

Village Board Minutes
Village of Onarga, Regular Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, January 14, 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; Matt Clark, Trustee; Holly Zirkle, Trustee; Sarah Barnett, Trustee; Russ Geisler, Trustee; Claudia Ramirez, Treasurer; Stephanie VonDrehle, Village Clerk; Tim Hamilton, Village Supervisor, Absent; Stephanie Wilson, Park Coordinator; Doug Brenner, Police Chief; Wendy Davis, Times Republic; Gilman Star.

3. Review and approval of Regular Village Board & Executive Session Meeting Minutes of Monday, December 10, 2018. Zirkle motioned to accept the regular meeting minutes & executive session meeting minutes of Monday December 10, 2018 as presented. Walraven seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. Review and approval of treasurer's report

Ramirez stated she has been completing the monthly balancing's and all have been successful. Ramirez also stated that the receivables Fink had been waiting for have finally been received and the adjustments were made.

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

5. Review and approval of bills to be paid

Clark motioned to approve the bills to be paid in the amount of \$71,424.57. Zirkle seconded the motion. The motion carried.

6. Public comment

There was no one at the meeting for public comment.

7. Review of correspondence to the board

There was no correspondence to the board.

8. Review and Possible Action on Ordinances

There were no ordinances to be approved at this time.

9. Standing Committee reports

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

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

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

9.1.3 There was nothing new at this time for the Evergreen Street Repair.

9.1.4 Zirkle motioned to approve the MFT Audit Report as presented. Walraven seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Clark thanked Walraven for plowing all day on December 5th while Tim was out.

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

Brenner put his monthly report in everyone's mailbox.

Clark asked if the committee had figured out anything on the truck routes. Brenner said the committee needed to meet and get with Tungate to get things finalized. Clark recommended trying to get this done as soon as possible so we had the new ordinance approved and in place before springtime, which is always busy with large trucks.

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

Wilson informed the board she had a tentative date set for the Annual Bingo Fundraiser of April 7th. She is waiting for the middle school to get back to her. She will let everyone know once she finds out if that date is available.

Wilson also inquired when a tree would be available for the Brantley memorial. Cultra said he would get it in April.

9.4 Finance (Matt Clark, Fred Walraven, and Sarah Barnett)

9.4.1 Clark stated he had spoken with the state on restructuring the Village's IEPA SRF Loan by extending the term 10 years. This would decrease the payments from \$74,186.69 to \$43,544.36. Clark motioned to take official action on the approval of restructuring IEPA SRF loan application which will decrease the payment amount to be made in December to \$43,544.36 and every payment thereafter. Martinez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Clark also stated that the Village needs to increase the debt service fee to at least \$14.12 so that

fee will pay for the IEPA payment. Clark recommended trying to get an ordinance on the agenda for the February meeting and the fee change being effective May 1st.

- 9.4.2 Ramirez disbursed the Village's Financial Audit. She discussed the adjustments that needed to be made in the amount of \$148,601.54.

Clark motioned to approve the adjustments to be made as presented. Walraven seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Clark asked everyone to review the financial audit and official approval would be completed in the February meeting.

Clark reminded the board that it was time to work on the budgets and that the department heads needed to work with Ramirez to get these completed.

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

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

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

- 9.7.1 Clark stated the ordinance was passed for the demolition of 131 N. Chestnut but it has not been signed by Behrends therefore nothing has been completed.

- 9.7.2 Clark inquired to see if anyone had heard anything from Behrends on signed the ordinance for 131 N. Chestnut property. Geisler stated that Cultra got Behrends the information they were asking for and now they are just waiting on moving inventory out of their building. Geisler stated he would remind them again that they needed to get with the Clerk to sign the approved ordinance.

Clark stated that Clarage is working with the new Assessor on the tax assessments for the Village.

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

Clark motioned to open Public Comment. Martinez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Michael Weakley asked the Board if he could have an extension on paying his water bill for January. He asked if he could have until February 1st to pay.

Geisler motioned to approve the extension of Michael Weakley's water bill due date to February 1st. Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried.

10. Old business

Geisler suggested that the Board also plant a tree and have a memorial for John Tilstra who was the Village President for 20 some years. He recently passed away and Geisler thought this would be something nice for him and the Tilstra family. Clark suggest asking Tilstra's wife Marilyn if there was something specific, she would like and to bring that recommendation back to board.

11. New business

Geisler tendered his resignation in his Animal Control position effective immediately, due to his appointment as a trustee to the Board. As discussed with the Village Attorney, no Trustee can hold another position within the Village.

Geisler thanked the Village of Onarga President, Trustees, Police Department and Citizens for making his job easier.

Clark in turn thanked Geisler for his 35 years of service to the Village.

Clark motioned to accept the resignation of Russell Geisler, effective immediately. Martinez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

12. 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.

Zirkle motioned to open executive session at 8:10pm on the grounds of employment. Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Zirkle motioned to close executive session at 8:23pm. Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried.

13. Possible action on any executive session item

Zirkle motioned to approve the hiring of Brandon Alvarez for 40 hours a week at a rate of \$11.00 per hour, effective January 21st. In May Hamilton will re-evaluate Alvarez and add him on as a full-time employee. Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried.

14. Adjournment

Clark moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm. Martinez seconded the motion. The motion carried.