

## Regular Meeting, Town Of Otto

A regular meeting of the town board of the Town of Otto, Cattaraugus County and the State of New York was held at the Otto Town Hall, 8842 Otto- East Otto Road, Cattaraugus, NY on the 21st day of January 2020.

**Present:** Ron Wasmund .. Town Supervisor  
Marlene Gregory .. Councilmember  
Brenda Mallaber .. Councilmember  
Paul Stang .. Councilmember  
Trisha Priest .. Town Clerk  
Robert Barber Jr. .. Highway Superintendent  
Jeff Holler ..Code Enforcement Officer entered the meeting at 7:35pm

Supervisor Wasmund called the regular Town Board Meeting to order at 7:00pm.

### RESOLUTION 2020-03

#### Approval of minutes

On a motion made by Councilmember Gregory and seconded by Councilmember Mallaber, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Gregory, Mallaber, Stang, Wasmund  
Nays 0

Resolved that the minutes of December 17, 2019 are approved as submitted.

### Report of town officials

**Supervisor Wasmund** Mr. Wasmund presented the Board with his monthly report. The general municipality aid that the Governor took away will now be included in the sales tax payments. He also discussed other state funding cuts.

**Councilmember Stang** Mr. Stang commented on the increased number of windy days that have caused a bunch of fallen tree 911 calls, dispatching surrounding towns fire departments. We are fortunate that we do not have that issue on our town roads.

**Highway Superintendent** Mr. Barber presented his report of the activities of the highway department. They have been hauling stone for the 2020 chip sealing projects. He requested permission to attend Advocacy Day March 5-6. The Cattaraugus County Association of Highway Superintendents sent letters requesting increased funds for the maintenance of the roads and infrastructure. Letters were also sent to the Congress asking for their support. CHIPS is on a five year cycle. They are trying to get it increased for the next five year contract.

He submitted the 284 agreement to spend highway funds for councilmember signatures. He went over his report on machinery inventory and expenses and answered questions about the report.

There have been a number of Towns who have experienced the loss of their barns due to fire. Mr. Barber reviewed the current insurance policy to make sure the building and equipment would be covered. He tried to balance out the insurance amounts in hopes of not changing the premium too drastically while improving the coverage.

He had been in touch with the County regarding the land across the road from the barns. Dick Klancer got back in touch with him to let him know that questions regarding that property should be asked of the Treasurer's Office.

Mr. Barber received paperwork about an audit being conducted by the Office of the Inspector General. A four page document was distributed to the Council members. He feels he is not prepared to answer the public assistance grant audit questions. There are concerns that Simons Consulting may not have properly done its job regarding the FEMA projects, thereby sparking this audit. He has sent a formal letter to Ron Simons requesting all the information requested in the audit. The audit information needs to be submitted by February 14, 2020.

The work on the hazard mitigation has gotten more complicated and he would like the Town to get together and answer the questions. He feels this is beyond his capability. Mitigation is very confusing and he feels that the CEO and planning

board should also be included in the process. What they are looking for is stronger infrastructure so there is as little to no FEMA disaster declarations in the future.

**Code Enforcement Officer** Jeff Holler reported on his activities for the month from 12/14/2019-01/21/2020. He placed 7 phone calls and conducted 4 inspections. Issued 1 permit; an addition to a porch on a cabin at Lazy Acres. He attended the planning board meeting 12/10/2019, and also the meeting in Little Valley for Hazard Mitigation. He attended court but the defendant did not show up again and a warrant was issued on 01/09/2020 This time of year is pretty quite.

**Town Clerk** Trisha Priest presented the monthly review of the town clerk activities for the month of December 2019. \$125.00 was collected during the month of December. The following disbursements were made:

Town Supervisor	\$ 86.03
Department of ag & markets	\$ 6.00
Catt Co. DPW	\$ 18.80
DEC	\$ 14.17
NYS-DOH	\$ 0.00

The annual report for the Town Clerks office was submitted to the board. The Town clerk discussed an email from the County Assessor's office requesting that a local law be put in place changing the wording in regards to the BAR assessment review date. It was mentioned by Robert Barber that the Town should also consider updating the parking ordinance local law at the same time.

#### RESOLUTION 2020-4

##### Advocacy Day

On a motion made by Councilmember Stang and seconded by Councilmember Mallaber, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	4	Gregory, Mallaber, Stang, Wasmund
	Nays	0	

Resolved that the Highway Superintendent may attend Advocacy Day in Albany.

#### RESOLUTION 2020-5

##### Audit of Claims

On a motion made by Councilmember Mallaber and seconded by Councilmember Gregory , the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	4	Gregory, Mallaber, Stang, Wasmund
	Nays	0	

Resolved that the bills contained on Abstract #201 in the amount of \$ 12,768.69 have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

General Fund	No.	1 through 3	\$ 2216.00
Highway Fund	No.	1 through 12	\$ 10492.69
Water District	No.	1	\$ 60.00
Sewer District	No.		\$ 0.00

#### RESOLUTION 2020-6

##### Supervisor's Monthly Report-December

On a motion made by Councilmember Stang and seconded by Councilmember Mallaber, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	3	Gregory, Mallaber, Stang
	Nays	0	

Resolved that the Supervisor's Monthly report for the month of December 2019 be accepted as submitted.

#### RESOLUTION 2020-7

##### Town Clerk's Report-December

On a motion made by Councilmember Stang and seconded by Councilmember Mallaber, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	4	Gregory, Mallaber, Stang, Wasmund
	Nays	0	

Resolved that the Clerk's monthly report for the month of December 2019 be accepted as submitted.

With no further discussion, on a motion of Councilmember Stang and seconded by Councilmember Mallaber, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm. Carried unanimously.

The next board meeting will be held on February 18,2020 7PM at the Otto Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Trisha Priest, Town Clerk