

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY JANUARY 4, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: M. Valley -P, T. Gill -P, A. Lerma -P, D. Dorr -P, J. Skias -P.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to accept the minutes as printed for Nov. 9, 2020 - carried

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to pay the bills presented. - carried

Had a complaint about residents that live behind the post office about their trash.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Gill to combine our two parcels for parking lot on Detroit St. Parcel # 047-652-006-00 and 047-652-003-00 - carried

Donating parking lot at trail way was tabled until next meeting.

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to hold a public hearing regarding proposed budgets for 2021 - 2022 on Feb. 1, 2021 at 7:15 p.m. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to accept the financial report as presented. - carried

Motion made by Valley supported by Lerma to appoint Jennifer Ritch to the vacant trustee seat as recommended by the Village President. - carried

Gill gave the council a copy of the fire authority contract which is expired. This was adopted 25 years ago. They will be holding a conference call meeting. They are looking to combine the two depts. into one, with one location. They wouldn't need all the trucks that we now have with two depts..

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. - carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 1, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag

Roll Call: M. Valley -P, T. Gill -P, J. Ritch -P, A. Lerma -P, D. Dorr -A, J. Skias -P, R. Benson -P

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to accept the minutes as printed for Jan. 4, 2021. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to pay the bills presented. - carried

Mr. & Mrs. Schenk were present to inform the council that they have an interested party to rent the buildings when finished. They will be selling hunting and fishing licenses plus hold classes for fire arms and karate.

Mr. Morey which sits on the planning commission said that they are now redevelopment ready after he completed the class. The Village is now eligible for funds. Otter Lake Development LLC will be redoing their application to apply for funds on 6405 and 6409 Detroit street buildings.

The DPW informed the council that there is 300 feet of sidewalks to be repaired. We will ask the auditors if we can use some street funds for the repairs.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to close regular meeting for the public hearing at 7:15p.m. - carried

Re-open regular meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Table property along trail way until March

Motion made by Valley supported by Gill to give the DPW workers a 3% wage increase plus the 3% from last year since it's in minutes that this is an automatic yearly increase. - carried

Motion made by Valley supported by Ritch to accept the mission statement presented -carried 3 yes 1 no (Lerma)

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to accept the proposed budget for 2021 - 2022 as presented - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to set the millage rate at highest allowed with Head-Lee roll back - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to so spread the special assessments onto tax roll. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to allow the signing of the warrants. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to have the President, Treasurer and Clerk sign the bank cards. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Ritch to appoint J. Skias as clerk until Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> . - carried

Benson informed the Council that he has received donation in honor of Arlene Jones. He would like to use those funds to repair the deck around the museum. Bob Shaver has put a bid in for the repairs. Gill asked if he is insured and licensed Bob said he was. Lerma asked if he had the cost of individual pieces of lumber being used. He said that he can get that.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Ritch to have Bob Shaver repair the deck around the museum at a cost of \$1800.00 plus the cost of the beam if needed. - carried

Motion made by Ritch supported by Lerma to approve a one year extension, ending Dec.31, 2021 to the Marathon Area Fire Authority contract between the Village of Columbiaville, Township of Marathon and the Village of Otter Lake. 4 yes - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to accept the financial report as presented. - carried

Motion made by Valley supported by Lerma to sign a 3 year contract with Ace Pyro for fireworks at a budget of \$12,500.00 for 2021. - carried

Benson informed the Council that all paperwork has been submitted to Rural Development for the \$15,000 grant for a new truck. The Village would owe approximately \$26,000.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. - carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE  
PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2021 - 2022  
HELD ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 1, 2021

Hearing open at 7:15 p.m.

There were no comments from the public.

Lerma asked how we are financially this year compared to last year. The Clerk and Treasurer said the Village is in better shape this year at this point.

Hearing closed at 7:19 p.m.

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY MARCH 1, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: M. Valley -P, T. Gill -P, J. Ritch -P, A. Lerma -P, D. Dorr -P, J. Skias -P, R. Benson -P

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to accept the minutes as printed for Feb. 1, 2021 - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Ritch to approve Public Hearing minutes as print for Feb. 1, 2021 - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to pay the bills presented. - carried

Peggy Farnsworth informed the Council that we would be receiving 2 more benches. These benches are from her collecting plastic

Motion made by Lerma to adjust the line item based on the recommendation from the Clerk with attachment showing corrections. - carried

Motion made by Gill supported by Valley to approve actual budgets for 2020 - 2021. - carried

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to hold a Public Hearing on March 22, 2021 at 5 p.m. regarding land split and rezoning of property. - carried

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to approve Treasurer request of an increase of \$5.00 per quarter on the O&M bills starting April1, 2021. - carried

Nathan asked that if the Village hires a new person to take samples at the treatment plant and any repairs are needed must our DPW workers be license to do the work? Dave said we can hire it out if they are unable to make the repair.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to approve the purchase of a 2020 Dodge Ram with snow plow, Amber/Green strobe lights and a sprayed bed liner for a total cost of \$41,651.00.. The truck will be paid for as follows: \$14,400 on approval of USDA grant, \$15,000 from DDA funds and \$12,251 from General funds. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Gill to approve the 2021 - 2022 Trailway budget. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Ritch to donate from park fund \$100.00 for food boxes. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Gill to adjourn at 8:04 p.m.

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE  
PUBLIC HEARING  
HELD ON MONDAY MARCH 22, 2021

Meeting called to order at 5 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: M. Valley -P, T. Gill -P, A. Lerma -P, J. Ritch -P, D. Dorr -P, J. Skias -P

Dorr stated that the public hearing is to split and rezone a parcel within the village. Dollar General store is interested in building in the Village.

Mike representative of Atwell engineering firm and Mark representative of Zaremba Development Co. were present to answer questions regarding the proposed project.

We have not received any response from the surrounding property owners regarding the request. We did receive one letter from a resident which does not live in the Village.

Dorr said that he checked with other communities that have allowed a General Dollar to be built and found that there have not been any complaints.

If the Village allows the split and the rezoning construction would begin somewhere in August. The building would be 10,640 sq. ft.

Lerma asked about how many driveways would be put in. She was told that the design would only include one.

Valley said her only concern is with traffic coming into town and the speeds. Dorr said that we are still planning on purchasing an electronic speed limit sign that shows the speed which should help slow traffic down. Plus with the lights from the Dollar General parking lot should help the situation.

Mr. Pinn asked if the Village planned on giving a tax abatement to Dollar General. Dorr said the Village will not be giving any abatement for taxes or sewer assessments.

There was discussion on possibly continuing a sidewalk to the store.

Mr. Gilbert, which owns the parcel being discussed, would like to know if he would maintain the address that is now attached to the parcel. He was told he would keep his address and a new one would be given to the parcel being split off.

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to approve the proposed 1.91 acre parcel split from the parent property ID 047-636-005-00 Carried - 5 yes

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to rezone the new split parcel from R-4 Single Family Residential Attached to C-2 General Commercial with the understanding that if the sale to the Zaremba Group, for the construction of a small retail development, is not completed then the split parcel's rezoning would revert back to its original zoning of R-4 Single Family Residential - Attached. - Carried 5 yes

Motion made by Lerma supported by Gill to adjourn at 5:41 p.m. - carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY APRIL 5, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag

Roll Call: M. Valley -P, T. Gill -P, J. Ritch -P, A. Lerma -P, D. Dorr -P, J. Skias -A

Motion made Lerma supported by Valley to accept the minutes as printed for March 1, 2021 - carried

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to table approval of minutes printed for March 22, 2021 to reflect the roll call vote taken on the rezoning of the split property. - carried

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to pay the bills presented. - carried

Representative David Martin said that if any resident needs help dealing with the State agencies to please contact his office.

Motion made by Valley supported by Lerma to appoint Nancy VanAmburg to the Marathon Area Fire Authority as citizen at large 1 no 4 yes - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Gill to close Benson and Genesee Streets from Detroit to 11<sup>th</sup> and to allow the use of the tennis courts for Cardinal Wishes Poker Run on June 5, 2021 there will be no adult beverage tent this year. - carried

Motion made by Ritch supported by Valley to close Detroit Street north of Forest and Genesee St. to 11<sup>th</sup> for Rhythm Rodders car show on May 29, 2021 with a rain date of May 30, 2021. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Ritch to approve the March 2021 financial report as printed. - carried

Discussion was held on appointment of a council member to the Marathon Area Fire Auth. Board to replace Gill whom resigned. Valley will attend the next meeting or two to see if she may be interest in the position.

Gill said that the village has received several calls inquiring if the Village had any ordinances or requirements regarding the growing of marijuana for personal use. Most callers asked about growing up to 75 plants. Dorr will contact Forest Township and obtain some additional information.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Ritch to adjourn at 7:51 p.m. - carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MAY 3, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag

Roll Call: M. Valley -P, T. Gill -P, A. Lerma -P, J. Ritch - A, D. Dorr -P, J. Skias -P.

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to accept the minutes as printed for April 5, 2021 - carried

Motion made by Gill supported by Valley to accept the minutes as printed with correction for March 22, 2021 public hearing. - carried

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to pay the bills presented.

Mr. Acre had a complaint regarding the blight enforcement officer. Dorr gave him the phone number to contact the enforcement officer.

Mrs. Farnsworth informed the council that 3 benches came in and a 4<sup>th</sup> is on the way. Trailway would like a bench but she informed them that they would have to contact another organization because each organization is only allowed to order 2 per year.

Mr. Woodworth came to complain about the lake level. He did apologize for over stepping by placing a plate at the drain. He said that the level has gone down by a couple of inches. Dorr said that we would have poles put in to mark the level on both sides of the lake and when it reaches appropriate height and then will try to keep it at that stage. Dorr said that we will take a look in July.

Benson found a business that will round up the geese and relocate them.

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to hire Goose Buster at a cost of between \$350 and \$500 plus the \$200 for the permit needed. - carried

Table decision on the Clerk until August.

Motion made by Gill supported by Valley to approve the financial report as presented. - carried

Valley attended to the fire authority meeting and at this time she is willing to continue.

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to appoint M. Valley to the Marathon Area Fire Authority as village representative. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to adjourn at 8:14 p.m.

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON JUNE 7, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: M. Valley -A, T. Gill -P, A. Lerma -P, J. Ritch -P, D. Dorr -P, J. Skias -P

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to accept the minutes as printed for May 3, 2021 - carried

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to pay the bills presented. - carried

Brian Woodworth showed Dorr pictures of the plate in the canal and the water level.

Dustin Ladd was present to discuss the fire lane on Sherman Dr. and he is insisting that his mom owns 10' west to waters edge. Dorr asked to see his deed showing this. Dustin also complained about people parking in front of the garage. Dorr said he will make sure signs are still up showing no parking.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Ritch to accept the highest bid of \$5000.00 for the 1997 pickup from Ausble service, Jeff Tiede. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Ritch to allow fire dept. to hold their beverage tent and entertainment on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of July. To also set up a food stand in the small pavilion. - carried

Motion made by Ritch supported by Lerma to block off the streets Detroit from Forest north to Genesee and Genesee east to 10<sup>th</sup>. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Ritch to take \$11,290.40 from General Fund and adjust line items Attorney \$851.80, Chamber of Commerce \$149.72, Dept. of Public Works \$1,624.34, Insurance \$3,018.23 and Street lights \$5,646.31. - carried

Dorr informed the Council that the company will be coming in to rounding up the geese should be here June 23<sup>rd</sup> or sooner.

Brian Woodworth asked why the residents with lake front property weren't asked if they would like their area sprayed at their cost. Dorr suggested they call the company themselves.

Gill put together a draft of the duties of the clerk and treasurer and suggested a special meeting to discuss this matter.

Peggy Farnsworth asked if one of the new benches could be placed in the lot next to the trail way.

Ana informed the Council she does not have time to do the flower beds this year. Dorr said the owner of the flower shop on M-15 might be interested, He will find out more details. Dustin Ladd said he might also be interested. Dorr said give him a price. Dustin said being a resident it would be free.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Ritch to adjourn at 8:52 p.m. - carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON JULY 12, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: M. Valley -P, T. Gill -P, A. Lerma -P, J. Ritch -P, D. Dorr -P, J. Skias -P

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to accept the minutes as printed for June 7, 2021 - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to pay the bills presented. - carried

Dorr asked the council members if they received his email that stated the 1997 pickup for \$4250.00. They all said yes and agreed to the purchase.

Brian Woodworth informed the council that he feels that the residents on the NW side of the lake should be notified prior to permit being obtained for weed spraying. He said that this way if any of the residents would like the lake sprayed in front of their property at their cost would be able to be included. He also said that the property located at 14201 Washburn Rd. put in a culvert a few years ago but put it too high and now is just putting sand over it which does not allow water to drain properly. Dorr said he would have the DPW look at the problem. Brian also asked why the meetings are not taped. The clerk explained that she was informed by the Village attorney (Gary Howell) not to record and that she was not required to type general conversations that occur during the meeting.

Nazarene church would like to do something for the children in the park for Halloween on October 30<sup>th</sup>. The council said this would not be a problem.

Peggy said that some of the picnic tables in the park need to be sanded and repainted. She also said she spoke to the DPW men and they have two new benches that still need to be assembled but there seems to be a disagreement as to where to place them.

Brian Woodworth said that after the rain we have had the lake level has come up.. He also typed up paper stating who has control of the plate at the outlet. Dorr said that the Village would actually have to do an ordinance approval but he said that he does not think the DNR or DEQ would approve.

Mr. & Mrs. Schenk along with the church coalition have a problem with the properties they own on Detroit St. They need to put a well in but are landlocked. When the Village allowed the alley to be taken away it landlocked those properties. Dorr said that maybe they should talk to property owner at the corner to gain access. Another way would be eminent domain to establish an alley. The clerk will check with the attorney on this.

Motion made by Valley supported by Ritch to allow the car club to hold a fund raiser car cruise. They are holding this for the fireworks in 2022. To be held on Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5 - 8 p.m. - carried

Motion made by Valley supported by Lerma to accept financial report as presented. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Ritch to adjourn at 8:04 p.m. - carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON AUGUST 2, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: M. Valley -P, T. Gill - P, A. Lerma- P, J. Ritch -P, D. Dorr -P, J. Skias -P.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to accept the minutes as printed for July 12, 2021 with the addition of Mr. Woodworth's comment about the burning permits. - carried

Motion made by Gill supported by Ritch to pay the bills presented. - carried

Mr. Woodworth's comment from July stated that every time he tries to go on to the website to obtain a burn permit and gets kicked off because he is on the Genesee Co. side. Valley said she will bring this up at the next fire authority meeting.

Mrs. Farnsworth said that two of the new benches have been placed. One at the library and the other at the post office. Rails to Trails is now starting to collect the plastic. She also brought up about brush at the curve of on 11<sup>th</sup> street heading out of town because it's hard to see to turn onto Sherman St.

Mr. Woodworth also inquired about the culvert on Washburn Rd. Dorr said that the DPW is working on it. Mr. Woodworth also brought up about that he thinks the local government has authority regarding this matter of the lake level.

Chris Tuski, was present to explain why he is running for state representative.

Valley asked about playground equipment from the school. Dorr said the school doesn't want to get rid of it.

Gill had a problem of using the word Bonus in the assistance manager's contract for 2022. He also feels that when the 1099's are being done the cost of lot rent should also be included as compensation. Dorr gave the clerk new wording to use in place of the word bonus.

Motion made by Ritch supported by Gill to accept the contracts for park manager's and assistant manager's 2022 contracts with the wording change for the assistant manager's contract that does not include the word bonus.- carried

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to accept the financial report as presented. - carried

Members of council will meet on August 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. to discuss the position of clerk.

Motion made by Valley supported by Ritch to extend the current clerk's appointment until Oct.1, 2021. - carried

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. - carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7:17 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: M. Valley -A, T. Gill -P, A. Lerma -P, J. Ritch -A, D. Dorr -P, J. Skias -P.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Gill to accept the minutes as printed for Aug. 2, 2021 - carried

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to pay the bills presented. - carried

There was a discussion regarding the sewer assessments for Dollar General and Mr. Gilbert. It was decided that Dollar General will be given 1 assessment and for the O&M will be given 1 ½ units. Mr. Gilbert will keep his 1 assessment.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Gill to approve what was discussed in the work session that was held to appoint the current clerk until the end of the fiscal year (Feb. 28, 2022) - carried

Mrs. Farnsworth requested permission to sell mints for the Lions org. The council has no problem with this.

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to accept the financial report as presented. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Gill to adjourn at 7:38 p.m. - carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY OCTOBER 4, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: D. Dorr-P, A. Lerma -P, M. Valley -P, T. Gill -P, J. Ritch -A

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to accept the minutes as printed for September 13, 2021 - carried

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to pay the bills presented - carried

Barry Narrin, Otter Lake Fire Department, asked about the possibility of allowing current and retired Otter Lake firemen free use of the park/beach and boat launch. He suggested that retired would mean minimum of 10 years service and no trainees would be included. Council was not opposed; however, Dorr would like to discuss it with the Park committee.

Brian Woodworth asked if the Village had received any stimulus monies. Dorr indicated that we have not, as the state is working on how to divide up the monies. He also asked about Washburn Road. Dorr indicated that Mike Douglas would be starting shortly on replacing the culvert at and ditching north of 14201. Brian didn't feel the ditching work was necessary, but that the berm at the edge of the road needed to be removed to allow the water to flow off the road. Dorr asked Brian to provide him a list of things he feels need to be done to improve the roads condition. Brian indicated that he has been talking to other residents on Washburn Road that are very upset with the roads condition and the Village's response to date.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to set Halloween trick-or-treat hours from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on October 31, 2021. - carried The fire department will sound the siren at the start and end times.

Gill presented the advertisement for the position of village clerk. Council would like the ad ran on Indeed, Facebook and Lapeer County Press/The View.

Motion made by Gill supported by Lerma to accept the financial report as presented. - carried

Lerma asked if the blight enforcement officer was still working on blight issues. Dorr indicated he was and that currently the village is waiting on our attorney to file court cases on four blight tickets.

Motion made by Valley supported by Lerma to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. - carried