

**OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting**

June 10, 2013 - 7:00 p.m.

Ossian Town Hall – 507 North Jefferson

Council President, Brad Pursley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council members Tom Neuenschwander and Josh Barkley present.

Barkley moved to accept the minutes of the May meetings as presented. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 3-0

Barkley read a letter of resignation effective May 29, 2013 from Angie Dial stating that she no longer lived in the Town of Ossian and therefore, is ineligible to serve. Barkley moved to accept her resignation. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-0 (Hughes-Lazzell arrived a few minutes late) Council thanked Dial for her 12 ½ years of service and presented her with a plaque commemorating her dedication to the Town of Ossian during this time. The council then decided to accept applications until noon on July 22, 2013. They will choose a new member at the July 22, council meeting.

John Marshall of Linder Oil presented a CF-1 for approval. Barkley moved to approve. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-0

JD Sitton of Martin Riley reported there is some pooling of water on the town hall roof that is only 2.5 years old. It will be covered under the 20 year manufacturer's warranty but he felt he should keep council informed.

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**MINUTES  
OSSIAN STORM WATER BOARD  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2013 6:00 PM**

The Ossian Stormwater Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Stormwater Board members present included Tim Miller, President, Rose Barrick, V.P. Dennis Ramey, Sec'y. Also attending were Luann Martin, Ossian Town Manager, local resident Andy Bise, 302 Bittersweet Ln, and Glen Werling, The News-Banner.

**Minutes Approval** ----- Tim made a motion to approve the minutes for Storm Water meeting on April 24, 2013, Rose second, vote was 3-0 to approve.

**Old Business**

**Roe Street project** ----- Luann reported to the group that installation of the new section of 30" Stormwater pipe is progressing very well, and barring any unforeseen problems should be completed soon. Habig Construction of Bluffton, IN is performing the work. There may be a few small adders to the \$ 74,900 cost of the project to make taps on a few unexpected small, old lines that appeared to still be active. A short discussion on the "pros and cons" of flat grates versus bonnet grates was explored, but info was not available on what was spec'd for the job.

**Archbold Wilson Park** ----- Luann reported that with recent rains and wet conditions, work is on hold for now.

**Heverly Drive reconstruction and jetvac cleaning**----- No change this month.

**Maplewood Drive – undersized driveway culvert** ----- Luann has mailed a letter informing the property owner of his drive-way culvert being undersized, and what will be required to correct the swale and culvert. The Town plans to restore the swale sometime this year as scheduling allows.

**Swale area in 600 block between Shady Lane and Bittersweet**----- At the April meeting, Alan Bunn, 612 Shady Lane, addressed the group about his concern with recent high water behind his home. The group discussed with Mr.Bunn the recent history of the area behind his property, and the game plan to resolve, or at least, to improve the drainage. This includes removing the rip rap and debris, and re-grade. In the past, some homeowners in the area expressed interest in wanting to install downspout tile. The area will need to dry out before Town crews can get in to remove the rip rap. Utilities, namely cable TV installed shallow, will be an additional challenge to deal with when this work begins. Mrs. Bunn has recently emailed Luann seeking further advice on what they can or cannot do with their landscaping. Luann is going to mail a copy of the "Criteria for Side Ditch and Swale Restoration" rules, which also requires approval by the Board before changes are made on existing properties. The Bunn's may also seek advice from a landscape contractor which could have additional possibilities. The height and function of the existing catch basin on the west end of the swale will also be evaluated for change.

With the Roe St. project nearly completed, this area will be the next issue to be improved, barring any emergency situations.

**Andy Bise, 302 Bittersweet Ln.**-----**request for info on improving swale at front of property** Mr.Bise requested information from the group about installing piping in the swale area at the front of his property. Luann explained a brief history of this area, and reviewed his options, including purchasing 8" tile from the town to bury below swale requirement. Mr. Bise will talk with his neighbor about his plan, as well as getting a quote or advice from Outdoor Concepts before deciding what action to take.

**Storm Water Budget (funds available)**-- (Stormwater Utility Fund Report)

Balance as of 5-29-2013 \$ 67,872.23

**Melching - Metts Stormwater project approx. balance---**

As of 5-29-2013 \$ 41,206.

**New Business----**

No new projects to report this month.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular scheduled meeting for the Stormwater Board will be on Wednesday, June 26, 2013, at 6:00 PM, Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted, Dennis Ramey, Secretary

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Roseann Barrick of the Storm Water Board reported that the Roe Street project is complete except for some fill which will have to wait for settling to occur. It will probably be done in the spring.

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**OSSIAN REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday June 4, 2013**

**Members present:** Jan Williams, Mike Lewis, Linda Hambrick, Larry Heckber, Marlyn Koons, Kody Kumfer, Judy Harkless, Eme Dietrick, Jim Brewer, Larry Smith, Luann Martin, Natalie Milholland, Bruce Sonner

**Members not present:** Tom Neuenschwander, Joel Fremion

Minutes from the May 7, 2012 meeting were approved.

**New Member:** A motion was made by Judy Harkless second by Larry Heckber to accept Bruce Sonner as a new member of Ossian Revitalization. Motion was voted on and passed.

**Watering flowers:** Flowers are receiving water by volunteers. Bruce Sonner will check on the weeds in the in ground beds and ask Heyerly's Bakery if they are planning on maintaining the north in-ground bed on Craig Street. Jim is going to talk to Rhonda, Bloomin Boutique, about providing the flowers in the in ground bed by her shop.

**Freedom Fest:** Stacey Little was out of town and not able to attend this meeting. Judy Harkless will follow up with her for the date and what she wants Revitalization to do to help.

**Entrance Signs:** Signs are ready to be installed. One more signature needed.

**Pork Chop Dinner: Sept 5, 2013**

Jim Brewer and Marlyn met with Jerry Springer to get a list of prices for food. They will meet with Richards to compare prices and bring more information to the next meeting. Committee members who were assigned to check with vendors, please make contact with those businesses/individuals by the July meeting.

**Garage Sales June 15**

Luann reported that not many people registered at the Town Hall for their sale. It was suggested that next year we might want to use Social Networking for advertisement.

**Old Business:** More bricks have been sold and some more may be pending. Larry Heckber and Bruce Sonner will install the new bricks and look into proper sand fill between the bricks.

Luann distributed an Expense Report for 2013 up to June. She is checking into line item Utilities which seemed high.

**New Business:** Luann presented a quote from R&C Fence in the amount of \$6,100 for a railing along businesses on east side of Jefferson St where the sidewalk is uneven. She is going to check on other options for the next meeting.

**Next Revitalization meeting: Tuesday, July 2, at 5:00 at the Town Hall.**

Minutes prepared by Jan Williams

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Numerous citizens were present to discuss the street lights in Rose Ann Heights. Most were in favor of the new lights but were opposed to overhead wiring. A lengthy discussion ensued with Barrick suggesting they look at the plat maps to see where the five (5) foot courtesy easements are located. She stated that those were platted just for this sort of use. Lisa Tarr agreed to circulate a petition to see what all the residents wanted. This matter was tabled until the first meeting in July.

Two additions to the Wayne Asphalt invoice for \$1764 and \$3360 were presented for payment. These additions brought the total cost of the street work done to \$89, 124. Barkley moved to approve the total amount. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 4-0

Neuenschwander presented a Lease Agreement for the EMS to lease the far west end of the town hall building for five (5) years at \$4800 per year payable January 1 and July 1 of each year. It has been accepted and signed by EMS personnel. Neuenschwander moved to accept and Barkley seconded. Passed 4-0

Barkley moved to accept Bruce Sonner as a member of the Revitalization Committee. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 4-0

Hughes-Lazzell moved to approve the Brickley Excavating invoice for the Roe Street Project of \$72,900. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-0 Hughes-Lazzell also moved to approve an invoice from Habig Trucking & Excavating also for the Roe Street Project of \$725. Pursley seconded. Passed 4-0

A utility bill adjustment of \$1937.10 was presented by Town Manager, Luann Martin. This adjustment was denied by unanimous consent because the customer took a week to respond to the town's warnings of 1000 gallons per hour usage.

FEMA Information was presented regarding the new flood plains which will affect the Town of Ossian. This has not taken effect yet and can still be appealed. Martin and Neuenschwander will contact Jason House about the appeal process.

Pursley said he had gotten some complaints regarding the town's mowing. He asked Martin if they had enough manpower and Martin assured him they did. Pursley also asked if Ed Weisenhauer had elected not to come back to mow this summer. Martin declined to answer.

Martin reported that there are 24 dead trees at the Archbold-Wilson Park. She said they replaced 12 trees last year that had plaques on them. She also said there are no broken plaques as had been previously reported.

Neuenschwander moved to approve claims of \$137,093.85. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 4-0

Hughes-Lazzell moved to adjourn. Barkley seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

June 24, 2013

6:08 PM START

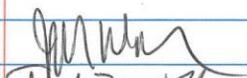
Executive session

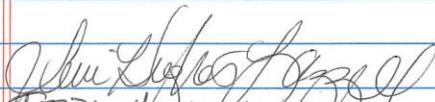
Meeting called to order @ 6:08 pm

JOB PERFORMANCE OF INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEES  
WAS DISCUSSED.

Meeting was concluded @ 6:42 pm

Brad Pursley

  
JOSEPH BANNETT

  
TERRI HUGHES LAZZELL

  
TOM NEUENSCHWANDER

## ***OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting***

June 24, 2013 - 7:00 p.m.

Ossian Town Hall – 507 North Jefferson

Council President, Brad Pursley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council members Tom Neuenschwander, Josh Barkley and Terri Hughes-Lazzell present.

Pursley called for comments from citizens, at which time, several residents of Sandalwood Addition expressed their concerns about the placement of new street lights in the addition. Hughes-Lazzell stated that the council was not going to back up from their decision to install new street lights. She said they are needed for safety reasons.

Council approved CF-1 tax abatement compliance forms for Berne Apparel and H & N Properties. Barkley moved. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-0

Town Manager, Luann Martin, presented information about the recent flood plain changes by the DNR. She said she was told by the DNR that the information would have to be published twice in the newspaper. These advertisements would probably appear in the paper sometime in July. The ninety (90) day period in which appeals could be submitted will begin upon publication of the second posting in the newspaper. Council decided to ask the Wells County Commissioners for \$2500 to cover some of the costs of the appeal.

Ben Fenstermaker, Ossian Fire Chief, asked permission to purchase a sixteen (16) inch saw to replace the one they now have, which is worn out, at a cost of around \$1650.00. Neuenschwander moved and Barkley seconded. Passed 4-0 Fenstermaker then asked to purchase a new rescue tool to be placed on the town's fire engine at a cost of about \$10,000. Ossian Firemen, Inc. would pay half of this cost and the Town of Ossian would pay the other half. Neuenschwander moved. Pursley seconded. Passed 4-0

Tim Ehlerding, Wells County Economic Development Director, introduced Todd Samuelson and Matt Eckerle, representing H.J. Umbaugh and Associates who presented information about Tax Incremental Funding (TIF). Samuelson began by explaining that the role of government was to encourage businesses to locate in their area and that TIF is one of the tools communities use to accomplish this. Samuelson went on to explain timetables, requirements, costs etc. of initial set up of a TIF District. Samuelson and Eckerle then answered questions about the basic working and ongoing benefits of TIF. They left printed information for the council and said they are always available for questions.

Martin had presented information to the council pertaining to the repairs needed for the John Deere F1145 mower. Council questioned the cost of over \$1400 saying that perhaps they should look into replacing the mower instead. Martin will get information to present to council at the next meeting. Barkley asked Martin to take a survey of equipment we have and a plan for replacing things as they wear out.

Barkley asked if any progress had been made on getting rid of the concrete pile in back of the town hall. He felt that we sent letters to all the residents asking them to clean up their junk and we should do the same. Martin stated she had gotten a quote for \$400 and should be out sometime this week to pick it up. Said he thought the brush pile had grown in the last couple of weeks. Martin replied that it had grown because she had allowed residents to deposit limbs from the recent storm damage there because they had no other place to take them. The deadline for bringing them there is June 25, tomorrow. This has been posted on our website and after that deadline passes they will be disposed of.

Council accepted a letter from Dan Baumgardner saying he is willing to fill the vacancy Ossian now has on the Area Plan Commission due to Angie Dial's recent resignation. Neuenschwander moved. Pursley seconded. Passed 4-0

Neuenschwander moved to approve time cards. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 4-0

Pursley asked Martin to clarify the Fiedler invoice for mowing in the town. She informed them that the bush hog mower was not getting the job done quickly enough so she asked Fiedler to bring a tractor and a bigger mower. Barkley replied that it should never have gotten that far behind in the first place. Neuenschwander asked how many people we had hired as seasonal mowers in the past. Martin replied that in the past 3 years we only had one (1) and they had kept up ok, but this year the weather has been very hot and humid which makes the grass grow much faster. Neuenschwander then asked why we have town employees mowing when we should have seasonal people doing it at a much lower rate. Martin said she still has applications of people who applied previously for the mower job.

Barkley questioned an invoice from Fleis & Vandenbrink for \$1515. Martin stated Fleis & Vandenbrink had been called because no one knew much about the generator and she was afraid the generator co. would not be up front with them. To which Pursley replied we should be dealing with reputable companies and Barkley said she should have called someone local, such as Two Brothers, because it would be much less than the \$100 an hour that Fleis & Vandenbrink charged.

Barkley moved to pay claims of \$156,215.14 less the Fleis & Vandenbrink invoices totaling \$3244.35. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 4-0

Barkley & Neuenschwander informed Martin that they would be working on Ossian Days with her this year.

Neuenschwander moved to adjourn. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.