

TOWN BOARD
Regular Meeting
July 11, 2018

A regular meeting of the Oneonta Town Board was held on July 11, 2018 with the following members present:

Councilwoman: Patricia Jacob
Councilman: Randy Mowers
Councilwoman: Patricia Riddell Kent
Councilman: Brett Holleran
Supervisor: Robert Wood
Town Clerk: Cheryl L. Shackelton

Others present: Rob Panasci, Town Attorney; Jim Hurtubise, Hwy. Supt.; Steve Kent; Greg Mattice, City Engineer; George Korthauer, City Manager; Jody Zakrevsky; Michael Stolzer; Anthony Wahl; Tom & Pauline Gergel; Bruce Downie; Janet & Wolf Wilde; Karlene DiGiglio; Mr. & Mrs. Jim Pasternak; Walter Schmitt; and Michael Schmitt.

PUBLIC HEARING – CDBG Economic Development/Small Business grant

Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Holleran to open the public hearing.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Jody Zakrevsky explained that the grant funds come from the Housing and Urban Development to the State of New York. The funds are used for housing, public infrastructure, or economic development; and must benefit low-income residents. This is a \$750,000 grant for Custom Electronics to expand its manufacturing operations and provide additional employment to persons of low income. It is a 2.2 million dollar expansion. Custom Electronics is investing over a million dollars of their money and a bank is financing the rest.

Supervisor Wood stated that the Town has a good working relationship with Custom Electronics and Ioxus.

Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Riddell Kent to close the public hearing.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Motion was made by Holleran, seconded by Jacob to adopt the following resolution:

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE
SECTION 3 PLAN TO COMPLY WITH
24 CFR, PART 135 OF THE UNITED
STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
SECTION 3**

WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) (Section 3) to further the goal of ensuring that federal funds benefit the residents of projects funded wholly or in part by those funds, and

WHEREAS, Part 135 of Section 3 is to establish the standards and procedures to be followed to ensure that the objectives of Section 3 are met; and

WHEREAS, the Otsego Now staff have developed a Section 3 Plan in adherence to 24 CFR, Part 135 that addresses the standards and procedures prescribed in the Act; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Oneonta Board authorizes the the adoption and implementation of the Section 3 Plan to ensure compliance with Federal Law.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Motion was made by Holleran, seconded by Jacob to adopt the following resolution:

**A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE
SUBMISSION OF A CDBG SMALL
CITIES GRANT APPLICATION ON
BEHALF OF CUSTOM ELECTRONICS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Oneonta has held a public hearing to solicit comments on the Town of Oneonta's community development needs, and to discuss the possible submission of one or more Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications for the 2018 program year;

and

WHEREAS, Custom Electronics is looking to expand its manufacturing operations in the Town of Oneonta and would provide additional employment at it Oneonta facilities which would be made available to persons of low and moderate income; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board fully supports Custom Electronics efforts; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Oneonta Board authorizes the submission of a grant application to the NYS Division of Homes and Community Renewal in the amount of \$750,000 for the expansion of Custom Electronics; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor and Otsego Now are hereby authorized to act on all matters related to the submission of the grant application on behalf of the Town.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

PETITIONERS –

Lower Reservoir Trail – The Town Board is considering sharing costs with the City for a feasibility study to build a hiking/biking trail near the lower reservoir. City Engineer Greg Mattice said the proposal is to connect two service roads separated by wetlands. The area for the trail is on city owned property in the town. The feasibility study would be done by C.T. Male Associates of Latham, at a cost of \$17,650. Tom Gergel of East Street and Bruce Downie of Lower Reservoir Road spoke in support of the project. Councilwoman Jacob, who has been a proponent of such trail projects, said she hoped the highway department would continue to widen the shoulders on East Street above and below its connection with Lower Reservoir Road. Councilwoman Riddell Kent said people walking on upper East Street is a safety concern and hopes this trail will offer a safer alternative.

Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Mowers to approve half the cost of the grant with the City, at a cost of \$8825.00.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Zoning Map Amendment – Anthony Wahl was present to discuss his plans for his property at 133 Southside Drive. He plans to demolish the house; plant some vegetation to make it look appealing; rezone the bottom portion on Route 23 to allow him to operate a car dealership. Neighbors expressed concern regarding the removal of trees on the bank and possible erosion. Wahl said that only brush has been removed and that he has done no digging. Michael Stolzer said there are water issues to be dealt with there; also to be aware of possible asbestos when removing the house. Mr. Wahl said he would work with DOT and DEC to address drainage issues on the bottom portion on Route 23. After much discussion, Attorney Panasci suggested that a use variance versus a zoning map amendment might be a better approach. The Board suggested that Mr. Wahl meet with Code Enforcement to further discuss his options.

Karlene DiGiglio, 269 Southside Drive said she would like to hear from someone regarding her complaint that The Holiday Inn Express has not provide adequate buffering. She also submitted a noise complaint regarding the person that sweeps the WalMart, BJs, and Home Depot parking lots at night. Supervisor Wood suggested that Ms. DiGiglio contact the Town Constable directly when this happens so that he can get noise level reading.

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Pasternak, Jackson Avenue voiced concern regarding the neighboring property at 14 Jackson Avenue that is in disrepair. They said it is health hazard, adding that it's insecure, a lot of skunks around, and mold inside. Supervisor Wood stated that the town will be taking action later in the meeting to declare the property unsafe.

TAP Grant – This is a federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant that could provide funding for a complete system of sidewalks for the Southside/Route 23/28 corridor, while connecting the City to Southside, as well. City Engineer Greg Mattice said the City would be the applicant for this \$4-6 million dollar project, the local share of which is 20%. The project would be apportioned between the city and the town based on what gets designed into it. At this time, it appears about half of the project is in the town.

Motion was made by Holleran, seconded by Riddell Kent to authorize Supervisor Wood to pay up to 50% of the grant application, not to exceed \$3750.00.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Highway/Water & Sewer - Councilwoman Riddell Kent gave the following report and recommendations:

Westgate Drainage Project update – Lamont Engineers will prepare portions of the project to go out to bid. The Town Highway Department will work on a portion of the project which will come under the Town’s share of the contribution. This drainage project is the first phase of flooding mitigation in the West End, starting at the Westgate Plaza. Councilwoman Riddell Kent said she’s helped work on this for years and is pleased to see it getting started.

25th Pit Run – Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Mowers to authorize the Pit Run to use town streets for their 25th annual event.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

The Board thanked Highway Supt. Hurtubise and crew for installing signage on Peebles Hill Road; for getting the new speed sign up on Winney Hill Road; and for removing the dead tree at Hemstreet Park.

Public Safety

Unsafe properties – Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Holleran to declare the following properties as unsafe and in disrepair; and that said properties shall have all issues mitigated by August 6, 2018 when a hearing will be held to determine whether said order shall be affirmed or modified or vacated:

14 Jackson Avenue, Tax Map 299.07-2-37, owner Sylvia L. Compton

3 Canal Street, Tax Map 287.19-4-42.00, owner Jessica McLean

238 West Street, Tax Map 288.09-1-20.00, owner Kevin F. Mulholland

115 Valley Street, Tax Map 301.11-1-5.00, owner Braden D. & Kathy S. Ward

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Facilities, Technology, Parks

Cleaning proposals – Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Mowers to accept Clark Enterprises contract for cleaning of Town Hall, with the following modification changes: contract year shall run from Jan. 1 – Dec. 31; and floors will be cleaned twice weekly during the winter season.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Human Resources and Public Benefit –

Permanent appointment – Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Mowers to permanently appoint Greg Amerson as Motor Equipment Operator (MEO) after fulfilling his one-year anniversary.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Legislative – Nothing to report

ATTORNEY

Nothing to report

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Office Equipment Purchase – Motion was made by Mowers, seconded by Holleran to authorize the purchase of a Brother MFC-L5850DW monochrome laser all-in-one printer, copier, scanner, fax from Office Depot, at a cost of \$329.00.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

MISCELLANEOUS

Training for Court staff – Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Holleran to approve NYS Office of Court Administration training for Victoria Robbins and Shannon Harrington in Potsdam, NY, July 16-18, 2018.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Streetlighting conversion to LED – Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Jacob to

authorize Supervisor Wood to initiate the exploration of switching streetlights to LED; and sign the ‘Confidentiality and Assurance Agreement’.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Riddell Kent to approve the June 13, 2018 minutes.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

BILLS

Motion was made by Mowers, seconded by Jacob to approve the following bills:

General	\$41,781.14	452-454,464-470,472,473,477-483,486,488,489,491,493-499,
		509,514,521-524,526,528
Highway	\$20,154.12	454,484-486,493,500-508,514-517,526
Street Lights	\$3,761.25	509,524
Trust & Agency	\$5,142.15	448-451,457-463,471,513,519,520
DISTRICTS :		
WESD	\$3,540.53	447,455,475,487,490,492,510,511,518,525,527
WSSD	\$913.80	447,455,475,487,490,492,510,518,527
SSD	\$1,489.78	447,455,475,487,490,492,518,525,527
WWD	\$2,025.99	447,455,456,474-476,487,490,492,518,525,527
PWD	\$9,374.86	447,455,475,487,492,512,518,527
SS Water Dist.	\$5,452.27	529

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Shackelton
Town Clerk