

**Town of Otter Creek – November 15, 2022**

**Otter Creek Town Hall**

**– Budget Hearing**

**- Special Town Meeting**

**- Regular Town Board Meeting**

**Attendees:**

Chairman Mark Warner\*

Supervisor 1 Cecil Hayes\*

Supervisor 2 LeAnn Ralph\*

Clerk/Treasurer Bev Bernier

Patrolman Gary Anderson

Residents attending: Bob Bernier, Jonathan Robinson

Non-residents: Chuck Boyer, Dylan Deringer by phone.

\*Board Members

**BUDGET HEARING**

The Budget Hearing Meeting was called to order by Chairman Warner at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15, 2022. In attendance were three board members, plus three residents and three non-residents. Clerk had posted notices on the Town Hall door, the Town Website, two additional places within the Town, and in the Colfax Messenger.

The 2023 proposed budget was presented by Bernier, Clerk-Treasurer, and some discussion followed. After some discussion, there were no changes to the budget as it was presented. Motion to accept the budget as presented by Hayes, Ralph second. Motion passed.

Warner made a motion to adjourn the Budget Hearing Meeting at 7:17 p.m. Hayes second, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted – Bev Bernier, Clerk/Treasurer

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by Chairman Warner at 7:17 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15, 2022. All people as noted above were in attendance, plus advertising as noted above was done so as stated. This year's allowable tax levy for Otter Creek is \$115,479, with an increase of 2.545% for new construction, bringing the levy to \$118,418, plus \$14,442 general obligation debt, totaling \$132,602 for the 2022 payable 2023 allowable levy. This is compared to \$129,663 in 2021, payable 2022, as allowed by the State of Wisconsin.

Ralph made a motion to accept the 2022 Town Tax Levy as \$132,602 allowable figure to be used in the 2023 budget pursuant to Section 60.10(1)(A) Wis. Stats. Hayes seconded the motion, motion carried. Opposed – 0.

Warner asked for a motion to adjourn the Special Town Meeting at 7:19 p.m. Ralph made a motion to adjourn, Hayes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted – Bev Bernier, Clerk/Treasurer

## **REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

The Regular Town Board Meeting was called to order by Chairman Warner at 7:19 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15, 2022. Same people were in attendance, plus advertising had been done as stated above.

Meeting minutes were not read by Clerk 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. Ralph **motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Hayes seconded. Motion carried.**

Hayes made a motion to adopt the 2023 budget and 2022 tax levy to be paid in 2023 as presented, Ralph seconded the motion, motion carried, Opposed – 0.

Review and possible action on fence stay extension request. Nothing can be completed at this time. Motion by Ralph to extend the fence stay until the fence line matter is resolved, second by Hayes, motion carried.

Review and possible action on notice of claim. NOC was filed within 120 days of fence determination. Received on November 9, 2022; 120 days to reply is March 8, 2023. Deferring judgment on NOC, will notice public hearing at a later date. **Clerk will check to see if there is a timeline to make a judgment after holding the public hearing.**

Lance Owen email and response from Chairman. Warner reviewed the discussions thus far, no further questions from Lance at this time. Referred Lance to DC Zoning. Ralph contacted DC Zoning, some homes connected with a breezeway may be considered duplexes and may need to be rezoned to R2.

2023 Building Inspector Contract – Fred Weber. No changes to his current fee schedule. Motion to approve the contract by Warner, Hayes seconded, motion carried.

Building Inspector – monthly Activity report from Fred Weber for October

10/13/2022 Anderson/Schultz Permit Issued – New Home Construction

10/18/2022 Williams Permit Issued – Electrical Upgrade

10/19/2022 Anderson/Schultz Slab Plumbing - Passed

10/19/2022 Anderson/Schultz Footing - Passed

10/21/2022 Williams Electrical Hook-up - Passed

Zoning permits

Timber cutting permit

Assessment Roll Books – DC Historical Society. They can scan them, Bernier will work with DC Historical Society. Clerk Bernier will check if we get a copy of the scan disc.

Dunn County D&A program – propose going with Drug Test Midwest

- Cost \$65/year, drug test is \$55, alcohol test is \$30, query \$1.25/new ee
- Annual 1 hour of training for employee
- Annual 2 hours of training for supervisor

- D&A Policy review

**Bernier will check to see if Anderson can have his CDL physical where he likes.** Motion to utilize Drug Test Midwest by Warner, second by Ralph. Hayes made a Motion to adopt the D&A policy as drafted by Bernier and edited by Ralph, second by Ralph, MC. **Clerk Bernier will check where is random testing done?**

WTA – Town Advocacy Council. After a discussion, it was decided not to join at this time.

11/8/22 Election – 79% turnout

Clerk applied for \$1200 election security grant (for IT support, software, etc)

Beavers – 6 removed. Beaver proof culverts may be an option.

Purchasing approvals. Don't need anything more at this time. Continue to have all purchases approved by town board prior to purchase.

Suggestion for Town Shop. Turn heat down for Friday/Saturday/Sunday. Keep between 58 and 59.

Anderson will continue with his current practice.

Road Work/Equipment – not get shouldering done on 550<sup>th</sup> for a yard. Skid steer has been rebushed on both sides, readjusted, pretty solid. Not using skid steer at this time, do we want to sell at this time? Put on December agenda to determine if we will be selling the bob cat middle of winter or April. New truck has excellent hydraulics. Grader – hydraulics not working properly and steering not working properly. This is a CDL machine. Anderson does not want to operate the grader anymore unless the town takes the responsibility. Have a mechanic look at the grader, not sure who will work on it. Possibly Eau Claire Case. We have sand, etc. 10 loads of limerock from pit, trucking with Wirth, Bernier will check on billing. Limerock needed by Lobacks.

Public comments

Auditing of bills for payment

Any other business

Financial Report

Clerk went through the finances.	Equipment Account -	\$57,071.89
	Tax Account -	\$49,085.53
	Checking Account -	\$49,213.72

Motion to accept the treasurers report made by Hayes, seconded by Ralph, motion carried. Warner moved to adjourn the monthly meeting, seconded by Ralph. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.

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