

**Village Board Minutes**  
**Village of Onarga, Regular Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Monday, March 11, 2019**

1. Call to order at 7:00 p.m.

Cultra called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. Roll Call

Shane Cultra, Village President; Fred Walraven, Trustee; Angie Martinez, Trustee, absent; Matt Clark, Trustee; Holly Zirkle, Trustee; Sarah Barnett, Trustee; Russ Geisler, Trustee; Claudia Ramirez, Treasurer; Stephanie VonDrehle, Village Clerk; Tim Hamilton, Village Supervisor; Stephanie Wilson, Park Coordinator; Doug Brenner, Police Chief; Wendy Davis, Times Republic; Gilman Star; Deb Talbert.

3. Review and approval of Regular Village Board Minutes of Monday, February 11, 2019.

Zirkle motioned to accept the regular meeting minutes of Monday February 11, 2019 as presented. Geisler seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. Review and approval of treasurer's report

Clark motioned to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Walraven seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5. Review and approval of bills to be paid

Zirkle motioned to approve the bills to be paid in the amount of \$52767.89. Geisler seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ramirez informed the board about the Workman's Comp Insurance Audit that was being conducted at that time. Terry Schuldt gave Ramirez a sheet listing the previous year amounts and the increases for this year's insurance due to a lack of some third parties who have conducted work for the Village not caring workman's comp insurance on their own. Clark stated that someone needed to contact Tungate on this and see if these third parties did in fact have to carry that insurance.

6. Public comment

Walraven motioned to open public comment. Zirkle seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Deb Talbert addressed the board on behalf of Iroquois West and the Invest in IWest campaign that will show up on the April 2<sup>nd</sup> election ballot. Talbert explained that the current schools are deteriorating, and a new school needs to be built. Talbert explained that the plan is to build one large school with all grades combined in one campus. Clark inquired as to where this is to be built at and Talbert stated it would be off Route 24 across the road from Subway. Cultra inquired as to what will be done with the existing buildings and Talbert stated in time, she believed they would be torn down. Talbert stated any other questions people may have you can review at [investiniwest.org](http://investiniwest.org).

7. Review of correspondence to the board

VonDrehle presented a letter from the Iroquois west Post Prom Committee asking for donations for Post Prom.

VonDrehle stated in previous years the Village has given \$200.

Zirkle motioned to approve the donation of \$200 to be given to the Post Prom Committee. Walraven seconded the motion. The motion carried.

8. Standing Committee reports

8.1 Infrastructure (Holly Zirkle, Sarah Barnett, and Fred Walraven)

Zirkle motioned to approve the Infrastructure Committee Meeting Minutes of February 28<sup>th</sup> as presented.

Walraven seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Hamilton informed the board of the leak that was found under the railroad tracks. A bid to fix the leak was issued by Piggush in the amount of \$300,000. Hamilton stated due to this bid being so high he contacted another company from Pittfield that's pricing was way less than Piggush's bid, however the other firm was not sure how things would work, since the railroad had to be involved in the process. Hamilton has been trying to get ahold of the railroad with no success, but he will continue and try to get this issue resolved.

Hamilton also stated that Well #3's pump continues to trip a breaker every 50 hours and recently every 5 hours. Hamilton had Reimer's pull the pump for testing and it was sent back with them stating there was nothing wrong with it. The pump was rewired and they will see what happens.

8.1.1 There was nothing new at this time for flooding relief.

8.1.2 There was nothing new at this time for East Seminary Drainage.

8.1.3 Zirkle inquired as to what was being done for the Evergreen Street Repair. Cultra stated that it be another year before anything is done. Clark thought it was to go out for bid this February, but that did not occur, he states Piggush needs to be contacted to see what is going on and to

this process going.

#### 8.2 Safety, Security & Enforcement (Fred Walraven, Russ Geisler, and Angie Martinez)

Walraven motioned to approve the Safety, Security, & Enforcement meeting minutes of February 14<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> as presented. Zirkle seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Brenner put his monthly report in everyone's mailbox.

Brenner stated that non-highway vehicle permits will begin being issued May 1<sup>st</sup> which will remain at \$35 each.

Brenner stated beginning April 15<sup>th</sup>, village residents can schedule an appointment and he will go to the resident and issue the permits.

Brenner handed out a map showing what the current truck and hazardous truck routes are. Brenner stated that Tungate said the committee needs to designate specific roads with weight limits and class of trucks allowed.

Clark stated that he believes they should try to restrict most traffic to Routes 45 & 54 as they can. Cultra stated he wants to limit or not allow trucks on the brick roads as much as possible. Brenner stated he will find out the hazardous route has to be, and the committee will work on getting this finalized for Board review.

Walraven stated that the committee has a budget set and that Brenner will be taking care of animal control at this time. Brenner stated if there are no police on duty to give him a call with any animal control issue.

#### 8.3 Parks and Recreation (Angie Martinez, Holly Zirkle, and Russ Geisler)

Wilson informed everyone she put tickets for 31 Basket Bingo in everyone's mailboxes. Bingo is scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup> and the doors will be opening at noon. Wilson stated she has \$2000 in sponsorships and she would like to use proceeds from the Bingo event to add shade to the pool areas with fiber glass umbrellas and she would also like to purchase new lounge chairs due to the current ones being in despair. Wilson will get estimates on both items and present to the committee.

Wilson stated she has been filling out grants and will give them to the Clerk to review.

#### 8.4 Finance (Matt Clark, Fred Walraven, and Sarah Barnett)

8.4.1 Clark stated budgets are due and all committees need to get working on these. Each committee will need to schedule a meeting and work with Ramirez on these.

Cultra stated that people needed to be hired to fix the brick streets, an ad should be put in the paper for this.

Hamilton asked that since the ordinance was approved in February and the letter went out informing everyone of the change in the debt service fee, when should he make the change to the bills?

Geisler motioned to increase the \$10 debt service fee to \$15 on the bills that will go out in April. Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### 8.5 Local and Intergovernmental Communications (Angie Martinez, Andy McCann, and Holly Zirkle)

#### 8.6 Building Standards (Matt Clark, Fred Walraven, and Claudia Ramirez)

Clark stated Clarage has projects going and permits are starting to be applied for and Behrends are still waiting on Lizzo's to tell them they can start moving their current inventory to their building.

Cultra stated that there are 3 properties in town in terrible condition and inquired as to what is being done with these properties. Clark stated that he believes Tungate has a strategy on what needs to be completed on properties like this and that this committee and the board need to stay on Tungate to get these issues corrected.

Clark reminded the board if they set standards for residents, make sure you are enforcing these standards on each and every resident.

#### 8.7 TIF Committee (Matt Clark, Angie Martinez, and Andy McCann)

8.7.1 There was nothing new at this time on the demolition of 131 N. Chestnut & Behrends property.

Clark reminded the board to make sure they are asking for a bill from Schuering, as his have not been very timely in recent years.

#### 8.8 Litigation Committee (Matt Clark, Shane Cultra, Angie Martinez, and Mike Tilstra)

Clark stated that the Appellate Court agreed to hear the Atlas's appeal. He stated Atlas will be heard in March and the Village will have the month of April for rebuttal.

### 9. Old business

Geisler inquired on behalf of Russell Ficklin and him currently paying the debt service fee. Ficklin uses the Village's water service but does not have a sewer hook-up. Clark stated since he does not have a sewer hook-up, he should not be charged the debt service fee.

Clark motioned to refund Ficklin all debt service fees he has paid and remove that fee going forward. Walraven seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Clark stated that everyone who has sewer hook-up should be paying the debt service fee. Hamilton stated that there

may be up to 11 other people that are paying this fee that do not have a sewer hook-up as well. Hamilton will look into this and let the board know next month how many others there are.

Clark stated that he believes even vacant lots that have the grinders should be charged this debt service fee as all other residents have to due to them having this. He believes the vacant lot owners should pay the minimum charge for the sewer rates and the debt service fee which at this time this is not being done. Cultra does not believe these fees should be charged to vacant lot owners and does not believe anyone should or can make a motion stating this. Clark stated that any board member can make a motion, the motions just needs to be seconded and then have a quorum vote to be carried.

Clark motioned to require any vacant lot that has a grinder pay the minimum sewer rate charge and the debt service fee. The motion was not seconded.

#### 10. New business

Geisler inquired about the Evergreen Street Repair Project and how homeowners will have access to their homes. The east side has an alley, but the west side of the road will need something figured out. Cultra believes a survey should be completed to help in this process.

Geisler motioned to have the alley behind Evergreen to be surveyed at the corner pins by Kruase. Walraven seconded the motion. The motion carried.

11. Executive session (if needed) for any lawful purpose including but not limited to: Appointment, employment, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees; Salary schedules for one or more employees; Selection of person to fill a public office or discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office; Purchase or lease of real property or setting of a price for sale or lease of village property; Litigation, pending or probable.

Geisler motioned to open executive session at 8:36pm. Zirkle seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Clark motioned to close executive session at 8:40pm. Walraven seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### 12. Possible action on any executive session item

#### 13. Adjournment

Clark moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:42pm. Geisler seconded the motion. The motion carried.