

**ONEIDA CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

**MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**HELD TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

**7:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: SUPERVISOR COOLEY, CLERK ROBINSON, TREASURER PALERMO, TRUSTEES WILLIAMS, MCCLOUD, SCHULTZ AND O'MALLEY.**

**MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE.**

**OTHERS PRESENT: ZONING ADMINISTRATOR/DEPUTY TREASURER GOSCHKA, SHERIFF DEPUTY KUHLMAN AND ATTORNEY WILLIAM K. FAHEY.**

1. Supervisor Cooley called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance was given.
3. Additions to the agenda were made: #14, Sherriff's Proposal; and #15, Barnes' Plot Transfer/Exchange.
4. Minutes of October 13, 2015 were approved in a motion made by Trustee McCloud and supported by Clerk Robinson. Motion Carried.
5. Bills to be paid for the month were approved in a Motion made by Treasurer Palermo and supported by Clerk Robinson in the amount of \$36,953.37. Motion Carried.
6. Correspondence: None.
7. Treasurer's Report was given with full review of all account balances.
8. Sheriff's Report was given for the Township, including but not limited to: thirty (30) traffic stops; three (3) OWI's; and twelve (12) Car/Deer accidents for the month.
9. Public Comment: None.

10. **Township Retirement Plan Amendment:** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requires retirement plan sponsors to restate their plan documents at regular intervals. Despite there being no substantive changes to the Township's plan, the Township's Employee Retirement Plan is currently within the IRS's mandated restatement period, requiring the plan's sponsor to update the Township's group retirement plan documents. Resolution to execute the necessary, required documentation to continue the Township's current retirement plan was offered by Trustee McCloud and supported by Clerk Robinson. Roll Call Vote: Unanimous. Resolution passed.
11. **PA 116 Agreement (June & James Lee):** Township residents June and James Lee have executed and submitted their PA 116 Farmland Agreements (Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program) for Township approval. Clerk Robinson submitted the Lee's PA 116 Agreements to the City of Grand Ledge, the Eaton County Board of Commissioners and the Eaton Conservation District for review and approval. As of the date of the Board Meeting, Clerk Robinson had only received correspondence from the Eaton Conservation District indicating their approval of the PA 116 Agreement. Motion made by Supervisor Cooley and supported by Clerk Robinson to approve June and James Lee's PA 116 Farmland Agreements. Motion Carried.
12. **Cemetery Ordinance Amendment:** The Township Cemetery maintenance recently informed the Township Officials of the advantages and benefits of amending its Cemetery Ordinance to prohibit footstones on newly purchased Township cemetery gravesites at Union, Pioneer and Strange Cemeteries. As a result, the Township attorney drafted a proposed amendment to the current Township Cemetery Ordinances. After review of the proposed ordinance amendment, motion was made by Trustee McCloud and supported by Clerk Robinson to publish the proposed amendment to the Township Cemetery Ordinance to prohibit footstones on any newly purchased cemetery plots. Motion Carried.

#### **7:45 P.M. Public Hearing 2016 Fiscal Year Budget**

Motion to move into a public hearing regarding the 2016 Fiscal Year Budget was made by Trustee O'Malley and supported by Clerk Robinson. Supervisor Cooley opened the hearing and asked for comments. Hearing none, a motion to close the public hearing was made by Trustee Williams and supported by Clerk Robinson. Motion carried.

13. **2016 Fiscal Year Budget Hearing / Resolution to Adopt 2016 Budget:** Supervisor Cooley provided the Board with the 2016 Draft Budget at the October 13, 2015 Board Meeting. Supervisor Cooley indicated there was to be one (1) amendment to the 2016 Budget to allocate \$200 towards Meals-on-Wheels, which provides meal services to two (2) township residents. After allowing opportunity

for Board and/or Public discussion regarding the proposed 2016 Budget and the amendment, resolution to approve the 2016 Fiscal Year Budget was offered by Supervisor Cooley and supported by Trustee Williams. Roll Call Vote: Unanimous. Resolution passed.

14. **Sherriff's Proposal:** Supervisor Cooley has been in discussions with Maple Valley School District regarding the possibility of entering into an agreement with the school district for the joint hiring of a Deputy to act as the township safety officer, in order to provide part-time township safety during the school year. In addition, during the school district's breaks (i.e. Spring Break, Christmas Break, Easter Break, Summer Break (June, July and August), etc.), the township safety officer would provide full-time township safety Monday-Friday, in addition to the Eaton County Sherriff providing township safety during the times the township safety officer is not working. After lengthy discussion, the Board indicated its potential interest in entering into such an agreement with the school district. Supervisor Cooley stated that he would bring the school district's formal proposal to the Board upon receipt of it.

15. **Barnes Cemetery Plot Transfer/Exchange:** Randy and Norma Barnes currently own cemetery lots located at Union Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes desired two (2) cemetery plots located to the East of their currently owned lots. Rather than purchase two (2) additional cemetery plots, Mr. and Mrs. Barnes inquired as to whether or not the Township would agree to an exchange/transfer of two (2) of their currently owned cemetery plots in exchange for the two (2) cemetery plots to the East of their currently owned lots. After discussion, the Board conditionally agreed to the transfer/exchange of cemetery plots with Mr. and Mrs. Barnes, so long as the transfer/exchange is for two (2) plots of like kind (i.e., two (2) side-by-side, corner cemetery plots) from the Barnes' Block. Motion made by Trustee Schultz and supported by Trustee Williams to approve the transfer/exchange for two plots of like kind (i.e., two (2) side-by-side, corner cemetery plots) from the Barnes' Block. Motion Carried.

16. Public Comment: None.

17. Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Clerk Robinson.

APPROVED:

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Donald F. Cooley, Supervisor