

Oronoco Town Board
Monthly Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2025

Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Oronoco Town Board held on **Monday, July 14, 2025**, at 5:30pm at the Oronoco Community Center, located at 115 Second Street SW, Oronoco, Minnesota.

Thomas Demarino dropped off the final site map for his driveways. Supervisor Mergen said that the driveways looked good and the final site map would be added to records.

Supervisor Ken Mergen called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

The agenda was accepted.

River Corridor Overlay District

The final approval for the River Corridor Overlay District will be added to the agenda for August. OTPAC approved the review. The moratorium ended on July 10, 2025.

Road Report

Scott Schumacher stated that work is almost complete on Sunset Bay Road.

Supervisor Mergen mentioned that blading is needed on 60th Ave and 85th St. Schumacher said this would be done again as soon as it rains.

Weed spraying

Supervisor Johanningmeier stated that spring weed spraying is complete. There will be a fall application done, in the SW area of the Township. Supervisor Johanningmeier is pleased with the areas sprayed last year.

Supervisor Johanningmeier stated that Northstar Companies will spray guardrails. Guardrails have previously been sprayed by Arborists of Rochester.

Supervisor Johanningmeier will contact Chris from, Joint Powers mowing-Rochester-Cascade, and let him know that mowing needs to be done on Lake Shady and Minnesota Ave.

11th Ave NW

Supervisor Matzke spoke with Dusty from MNDOT regarding traffic on 11th Ave NW. Dusty stated that traffic should be following the 511 route from MNDOT.

Citizen Russell Young stated that the traffic is no better on 11th Ave NW. The sheriff told Mr. Young that they will not enforce the road closed signs.

Supervisor Mergen will put the traffic counter out again this week on 11th Ave NW.

Supervisor Matzke noted lessons learned from this project: there must be a resolution to close the road, negotiate with MNDOT for road maintenance and rock, and sign the resolution to close the road.

Demarino

Thomas Demario dropped off the final site map for his driveway project prior to the start of the meeting.

LRIP Funding

Supervisor Mergen contacted Gail Levenson, Widseth Engineering about the LRIP funding. He has not heard back about this after several calls and emails.

Supervisor Mergen reached out to Brian Malm, Bolton and Menk, about LRIP funding. Mr. Malm will do a preliminary cost estimate for the August 11, 2025 meeting. The funding project would include current estimates and engineering plans for the Townships three biggest priorities; Ryan's Bay Rd, Cedar Beach, and Sunset Bay Rd.

Kruisle Ln NW and Fitzpatrick Ln NW

Supervisor Johanningmeier would like to know how much the staging fee would be if Kruisle Ln NW and Fitzpatrick Ln NW were not done at the same time as Frederich's Dr.

Supervisor Mergen will call Rochester Sand and Gravel about Kruisle Ln NW and Fitzpatrick Ln NW.

Supervisor Mergen received an estimate of \$84,624.15 for Kruisle Ln NW and Fitzpatrick Ln NW on June 13, 2025. The work for Kruisle and Fitzpatrick would be done when Frederich's Dr is done. The estimate for Frederich's Dr was \$224,062.60 and was approved at the August 12, 2024 meeting.

Minutes Approval

There was a motion by Supervisor Mergen to approve the minutes for Monday, June 9, 2025, seconded by Supervisor Matzke. The motion was carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report-Brandi Lind

The YTD Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances as of July 14 2025 shows: receipts \$988,247.37, disbursements \$603,867.30 with an ending balance of \$1,260,723.12.

There was a motion made by Supervisor Mergen to approve the treasurers report, in written form, seconded by Supervisor Johanningmeier. The motion was carried unanimously.

Rural Broadband

A partnership agreement with Bevcomm for a fiber broadband expansion project in Oronoco Township was adopted in December 2020. The township agreed to withhold a portion of funding to assist remote households.

Treasurer Lind reached out to Kay Kuster to find out how to close out this fund. There would need to be a resolution drafted and signed by Oronoco Township Board in order to deactivate this fund.

Safety Deposit Box

Treasurer Lind will open a safety Deposit Box at Eagle Rock Bank. Supervisor Mergen, Clerk Schroeder and Treasurer Lind will be signers for this. The cost of a large box is \$30 per year.

Approval to pay payroll and claims including electronic transfer

There was a motion made by Supervisor Matzke to approve the payroll and claims, including electronic transfers, seconded by Supervisor Mergen. The motion was carried unanimously.

OTPAC

The moratorium ended on July 10, 2025. OTPAC has been working on the River Corridor Overlay District.

Clerk Notes

River Ridge Outlot B

Clerk Schroeder noted that there have been several emails regarding River Ridge Outlot B. The last email from Jered Stanton, July 14, 2025, stated that the open space for River Ridge outlot B was never dedicated.

Citizen Gregg Greedes stated that the River Ridge Outlot B is about 3 acres and was supposed to be dedicated as open space. The County approved this as an open space because of density requirements but it was never filed with the County.

Supervisor Matzke will talk to Paige Collins with Olmsted County Planning about dedication of this open space and see if it can be filed with the County.

Goldrush Crossings Letter

Clerk Schroeder will send an email to Linda King's attorney, Jack Perry, with the letter and fees incurred by Oronoco Township for the Gold Rush Crossings.

Aspen Ridge Documents

Clerk Schroeder noted that we have still not received final documents for Aspen Ridge Development. Supervisor Mergen will look into this.

Pine Island Fire and First Responders Information

Information about the Pine Island Fire and First Responders was posted to the website.

Board Member Comments

The OCTOA meeting will be July 24, 2025 at New Haven Township Hall.

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July 14, 2025

Supervisor Matzke stated that Pine Island Fire Department quarterly meeting was held. The Pine Island Fire Department is right on where it needs to be with expenditures.

Supervisor Johannigmeier stated that we need to figure out some type of reporting for the Pine Island Fire Department, including response times, map data and referrals to Olmsted County. This report could be done quarterly or semiannually.

Supervisor Johannigmeier is looking into census reports. The projections for Oronoco Township are roughly 2 percent increase. This may be something to discuss with OTPAC for future land use planning.

Clerk Schroeder noted an error made on payroll for Supervisor Matzke. She did not receive her \$200 meeting fee for the month of June. This meeting fee will be added to the payroll for August 11, 2025. She will receive meeting fees for June and July on the August payroll.

Treasurer Lind will is working with Melissa Griggs, City of Oronoco, to get an assessment added to Oronoco Auto Parts for delinquent water bills. There will need to be a resolution signed by the Township Board to approve this assessment.

There was a motion made by Supervisor Johannigmeier to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Supervisor Mergen. The motion was carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Clerk Jody Schroeder

Tammy Matzke

Ken Mergen

Joel Johannigmeier