

ORWELL TOWN BOARD
Regular Meeting
April 8, 2014

Members Present:

Supervisor- William Potter

Councilmen: Robert Crossett, Nicholas Marshall, Jeffrey Graham, James LaCelle

Also Present:

CEO-John Howland, Water Operator-Marvin Levack, Hwy Supt-Doug Henry

Dog Control Officer-Steve Cronk, Co Leg-Milferd Potter, NOCA Rep-Robert Trainham

Town Clerk-Traci LaVeck

Public Present:

MaryAnne Heath, Shirley Downes

Supervisor Potter opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

REPORTS:

A) CEO Howland gave his report for March, one building permit was issued. CEO Howland attended Code School last week. The state is going to be updating some of the codes in 2014, they are pushing to make sprinkler systems (for fire suppression) mandatory in certain facilities.

B) County Legislator Potter gave the April Legislator's Report: The entire County agenda can be found on the Oswego County Website

- Resolution to sell back a property previously taken by nonpayment of taxes
- Resolution doing away with one position in Economic Community Development and Planning and reclassifying three positions, which will result in a savings of \$30,000 a year
- Resolution transferring \$777,000.00 for County Highway Equipment
- Resolution authorizing budgetary modifications Treasurer's Office-additional hours

C) Dog Warden Report: DCO Cronk was present with nothing new to report.

D) Assessor's Report: None

E) Water Operator's Report:

- The latest bacteria test came back satisfactory
- All of the equipment is operating normally
- Semi-annual generator maintenance was performed last week
- There continues to be plenty of water in the system
- Water Operator Levack with the assistance of Eric Pappa will begin flushing hydrants and looking for leaks in the Spring
- No April Meeting, not enough members for a quorum

F) Highway Superintendent's Report:

- Hwy Supt Henry gave the Equipment Repair Cost Report for March
- Town roads have been posted for weight limit
- Started sweeping the roads, cleaning up the sand from winter
- Beecherville Road, Redhouse Road, Dam Road, and Falls Road, have all been opened back up, they were barricaded during the winter to keep people from driving on them and getting stuck
- Hwy Workers will begin working 10 hour days this week

G) Tug Hill Commission: No report

H) NOCA Representative Trainham gave his report, as well as, the Quarterly Financial Review Report.

DISCUSSIONS:

A) Clock Repair Update:

- Procurement Policy-the clock repairs are considered a Public Works Project, therefore, as long as it is under \$20,000 it does not need to be bid out
- The town board's concern is that with the Tax Freeze a possibility, is it feasible for the town to be spending \$15,000-\$20,000 on the repairs for the clock when that money may be needed elsewhere
- Table the discussion until next month's meeting

B) Office Air Quality Update:

- Supervisor Potter spoke with the Representative from R-Factor (who was going to do the report on the air quality in the downstairs offices) last month, and has not heard back from him.
- There are Radon and Mold Tests available for \$10.00 each at Home Depot
- HealthWay will come in and do a Radon and Mold Analysis for \$450.00

-A motion was made by Councilman Crossett and Councilman Marshall to have HealthWay come in and do a Mold and Radon analysis in the downstairs offices for \$450.00. (5 Ayes)
Motion carried

C) Water Exploration Project Engineering Report:

- The Water Board is in agreement to work with B&L Engineering to find an additional water source for Orwell
- Supervisor Potter would like to have a joint meeting including the town board, water board, and B&L Engineering Representative Eric Pond to discuss options, as well as, to have Mr. Pond answer any questions the board may have on the proposal from B&L Engineering. Tentative date for meeting is May 3rd. The town board members are in agreement with setting up a meeting.

- Eric Pond also has information on a Community Development Grant for up to \$600,000.00 to help the town pay for an additional water source. Mr. Pond will complete the Grant writing application process.
- Eric Pond will also be inspecting the existing Water System's Infrastructure
- Water Operator Levack suggested the possibility of an alternative energy source for the Orwell Water System, is there possible grant money to cover an alternative energy source.

D) Sporting Licenses:

Sharpshooters in Orwell has closed it's doors, therefore, there is no one selling hunting or fishing licenses in the Town of Orwell. The town board discussed whether they would like the town clerk to begin selling them again. Due to the fact that customers can go to Walmart, Online, or to Bait and Tackle Shops to purchase them, the town board did not feel that it was necessary to have the town clerk begin selling them again.

E) Oswego County Sheriff's Weekend Work Program:

- Does the town board want to have the Os Co Sheriff's Dept. bring the prisoners in to help clean up the cemeteries again this year
- Supervisor Potter will check into the need for a bathroom facility for the workers before deciding

F) Highway Seasonal Employees/Health Insurance:

Supervisor Potter attended the healthcare workshop at the Tug Hill Local Government Conference in March, and was informed by a state representative that after 120 days on the job the seasonal workers are eligible for health insurance. Supervisor Potter spoke with the civil service liaison from personnel over in Oswego and was informed that they are considered temporary and that they have to work less than six months out of the year and are not eligible for health insurance, she also advised Supervisor Potter to contact the Town of Orwell health insurance carrier which is Excellus to verify. Excellus advised Supervisor Potter that the seasonal workers are not eligible for health insurance after 120 days.

G) Highway Department Vacation Time Sell-Back Proposal:

- Highway Supt. Henry approached Supervisor Potter about the possibility of the Highway Employees selling back unused vacation time
- The town board members are opposed to the vacation time sell-back proposal

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Potter read the correspondence received since last month's meeting.

-A motion was made by Councilman Crossett and seconded by Councilman Graham to approve the March Regular Meeting Minutes as written. (5 Ayes) Motion carried

-A motion was made by Councilman Graham and seconded Councilman Crossett to approve the Town Clerk's Monthly Report for March 2014. (5 Ayes) Motion carried

-A motion was made by Councilman LaCelle and seconded by Councilman Graham to approve the Supervisor's Monthly Report for March 2014. (5 Ayes) Motion carried

-A motion was made by Councilman LaCelle and seconded by Councilman Graham to approve the following Budget Adjustments for March 2014. (5 Ayes) Motion carried

Highway Fund:			
Add	DA5142.42	Snow Removal Diesel Fuel	\$1,013.55
Deduct	DA5110.42	General Diesel Fuel	\$1,013.55

-A motion was made by Councilman Crossett and seconded by Councilman Graham to approve payment of the following claims: (5 Ayes) Motion carried

General Fund Abstract #4	Claims #40-57B	Amount \$5,561.95
Hwy Fund Abstract #4	Claims #36-46B	Amount \$4,836.55
Water District Fund Abstract	Claims #07-10	Amount \$1,146.74

-A motion was made by Councilman Crossett and seconded by Supervisor Potter to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. (5 Ayes) Motion carried

Submitted
April 23, 2014

Traci S. LaVeck
Orwell Town Clerk