

Town of Otter Creek – February 8, 2022
VIA ZOOM
Regular Town Board Meeting – 7 p.m.

Participants:

Chairman Mark Warner*

Supervisor 1 Cecil Hayes*

Supervisor 2 LeAnn Ralph*

Clerk/Treasurer Bev Bernier

Guests, Bob Bernier, Randy Simpson, Dylan Deringer, Chuck Boyer, Jon Robinson, Lori Sudbrink

*Board Members

Absent: Patrolman Gary Anderson

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72724158244?pwd=f-YQSWTkAM8S2491XfedKQAJ7piUwJ.1>

Meeting ID: 727 2415 8244

Passcode: Hrnt7p

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Regular Town Board Zoom Meeting was called to order by Chairman Warner at 7:01 p.m. on Tuesday, February 8, 2022. January meeting minutes were not read by Bev Bernier as Warner, Ralph and Hayes reviewed the minutes prior to tonight's meeting and agreed that the minutes did not need to be read. **Hayes motioned to approve the January, 2022 minutes as presented, Ralph seconded. Motion carried.**

2022 Audit of 2021 – Clerk is in the process of sending documents to Clifton Larson Allen for yearly audit

Infrastructure (grant programs for local government). Warner spoke with Dan Fedderly. \$8,000,000/year for 5 years. 80% funding, Fedderly thought participating in that program would increase the cost, positive for us. Projects that have a chance of getting accepted are grinding and repaving. Warner thought of 1030th avenue. We will pave ½ mile with the TRIP program money. PSE – must have to get the funds, cost of \$15,000/mile. Cost would be approximately \$20,000, with no guarantee we will get anything. Can apply in April, \$700 to apply, no guarantee we would get PSE done in time to meet deadline. Webinar coming up Thursday, Fedderly and Towns Association doing another webinar later this month. Feedback - \$15,000 seems like a lot with no guarantee to get anything. We don't have a lot in our general fund. It is a stretch that we would get it. Any of the grant programs in the past, they receive many more requests than funding available. Chances of getting approved are not very good. Towns that don't have a lot of money probably have the most need for road work. We will put on hold and see how things go in the future years. Maybe other infrastructure money coming along that may be a better bet.

Chapter 90 question – Clerk Bernier pulled up the letter of request from Sudbrink. Discussion on tax assessment. Deringer suggested a 75/25 split in fence building. Robinson needs to think about this, he

wants it in writing. One mile of fence line, Robinson does ¾ of it. Deringer is putting money into something that he gets 0 out of. One is fence out, one is fence in. Robinson wants it typed up and wants to look it over. Warner suggested they discuss and see if they can come to an agreement on it. Deringer will write up, file with Clerk, will then be partition fence at that point. Deringer will run all communication through the town board so everyone is aware. Keep updates month to month. When accepted, non-issue. If not accepted, we will have more conversation.

2022 Census of Governments request – estimate of 4 hours to complete

Next election – April 5, 2022 Spring Election

DNR land updates:

Vergene Viets c/o Michael Viets – 181 acres from Open to Closed
Terrence Giertz Trust – 160 acres continuing in Closed
Bob & Bev Bernier – 29.792 acres continuing in Closed

Updates from Fred Weber:

1/7/2022	Knops	Final Inspection/Occupancy	Passed
1/26/2022	Berryman	Rough Plumbing	Passed
1/26/2022	Berryman	Rough Electrical	Passed
1/26/202	Berryman	Rough Construction	Passed

Road Work/Equipment – Revisit our policy going forward on accumulation and use of comp time. Look up old records. Update our policy so there is no confusion. Warner thought should take time off if during the same week that OT is accumulated, if possible. Make part of records and minutes. Bernier will send out verbiage to Town Board, need to define when additional work is necessary. Been brushing, small brushing. No update on the town truck.

Auditing bills for payment – bills circulated and reviewed by the Town Board. Ralph made a motion to authorize the treasurer to pay the February settlement when it comes in, Warner second, MC. Ralph made a motion to approve payment of the bills on the billing list, Hayes second, MC.

Review treasurer's report. Motion by Hayes to accept the treasurer's report, second by Ralph, MC.

Public comments – none. Put on March agenda to review pay rate for election workers and possible supplying lunch. Bernier to survey municipalities. Continue with Zoom meeting for March.

Any other business- none.

Clerk reviewed the finances.	Equipment Account -	\$33,900.12
	Tax Account -	\$427,303.24
	Checking Account -	\$56,517.45
	ARPA Funds -	\$27,737.17
	2022 Truck Loan -	<u>\$130,000.00</u>

Total of all accounts \$675,457.98

ADJOURN - Hayes moved to adjourn the monthly meeting, seconded by Ralph. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted – Bev Bernier, Clerk/Treasurer

CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS IN ORDER OF CALLING:

Gary Anderson – 715-658-1483;

Mark Warner – 715-658-1602, 715-556-6083 (cell);

LeAnn Ralph – 715-308-6336;

Bev Bernier - 715-658-0131;

Bob Bernier – 715-577-6310;

Cecil Hayes – 715-577-6634 (cell);

Town Shop - 715-658-1319;

Chuck Boyer – 715-600-4149