

OCQUEOC TOWNSHIP BOARD
SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

The regular meeting of the Ocqueoc Township Board was held on September 8, 2022 at the Township Hall. All board members were present - Jerry Counterman, Jerome Isaacs, Shari Pomranke, Susan Radka, and Pam Schaedig. Also present were Joel Jaroch and John Dillingham. The group practiced social distancing.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Counterman at 7:00 p.m. and began with the pledge to the flag. The agenda was distributed and approved. The minutes of the August meeting were read and accepted as presented with one correction.

Schaedig gave a report on the August 24 Onaway Ambulance Board meeting. Hyde is still getting financial reports from Peachtree to QuickBooks. Ron Horrocks reported that there may be money available from the County ARPA funds for Fire/Ambulance. There were 30 Advanced runs, 8 Basic, and 18 No-Transports, with 2 runs to Ocqueoc and 1 to Bearinger.

Radka reported that the Friends of the Ocqueoc Outdoor Center met August 24 at the Center to see what repairs are most pressing. One bunkhouse roof is leaking, and after having no success finding a roofer, a husband of a board member is supervising and organizing a crew, and will replace it with a steel roof. Several new bunks have been built, and new mattresses purchased. A maple tree was purchased from Netta's in memory of Dolores Merchant. A bench will be built, and our township may donate the name plate. October 1 there will be painting done and the tree planted. Everyone is encouraged to check out the website - ocqueocoutdoorcenter.org. Ideas were discussed for promoting rental of the center, which is how it receives its revenue. They project a balance of funds of \$4,000 at the end of the year.

Isaacs reported on the September 1 Fire Board meeting.

Radka reported on the Township Officers meeting September 6. County Clerk Ann Marie Main said they may distribute some of the county's ARPA funds to townships for fire/ambulance services. Half of the county monies will be held back, for courthouse repairs. Road Commission superintendent/manager Dave Kowalski said townships with road projects should contact him to get them scheduled for next year. Guest speaker was Carlin Smith from Consumers Energy on the topic of renewable energy. By 2025 the plan is for 35% renewables and 40% natural gas, by 2040 63% renewables and 10% natural gas. They are researching tracts of land for solar panels.

Ken Schaedig hasn't responded about the purchase of property.

Radka addressed the Ocqueoc Lake Aquatic Nuisance issue. She made a motion to form an Advisory Committee to meet separately from the township board, with support from Schaedig. M.C. Radka volunteered to be on the committee. Radka did research on a lawyer with expertise in the area of Special Assessment Districts, and found Cliff Bloom from Grand Rapids with also having experience with aquatic weed treatments. He would give legal assistance for \$1,800 - \$2500 for the project. A motion was made by Radka, seconded by Counterman, to retain Cliff Bloom as attorney to guide the township through the process. M.C.

A township website was discussed. Radka did some research, and had a proposal from STG, a firm from Lansing. For the size of Ocqueoc Township, a set-up cost would be \$995, and a yearly fee of \$500 to manage it. This quote is more reasonable than others she saw. A motion was made by Counterman, supported by Isaacs, to hire STG for setting up the website, the GOLD package for \$995, and the Option B, fully managed website for \$500 per year. M.C. On a

roll call vote, ayes all, to use ARPA funds for the project, since it would be a benefit to all residents and property owners.

There are ongoing issues at the transfer site – bins that have holes from rust, allowing animals to get in and pull trash out, making an extra mess for the transfer site attendant. GFL has said they have had new bins on order for 6 months, and because of supply issues, are unable to get them. They did replace two 8-yard ones with two 6-yard. But there are at least another 3-4 that need to be replaced. A motion was made by Counterman, seconded by Schaedig, to give the attendant \$750 for having to clean up the extra trash for the summer months of June, July, and August, and giving her an extra \$25 per day ^{worked} from September 1 until we can get new containers. M.C. The clerk will check when the contract with GFL is up.

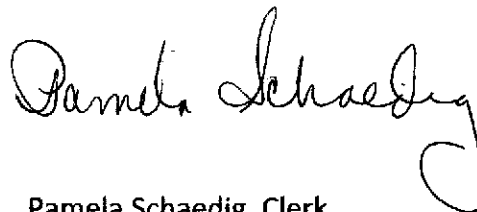
The expense report was distributed. A motion was made by Schaedig, seconded by Isaacs, to move \$2,818.76 from Stabilization to Purchase of Garbage bags. M.C. A pallet of each size was purchased, and delivered September 6 to the Counterman residence.

Treasurer Pomranke reported that taxes have been received on 1089 of the township's 1668 parcels. She received an inquiry from a property owner about combining his several small properties into one parcel, and after talking with the assessor, it would not be a hard thing to do. The township is charged per parcel from the assessor. The treasurer may put an article in the next newsletter to have property owners consider this option.

Clerk Schaedig asked if the board would approve getting meals from Onaway for the election workers November 8 rather than the having Christy Angner provide meals (she has done a good job in the past, but the workers would like more variety). The board will allow it, if someone is willing to go and pick up the meals.

A motion was made by Isaacs, supported by Radka, to pay bills and adjourn. M.C. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela Schaedig". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Pamela Schaedig, Clerk