for Assessor Ginny Martz: The December Board met Dec. 13 and acted on 12 affidavits. Copies of the affidavits, minutes and all associated reports were delivered to Equalization, county treasurer and township treasurer on Dec. 14. Taxpayer's copies were also mailed Dec. 14. Warrants were generated, checked and signed Dec. 20 and given to township and village treasurers and also to the county. Final ratios are: ag, 48.21 per cent; commercial, 49.33 per cent; residential, 49.48 per cent. A Michigan tax tribunal hearing will be conducted Jan. 13 at the courthouse.

ZBA: No report.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Mary Lou Millard read Zoning Administrator Kris Philpot's report: 2 Land Use Permits issued but pending due to lack of an address; Little Eden Camp submitted an application for review by the Planning Commission for an amendment to its Special Use Permit. The applicant is aware that there will be no progress on the submission until the Commission resumes regular meetings in April. The zoning administrator asked the board for guidance on how long a paid land use permit should be kept pending on the books. The board agreed to discuss a new fee schedule for incomplete, pending permits.

The zoning administrator's report for 2016 shows 22 Land Use Permits issued; 2 Special Use Amendments pending, 1 variance denied, 1 variance granted.

LANGLAND PARK SIGN: Consensus of the board to turn the issue over to the Planning Commission.

KAYAK LAUNCH: Wisniski discussed the pros and cons of other possible launch locations. Taylor will obtain information on the launch dimensions and size from the design/builders and report back to the board.

MTA: No meeting.

PLA: Taylor reported that the PLA's new president is Julie Lapinski. Other new officers are Vice President, Diane Bess; Past President, Taylor; Treasurer, Evie McNeil; Secretary, Mary Jo McElroy. The group put \$70,000 into the community in 2016. Plans are under way for the Petunia Parade with

Larsen's Landscaping donating assistance to the project. Taylor said the casino no longer allows venues like the PLA fund-raiser, etc. to use its facilities.

INVASIVE SPECIES: Chairman Mary Reed will present a complete report at the February board meeting.

WATERSHED: New officers are Chairman, Al Taylor; Past chairman, Mary Reed; Vice Chairman, Ted Lawrence; Treasurer, Jim Simons; Secretary, Kathy Ervin.

ALLIANCE FOR ECONOMIC SUCCESS: No report.

ROADS: Wisniski reported that the township should be receiving a letter from Manistee County Road Commission Manager Mark Sohlden confirming that Leonard Avenue will be repaired in the Spring. The road commission's next meeting is Wednesday, Jan. 11 at 10 a.m. in the county road commission building.

PORTAGE LAKE HARBOR COMMISSION: Chairman Jim Mrozinski said the Army Corps is evaluating the design of either metal sheet piling or stone revetment for the repair of the superstructure of the channel pierheads. Soil borings will begin in approximately two weeks.

POVERTY RESOLUTION NO. 2017-01:

POVERTY RESOLUTION #2017-01

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 Onekama 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, file 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 and 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 HOUSEHOLD	2017 Max. Total Income	2019 Max. Total Income
1	\$13,000	\$14,000
2	\$16,000	\$17,000
3	\$18,300	\$20,000
4	\$22,100	\$24,000
5	\$25,800	\$28,000
6	\$29,500	\$32,000
7	\$33,000	\$36,000
8	\$37,000	\$40,000
Additional Person	\$ 3,700	\$ 4,500

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.

Motion by James Wisniski, seconded by Robert Blackmore to approve the poverty guideline changes for 2017-2019. Roll call vote: James Wisniski, yes; Robert Blackmore, yes; LaVonne Beebe, yes; Shelli Johnson, yes; David Meister, yes. Nays: None; Absent: None.

Supervisor Meister declared the Resolution adopted.

Shelli Johnson, Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Shelli Johnson, 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 January 3, 2017, at which meeting a quorum was present by a roll call vote of said members as hereinbefore set forth; that said resolution as ordered to take immediate effect.

Shelli Johnson, Clerk

SCHOOL PROCLAMATION REQUEST: Consensus of the board not to participate.

MAINTENANCE CONTRACT-ESTIMATE: No action.

WINDOW BLINDS-ESTIMATE: **Motion** by Johnson, second by Wisniski to order two window blinds at \$319 each. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP HALL CARPETING: To be discussed during budget preparation time.

BS&A: Beebe reported meeting with a BS&A representative on possible future projects.

SEWER PROJECT MEETING: Meister gave an update on the Joint Sewer Project.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

---Consumer's Energy

---Par Plan

---Helen Mathieu

---Jr. Clio Club

---MRA

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

ADJOURN: 12:10 p.m.

Shelli Johnson, Clerk

Onekama Township