

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY JANUARY 8, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Present: M. Valley, D. Thomason, D. Dorr, T. Gill

Absent: None

Guests: K. Kreamsreiter, N. Dorner, L. Farver, M. Farver

Motion made by Valley supported by Lerma to accept the minutes as printed for December 4, 2023. - carried

Motion made by Valley supported by Thomason to accept payment of the bills presented – General Fund vouchers #14790 thru 14819. – carried

Motion made by Valley supported by Lerma to make the following adjustments to the 2023-2024 budget, transfer \$23.92 from DPW Building and \$5,076.08 from General Fund (\$5,100.00 total) to Street Lights. – carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to make the following adjustment to the 2023-2024 Local Street budget, transfer remaining \$6,147.56 from the American Rescue Plan account and increase State Revenue by \$6,348.64 (\$12,496.20 total) to Local Streets. – carried

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Cool Committee member Kay Kreamsreiter requested use of the Otter Lake park/beach for a Polar Dip event to be held on February 24, 2024, starting at 1:00 p.m. Motion made by Gill supported by Thomason to allow the Cool Committee's request. - carried

CLERK / TREASURER REPORT:

Blight Enforcement report for November 2023 was presented.

A new Playground Inspection Program reporting form was presented. The Village's insurance carrier requested that the Village set up this program.

Third Quarter Budget reports for 2023 were presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chairman Dorr is in discussion with a company to clean up the sites the Village has blight judgements on.

Appointment of MAFA board member – Tabled

Motion made by Valley supported by Thomason to set the Short-term Vacation Property Rental fees at the following rates: \$400.00 per year, includes beach access, kayak and boat launching fees; \$250.00 per year without beach access, kayak and boat launching. - carried

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion made by Dorr supported by Thomason to reappoint Mechelle Valley to the Marathon Area Fire Authority board for a four year term. – carried

Discussion was had on the request from Lapeer County Treasurer to pay back delinquent tax monies received from property #047-653-007-00, 6401 Detroit Street in the amount of \$15,807.71. This is the amount that the county did not recover from the sale of the property through the 2023 Delinquent Tax Foreclosure Auction. Matter was tabled for the Village to have more discussion with the county.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to recommend that the State of Michigan Liquor Control Commission consider approval of the application from NMED, LLC, requesting a Class C – On Premises Retail License for its Jasper’s location at 6400 Detroit Street, Otter Lake, MI. Yeas: Lerma, Dorr, Valley, Thomason and Gill Nays: None Motion carries

Preliminary draft of the 2024-2025 Proposed Budget was presented.

Council set a Public Hearing for the 2024–2025 Fiscal Year Budget for 7:15 p.m. on Monday, February 5, 2024 council meeting.

Dorr requested approval of replacement campground managers for the 2024 season due to the death of one of the previous approved managers. Motion by Lerma supported by Thomason to approve Dorr’s recommendation of Daron and Donna Fulmer for the position of campground managers for the 2024 season. – carried.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. – carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 5, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Present: M. Valley, D. Thomason, A. Lerma, D. Dorr, T. Gill

Absent: None

Guests: N. Dorner, T. Bowman, L. Bernard, J. Bernard

Motion made by Valley supported by Lerma to accept the minutes as printed for January 8, 2024. - carried

Motion made by Valley supported by Lerma to accept payment of the bills presented – General Fund vouchers #14820 thru 14847, Major Street vouchers #1162 thru 1166, and Local Street vouchers #1154 thru 1158. – carried

Motion made by Valley supported by Lerma to make the following adjustments to the 2023-2024 General Fund budget, transfer \$512.50 from Accountant to Chamber of Commerce. – carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Thomason to make the following adjustment to the 2023-2024 Major Streets and Local Streets budgets, transfer \$8,000.00 from Major Streets to Local Streets. – carried

Motion made by Valley supported by Thomason to accept the financial reports as presented. - carried

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tracey Bowman, representative from the Otter Lake Historical Society, asked about the possibility of the Village replacing the flooring in the museum building. It was suggested that she obtain estimates of the cost for the Village's consideration.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED 2024-2025 BUDGETS:

Proposed 2024-2025 budgets were presented and discussed. Public in attendance had no comments. Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to close the Public Hearing and reopen the regular meeting. - carried

CLERK / TREASURER REPORT:

Blight Enforcement report for December 2023 was presented.

Council Meeting dates for 2024-2025 were approved by consent.

A request to rent the Village Hall for a graduation party was discussed. It was agreed that the Village does not want to be in the rental business, however the hall would be available for group meetings.

OLD BUSINESS:

Appointment of MAFA board member – Tabled

Motion made by Dorr supported by Valley to repay the delinquent tax chargeback for property #047-653-007-00 to Lapeer County with payments being made over the course of this year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion made by Valley supported by Lerma to approve the proposed 2024-2025 budgets as presented.
– carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Thomason to approve setting the millage rate based on Head-Lee Roll Back. – carried

Motion made by Valley supported by Thomason to authorize the signing of warrants. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Thomason to authorize the signing of bank cards by the President, Treasurer and Clerk. – carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to authorize the spread of the special assessments onto the tax rolls. – carried

Discussion was had on the number of DPW workers currently on staff versus the current workload.
Motion made by Dorr supported by Thomason to layoff one DPW worker as determined in closed session. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Thomason to adjourn at 8:04 p.m. – carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY MARCH 4, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Present: A. Lerma, D. Dorr, T. Gill
Absent: M. Valley, D. Thomason
Guests: L. Thompson, R. Pett, N. Dorner, A. Sorge, B. Vickers, K. Vickers

Motion made by Lerma supported by Dorr to accept the minutes as printed for February 5, 2024. - carried

Motion made by Dorr supported by Lerma to accept payment of the bills presented – General Fund vouchers #14848 thru 14876, Major Street vouchers #1167 and 1168, and Local Street voucher #1159. – carried

Motion made by Dorr supported by Lerma to make the following adjustments to the 2023-2024 General Fund budget, transfer \$426.87 from Attorney to Street Lights. – carried

Motion made by Dorr supported by Lerma to accept the financial reports as presented. - carried

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Al Sorge, Barrier Free Boating, presented Billy and Kristen Vickers. The Vickers will be heading up Barrier Free Boating as Al steps back after running the organization for the last ten years.

CLERK / TREASURER REPORT:

Blight Enforcement report for January and February 2024 were presented.

Village Cleanup will be held on Saturday, May 11, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Dumpster will be located at the Village Hall. Motion made by Dorr supported by Lerma to accept passenger vehicle tires for a disposal fee of \$1.00 per tire. - carried

OLD BUSINESS:

Appointment of MAFA board member – Tabled

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion made by Dorr supported by Lerma to approve the Actual 2023-2024 budgets as presented. – carried

Motion made by Dorr supported by Lerma to pay Marathon Township First Responders \$1,200.00 to help defer supply costs. – carried

Tabled - Lapeer County EMS request to forego "capture" of revenue from the 2025 special levy for more information.

Tabled – Southern Links Trailway’s budget and funding request until after the Village’s upcoming DDA meeting.

Motion made by Dorr supported by Lerma to reappoint Eric Mead and Dick Stevens to another term on the Village’s Planning Commission. – carried

A DDA meeting date of Monday, March 11, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. was set.

Clerk Gill suggested that the Village may want to explore the possibility of requesting a millage increase for street funding.

Motion made by Dorr supported by Lerma to adjourn at 8:33 p.m. – carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY APRIL 1, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Present: A. Lerma, M. Valley, D. Dorr, T. Gill

Absent: D. Thomason

Guests: N. Dorner, K. Kreamsreiter, W. Morey, R. Schenk, P. Schenk

Motion made by Valley supported by Lerma to accept the minutes as printed for March 4, 2024. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to accept payment of the bills presented – General Fund vouchers #14877 thru 14908, Major Street vouchers #1169 and 1170, and Local Street vouchers #1160 thru 1162. – carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Dorr to accept the financial reports as presented. - carried

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Representative from Lapeer EMS answered questions regarding their upcoming millage renewal. The total capture for the Village would be \$6,628. EMS provides ambulance service for the First Responders and provided 28 runs in 2023.

Wayne Morey gave an update on renovations on 6405 and 6409 Detroit Street. They are planning on having the buildings weathertight by the end of the year.

Kay Kreamsreiter, C.O.O.L. Committee, gave an update on their proposed events and schedule for the 4th of July celebration.

CLERK / TREASURER REPORT:

Blight Enforcement report – No report.

Schedule for the American Legion's – Memorial Day Services was presented.

Quote for the Village's 2024 General Liability Insurance was presented. An increase of \$2,505.00 is due to an increase in property value from the CBIZ appraisal conducted last fall.

OLD BUSINESS:

Appointment of MAFA board member – Tabled

Motion by Dorr, supported by Lerma, that the Village of Otter Lake hereby resolves that we will continue not to “capture” any of the revenue from the 2025 special levy money that the Lapeer County EMS millage request approved by voters would provide. – carried

Further discussion was had on the possibility of requesting a millage increase for street funding.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion made by Valley supported by Lerma to approve the DDA 2024-2025 budget as presented. – carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to adjourn at 8:34 p.m. – carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY MAY 6, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Present: A. Lerma, D. Dorr, T. Gill

Absent: D. Thomason, M. Valley

Guests: N. Dorner, K. Kremsreiter, W. Morey, G. Heusted, C. Snyder, G. Jones, B. Narrin, C. Sickner,
C. Smith, B. Smith, B. Flewelling, Donna Fulmer, Doran Fulmer

Motion made by Dorr supported by Lerma to accept the minutes as printed for April 1, 2024. - carried

Motion made by Dorr supported by Lerma to accept payment of the bills presented – General Fund vouchers #14909 thru 14941, Major Street vouchers #1171 and 1173, and Local Street vouchers #1163 thru 1165. – carried

Motion made by Dorr supported by Lerma to accept the financial reports as presented. - carried

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Brian Flewelling, Candidate for Genesee County Board of Commissioners, 9th District, gave a brief introduction of himself and his reasons for running for office.

Barry Narrin, Otter Lake Fire Department, requested use of the tennis courts and small pavilion for their proposed July 4th activities.

Chuck and Brenda Smith, Otter Lake Villagers, gave a brief presentation on their organizations proposed Renaissance Festival to be held on the Otter Lake Elementary school grounds, July 5th thru 7th.

Gary Heusted, Rhythm Rodders, presented an update on their proposed Memorial Weekend Car Cruise scheduled for Saturday, May 25, 2024.

Kay Kremsreiter, C.O.O.L. committee representative, gave an update on their proposed July 4th events.

CLERK / TREASURER REPORT:

Blight Enforcement report for March 2024 was presented.

Schedule for the Nazarene Summer Family Fun Night Schedule for 2024 was presented.

The Village was notified that its representative for the Southern Links Trailways has resigned.

OLD BUSINESS:

Appointment of MAFA board member – Tabled

Street Maintenance Funding: On going discussion.

Dorr indicated that he had investigate a laser deterrent system to keep the geese out of the beach area. Cost of a system is approximately \$20,000.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Dorr, supported by Lerma, that the Village of Otter Lake hereby resolves that we will continue not to “capture” any of the revenue from the 2025 special levy money that the Lapeer County Veterans Affairs millage request approved by voters would provide. – carried

The Village’s Health Care Insurance coverage has been renewed at an 8.04% increase from last year.

Garbage Pickup Assessment: Rick Rhein has increased their charges by \$0.30 per household bringing the new rate to \$10.30 per household. Motion by Dorr, supported by Lerma, to increase the assessment charged residents to \$135.00 per year, up from \$130.00 per year. – carried

Museum Split-Air Conditioning Unit: Tabled. Nate Dorner will obtain additional bids.

Small Cities/Villages Meeting: Otter Lake will host the June 5, 2024, meeting. It was suggested that Bear Street Deli cater the event again this year.

Motion made by Dorr supported by Lerma to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. – carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY JUNE 3, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Present: M. Valley, D. Thomason, A. Lerma, D. Dorr, T. Gill

Absent: None

Guests: N. Dorner, E. Pridemore, K. Kremsreiter, C. Ginder, B. Smith, C. Smith, K. Goldorf, A. Smith

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to accept the minutes as printed for May 6, 2024. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to accept payment of the bills presented – General Fund vouchers #14942 thru 14972, and Local Street voucher #1166. – carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Thomason to accept the financial reports as presented. - carried

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Kay Kremsreiter, C.O.O.L. committee representative, requested permission to use the beach/park on August 17, 2024, for the second annual Cardboard Boat Regatta.

Chuck and Brenda Smith, Otter Lake Villagers, indicated that they have a five (5) year commitment with LakeVille Community Schools to hold a Renaissance Festival on the Otter Lake Elementary school grounds. The Village requested a copy of that agreement.

Kim Goldorf and Allison Smith, Marathon Area Fire Authority, expressed their concerns regarding the Village of Otter Lake's suggestion that the First Responders be completely funded through the Marathon Area Fire Authority and forgo the yearly \$1,200.00 payment of supplies currently paid by each of the three municipalities. Kim Goldorf was adamant that this is what has been done for the last 34 years and she see no reason for changing it.

CLERK / TREASURER REPORT:

Blight Enforcement report for April and May 2024 was presented.

Copies of the 2023-2024 Audit Report were distributed to the council members.

Clerk Gill informed the council that the operating millage for 2024 has dropped to 9.974 millage from 10.1 millage last year. This is due to the Head-Lee Amendment. Council requested options on how this can be reversed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Appointment of MAFA board member – Tabled

Street Maintenance Funding: On going discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

In an email the Marathon Township Clerk indicated that the Village Hall will be used for both the primary and general elections this year. The August 5th council meeting will be held on Monday, August 12 in lieu of August 5.

Clerk Gill disturbed copies of the 1st Quarter Budget Reports to the council. Discussion was had on the sewer accounts inability to pay its expenses.

Motion made by Thomason supported by Lerma to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. – carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY JULY 1, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Present: M. Valley, D. Thomason, A. Lerma, D. Dorr, T. Gill

Absent: None

Guests: E. Pridemore, K. Kreamsreiter, C. Ginder, L. Benson, C. Murphy, L. Thatcher, L. Thompson,
R. Pett

Motion made by Valley supported by Lerma to accept the minutes as printed for June 3, 2024. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Thomason to accept payment of the bills presented – General Fund vouchers #14973 thru 15003, Major Street vouchers #1174 thru 1177, and Local Street vouchers #1167 thru 1171. – carried

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

C.O.O.L. committee representatives present expressed their concerns regarding the proposed Renaissance Festival and lack of coordination of that event with the Village or the C.O.O.L. committee. Chairman Dorr indicated that if the information requested from the Otter Lake Villagers was not received by Tuesday, July 2, 2024, that a letter would be sent to them expressing the Village's concerns and position regarding their proposed event.

Lisa Barret expressed her concerns regarding the poultry being kept at 5644 Forest Ave and the owner's disregard of the Village's ordinance for the keeping of poultry.

Luann Thompson informed the council that she had resigned from the Southern Links Trailway Management Council.

CLERK / TREASURER REPORT:

No Blight Enforcement report for June 2024 was presented.

Clerk Gill informed the council that the campground sewer O&M bill for the second quarter had been raise from 21-1/8 units to 40 units. His research indicated that originally the campground was charged 15 units. Motion made by Lerma supported by Thomason to set and pay the campground O&M sewer charge at 15 units. – carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Appointment of MAFA board member – Tabled

Appointment of Southern Links Management Council member - Tabled

Street Maintenance Funding: Continued discussion. It was suggested that a Street Capital Improvement Plan be developed to help inform the residents of the need and cost of street replacements.

NEW BUSINESS:

Clerk Gill informed the council that 30% of the total yearly sewer O&M billings were unpaid and placed on the 2024-2025 property tax roll. He suggested that the late fee for unpaid O&M bills be increased from \$5.00 per month to \$10.00 per month per unit charged. Motion made by Lerma supported by Valley to increase the late fee on unpaid O&M bills from \$5.00 per month to \$10.00 per month per unit charged. – carried.

Clerk Gill presented a comparison of camping rates charged by five local campgrounds and presented suggested rates for the Otter Lake campground's 2025 season. Motion made by Thomason supported by Valley to set the 2025 season rates as follows:

Waterfront Sites:	55.00 Daily	675.00 Monthly	3,200 Seasonal
Non-Waterfront Sites:	45.00 Daily	635.00 Monthly	3,000 Seasonal
Rustic Sites:	40.00 Daily		

Motion carried.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Dorr to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. – carried

VILLAGE OF OTTER LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY AUGUST 12, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Present: D. Thomason, A. Lerma, D. Dorr, T. Gill
Absent: M. Valley
Guests: None

Motion made by Dorr supported by Lerma to accept the minutes as printed for July 1, 2024. - carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Thomason to accept payment of the bills presented – General Fund vouchers #15004 thru 15038, Major Street voucher #1178, and Local Street voucher #1172. – carried

Motion made by Lerma supported by Thomason to accept the financial reports as presented. - carried

PUBLIC COMMENT: No Public Present

CLERK / TREASURER REPORT:

Blight Enforcement reports for June and July 2024 were presented.

Clerk Gill informed the council that he had started putting the cemetery on the computer.

A donation request letter from the Thumb Narcotics Unit was presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

Appointment of MAFA board member – Tabled

Appointment of Southern Links Management Council member - Tabled

Street Maintenance Funding: Street Capital Improvement Plan has not been started.

NEW BUSINESS:

Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting was set for Monday, August 26, 2024, to begin at 7:00 p.m., to hear applicant Austin Burley's request for a variance from the setbacks requirements for an accessory building.

Dorr presented an invoice from Rhonda Laur for the village's flower beds. Dorr suggested that the invoice be rounded up to \$1,500.00. All council members concurred.

Motion made by Lerma supported by Dorr to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. – carried