

OCQUEOC TOWNSHIP BOARD

DECEMBER 8, 2022

The regular meeting of the Ocqueoc Township Board was held on December 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 Chad Radka, Richard Colonna, Kirsten and Andy Sobeck, and Dave Viegelahn. 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 November meeting were read and accepted as presented.

Schaedig gave a report on the November 30 Onaway Ambulance Board meeting. Coordinator Hyde is looking into the possibility of replacing the 2009 Echo Unit. The amount of covid funds from the county is yet to be determined. Hyde is in the process of Medicare Review, as well as Medicare Cost Analysis, which could result in more Medicare payments to ambulance services. It was a slow month, with 24 Advanced runs and 4 Basic, with 14 No-Transports. 1211 miles were logged, with 1 run to Ocqueoc and zero to Bearinger.

Susan Radka reported on the Ocqueoc Lake Advisory Committee meeting. Members of the committee are Steve Kellar, John Krupa, Tim McGee, Joel Jaroch, Susan Radka and Chad Radka. Chad Radka reported that at the next meeting, the committee will review the Special Assessment District wording, as well as several proposals from Ben Schermerhorn from PLM about treatments for the lake that individual property owners can have until the total treatment of the lake can be done. The Special Assessment District probably won't be in place until 2024.

Schaedig gave a report on the December 6 Township Officers Meeting in Posen. County Clerk Main reported on the recent election. There will be partial recounts around the state on proposals #2 and #3. The County Board of Commissioners has 3 new members. County ARPA funds in the amount of \$10 per township resident (according to the 2020 census) will be distributed for Fire and EMS. Treasurer LaLonde reported that all delinquent properties have been sold. MTA Director Ken Lobert reported on legislation regarding short-term rentals, sand and gravel issues, and disabled veterans tax exemptions. Yearly dues were set at \$30 per township. The next meeting will be March 7 hosted by Bearinger Township.

Paperwork has been signed for the purchase of property from Ken Schaedig. A motion was made by Schaedig, seconded by Isaacs, to use the township ARPA funds for this purpose. M.C.

Radka reported that the township website should be available in mid-January. Susan Radka was thanked for all her work getting the website ready.

Dave Viegelahn gave a presentation regarding a pending land division. The board advised Clerk Schaedig to schedule a meeting with Attorney Michael Vogler to try to get the issue resolved.

A poverty exemption resolution is needed every December to include the new poverty guidelines. The following resolution was adopted:

## OCQUEOC TOWNSHIP POVERTY EXEMPTION RESOLUTION FOR 2023

WHEREAS, the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is required of the Township Board, and

WHEREAS, the principal residence of persons, who the Supervisor and Board of Review determines by reason of poverty to be unable to contribute to the public charge, is eligible for exemption in whole or in part from taxation under Public Act 390 of 1994 (MCL 211.7u); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to PA 390 of 1994, the Township of Ocqueoc, Presque Isle County adopts the following guidelines for the Board of Review to implement. The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year;

To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

- 1) Be an owner of and occupy as a principal residence the property for which an exemption is requested.
- 2) File a claim with the Supervisor/Assessor or Board of Review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the principal residence, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year.
- 3) File a claim reporting that the combined assets of all persons do not exceed the current guidelines. Assets include but are not limited to, real estate other than the principal residence, personal property, motor vehicles, recreational vehicles and equipment, certificates of deposit, savings accounts, checking accounts, stocks, bonds, life insurance, retirement funds, etc.
- 4) Produce a valid driver's license or other form of identification.
- 5) Produce, if requested, a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested.
- 6) Meet the federal poverty income guidelines as defined and determined annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services or alternative guidelines adopted by the governing body providing the alternative guidelines do not provide eligibility requirements less than the federal guidelines.
- 7) The application for an exemption shall be filed after January 1, but one day prior to the last day of the Board of Review. The filing of this claim constitutes an appearance before the Board of Review for the purpose of preserving the right of appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

The following are the federal poverty income guidelines which are updated annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The annual allowable income includes income for all persons residing in the principal residence.

### Federal Poverty Guidelines for the 2023 Assessment Year

Number of Persons Residing Poverty Guidelines  
In the Principal Residence Annual allowable income

1 Person	\$13,590
2 Persons	\$18,310
3 Persons	\$23,030
4 Persons	\$27,750
5 Persons	\$32,470
6 Persons	\$37,190
7 Persons	\$41,910
8 Persons	\$46,630
Each addition person, add	\$4,720

The following is a limit on the amount of assets an applicant can have:

- \*Limit on Cash Balances: \$2,500 (check/savings). All bank statements must be submitted with application
- \*1 personal vehicle is exempt from overall asset value limit
- \*Primary Residence is excluded, however, excess land over 5 acres will count toward overall asset limit.
- \*Annual dividend income (taxable & non-taxable) must be less than \$1,000.
- \*Overall Asset Value Limit: \$30,000

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Supervisor and Board of Review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption. As this policy and resolution do not establish specific guidelines for granting a 25% or 50% reduction in taxable value as allowed by MCL 211.7u, the Board of Review shall be limited to a 0% reduction (denial) or 100% reduction (approval).

The foregoing resolution offered by Board member Jerome Isaacs and supported by Board member Shari Pomranke.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

“Aye”: Pam Schaedig, Jerome Isaacs, Susan Radka, Shari Pomranke, and Jerry Counterman

“Nay”: None

The Township Clerk declared the resolution adopted.

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Pamela Schaedig, Clerk

Dated: December 8, 2022

A resident on Orcutt Highway attended a Case Township meeting and asked for a light to be installed at the corner of Orcutt Highway and Ocqueoc Road. It was determined that the area is in Ocqueoc Township. Clerk Schaedig met with P.I. Electric to get more information. The light could be installed at no cost, but the township would have to pay the monthly fee for the electricity, approximately \$8 per month. The Orcutt Highway property owner will have to come to the Ocqueoc Township Board to explain the request.

The lease agreement with Todd Curtis for the transfer site property expires January 11, 2023. Schaedig will send a renewal of the contract to Curtis for his signature, at the same rate of \$100 per month.

Stamps will be going up in January from \$.60 to \$.63. The board authorized the treasurer to purchase extra stamps before the increase.

The board authorized the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the Inspection Addendum with Assessor Allan Berg for \$23 per parcel for the 20% property inspections each year, on a motion by Isaacs and second by Schaedig. M.C. The rate will possibly be adjusted for 2024 and 2025.

A motion was made by Isaacs, supported by Schaedig, to pay bills and adjourn. M.C. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Schaedig, Clerk