A special meeting of the Ontario Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Frank Robusto at 6:00 p.m. in the Ontario Town Hall. Present were Supervisor Robusto, Councilmembers: Scott TeWinkle, Joseph Catalano, Richard Leszyk, Jason Ruffell, Attorney Richard Williams and Labor Attorney Allen Peterman.

A motion was made by Mr. TeWinkle, seconded by Mr. Catalano, to enter into an executive session at 6:01 p.m. for proposed, pending or current litigation. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Ruffell, seconded by Mr. TeWinkle, to adjourn at 6:54 p.m. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

A regular meeting of the Ontario Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Frank Robusto at 7:00 p.m. in the Ontario Town Hall. Present were Supervisor Robusto, Council members: Scott TeWinkle, Joseph Catalano, Richard Leszyk, Jason Ruffell, Assessor Melissa Halstead, Accountant Linda Yancey, Judge Sucher, Library Director Sandra Hylen and Town Clerk Debra DeMinck.

11 residents and visitors were present at portions of the meeting

Mr. Faulks led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Legal Notice of Public Hearing on the 2019 Preliminary Budget of the Town of Ontario was published in the Times of Wayne County on October 14, 2018 the Sun & Record/Wayne County Mail on October 18, 2018, on the Town Clerk’s sign board on October 10, 2018.

A motion was made by Mr. Ruffell, seconded by Mr. TeWinkle, to open the 2019 Preliminary Budget Public Hearing at 7:01 p.m. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Accountant Linda Yancey gave an overview of the preliminary budget. Two new H funds are being set up: one for the replacement of the tension fabric structure at the Community Center at Casey Park and one for the tax rate stabilization should the Ginna Nuclear Power Plant close.

Supervisor Robusto stated the Board is addressing IT procedures listed in the Comptrollers report. Watershed will be getting additional funds, with money also going into contingency funds. Town clean up and e-waste is in the budget for next year. Additionally a day will be set aside for hazardous waste and pharmaceutical drop off. Added funds for road repair and additional money to Watershed.

Mr. Switzer is concerned about the value of the town going up and the tax rate going down. He had several issues with the budget process: no idea what’s actually in the budget and feels there should be more public discussion and input. What is happening with gutters and drains and ambulance and emergency services. Clueless as residents as to what’s in the budget.

Mr. Ruffell stated everything is in the budget for the public to see, including revisions.

Mr. Robusto acknowledged that drainage and gutters are a concern but the town needs to prioritize the issues working with the town’s fiscal restraints.

Mr. Jim Doyle doesn’t feel the elected Town Board members should get a 2% raise. He feels the budget numbers are up, all personal services, and he doesn’t understand why.
Off street parking, $48,000 up from $13,000.

Mr. Ruffell stated department heads submit a budget minus any employee increases. The budget looks 2% higher due to a 2% raise to all employees. That is why it would look higher.

Mr. Catalano stated there is not a lot of detail as to where the increases are going. In the past there would be a list of projects where the money would be allocated.

Department heads met with the Accountant and Supervisor and worked on their individual budgets.

Mr. Leszyk feels the town is taking steps in a positive direction for Capital budgeting.

Mr. Ruffell stated that the Supervisor and Accountant had the Comptrollers report in front of them to address issues during the budget process with department heads.

Mr. Leszyk feels infrastructure needs to be addressed. The Water Superintendent is working on several issues that need fixing.

Accountant Linda Yancey stated she has attended training sessions and the town is working on online water payment, closing capital projects and several other things.

A motion was made by Mr. Leszyk, seconded by Mr. TeWinkle, to close the public hearing at 7:35 p.m.
5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Revisions to the Agenda - A motion was made by Mr. Ruffell, seconded by Mr. TeWinkle, to approve the agenda as presented. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Public Comment – General comments were received. There was also concern regarding emergency services provided by Union Hill.

Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting(s) – A motion was made by Mr. Leszyk, seconded by Mr. Ruffell, to approve the minutes of the October 8th and 15th, 2018 meetings as presented. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence – None

New Business – A motion was made by Mr. Leszyk, seconded by Mr. Ruffell, to authorize the Highway Superintendent to hire Michael Doyle as the seasonal on-call winter employee from November 1, 2018 to April 15, 2019 at $22.50 per hour with no benefits as requested in memo 18-18. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. TeWinkle, seconded by Mr. Ruffell, to authorize the Parks and Recreation Director to hire Connor Hollenbeck as seasonal labor starting October 3, 2018 to March 31, 2019 at $12.50 per hour, no benefits from budget codes A7110.1/A8810.1 as requested in memo 34-2018. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Ruffell, seconded by Mr. Catalano, to authorize the Town Supervisor to enter into an agreement with Troy and Banks to pursue credits due us for past billing discrepancies. There is
no charge for this service but if there are reductions in future costs, Troy and Banks will receive 40% of the amount saved per month for 24 months. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Public Comment – General comments were received.

Board reports – Mr. Leszyk stated he appreciated the budget approach.

Mr. Robusto stated this budget is one everyone should be proud of. The Town is adding services. The town cleanup is in the budget along with a hazardous waste and e-waste recycling event. The town is also looking ahead in the event that the Ginna Nuclear Power Plant does not re-license.

Mr. TeWinkle stated that the budget process was new to him and he would have been overwhelmed if he had to learn the whole budget. He concentrated on the Parks and Recreation Department of which he is liaison.

Mr. Catalano stated he thought the budget process was good but different than in the past. He feels residents would feel better knowing what projects were going to be done.

Mr. Leszyk stated other towns send out newsletters and perhaps each month a department head could write an article on what they are doing and it could be posted on the website.

All board members stated they volunteered at the Park event last weekend and had a lot of fun.

Mr. Robusto also stated the budget will be adopted on, Tuesday, November 13, 2018, the next Town Board meeting.

Approval of Claims – A motion was made by Mr. Ruffell, seconded by Mr. TeWinkle, to approve the abstract of claims for October 22, 2018 including vouchers #2798 through #3058 (2845 used by the Business Office) with a grand total of $106,560.07 and to authorize the Supervisor to issue payments for same. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Executive Session – A motion was made by Mr. Leszyk, seconded by Mr. Catalano, to move into an executive session at 8:05 p.m. on a personnel matter leading to said dismissal, removal, promotion, appointment, employment, discipline, demotion or suspension of a particular person. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Reconvene – 8:26 p.m.

Adjourn – A motion was made by Mr. TeWinkle, seconded by Mr. Catalano, to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Debra DeMinck
Ontario Town Clerk

The above minutes will become official upon approval of the town board.