

OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting
August 12, 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 Bill Miller present.

Neuenschwander moved to accept the minutes of the July meetings with one (1) correction. Miller seconded. Passed 3-0

John Fosnight asked the council about fixing the holes and the swale behind his house on Roe Street. He said there is raw sewage and oil coming up through the ground. The town employees will look into this. Fosnight also complained about the thistles in Sandalwood Park and the park behind the town hall being very tall. He further stated that these parks need new mulch put down for their playgrounds. Town Manager, Luann Martin stated that town employees had sprayed for weeds about a week ago, but it may take a little more time before it takes affect. Martin went on to say they had put new mulch in all the parks this spring. Fosnight went on to say that the ball diamonds are not being maintained very well.

Police Chief, Dave Rigney, presented his monthly fuel report and overtime report. Rigney said he has four (4) applications for reserve officers. He said Officer Tucker is researching these applications and he expects one (1) of them to be approved. He also stated that these reserves are not likely to stay on the force, as most of them move on to paid positions.

Officer Tucker reported that she had applied for and received a grant from the Wells County Foundation for \$1444 to purchase cell phone and computer forensic software and pay for training in the use of this software program. She said it only comes in Mac format, so they will need to purchase a Mac computer. She has a business in Ossian that may donate a mac computer for this use.

**ADDENDUM TO THE JUNE 26, 2013 STORMWATER
BOARD MEETING MINUTES: TOM NEUENSCHWANDER,
TOWN COUNCIL, WAS IN ATTENDANCE.**

**MINUTES OSSIAN STORM WATER BOARD
WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 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. and Dennis Ramey, Sec’y. Also attending were Luann Martin, Ossian Town Manager, Tom Neuenschwander, Town Council, Marty Spees, Fleis & Vandenbrink, Glen Werling, News-Banner, and local residents Alan Bunn, Bill Hudson, Wayne Pfaff, Tom Somers, Dan Rupright, and a few others.

Minutes Approval ----- Tim made a motion to approve the minutes for Storm Water meeting held on June 26, 2013, Rose second, vote was 3-0 to approve.

Old Business

Maplewood Drive area – undersized driveway culvert ----- In response to approx. 200 questionnaires Luann mailed out to residents from Roe St. north to include all of Rose Ann Heights, several residents attended the meeting to express thoughts and concerns. Luann and Rose explained some of the history of what has caused many of the current issues with drainage in this area, and how the Storm Water Board is working to resolve the problem areas as they come up, prioritizing the most urgent to the top of the list for the Town of Ossian.

Luann said she had received 110 of the questionnaires back. Information on the form includes questions pertaining to existing tiles in swales, driveways, sump pumps connected, etc. This will assist in planning the next action to resolve the swale issues in this area.

At last month’s meeting, Sheila Howe, 407 Maplewood Drive attended the meeting and stated that they have 2” water standing in their swale quite often. During discussion Sheila said they would be willing to make changes contingent on other properties making changes to resolve drainage back to original design. (Due to several residents attending for this item, it was moved from 4th to 1st on the Agenda).

706 N. Jefferson St.----- Dan Rupright, property owner, addressed the Board with a concern about his sump pump drain line not being re-connected back when the Melching – Metts Stormwater project was completed. After explaining the situation leading up to

the discovery that his drain was not reconnected, Luann and the Board agreed that Town Council approval should be requested for the Town crew to connect the drain at no expense to the customer. Dennis made a motion to recommend that the Town Council consider approval for the Town to re-connect Mr. Rupright's sump pump line, Rose second, vote was 3-0 in favor. Luann will also communicate the situation with Town Council in next day or two.

Roe Street project ----- Luann reported to the group that Town crews have back-filled sinkholes, completed kill off, and will go through one more time to check conditions. Three truck loads of dirt were hauled in to contour the area. Cost estimates for seeding will be obtained including one for hydroseeding (Carlo's ?).

Archbold Wilson Park ----- Luann reported that the swale work has been completed as well as the connection with 'The Bridges' subdivision. Connecting the Bunn retention pond to the Park pond is scheduled next.

Swale area in 500-600 blocks between Shady Lane and Bittersweet-----

Marty Spees of F&V Eng'r updated the group on progress in coming up with a design plan for improving the Stormwater drainage in this area. He has taken elevations from the swale area behind Brad's to the R.R. track.

The next step would be to look at the overall hydrology for the area, similar to the process followed on the Roe St. project. This should be done before getting into sizing pipes, swales, and other equipment to calculate how much water comes into the watershed area during heavy rains. Marty described the likely solution for this area to be a combo of some pipe and some swale, possibly similar to the existing equipment, but larger. The cost for doing utility study and hydrology study is approx. \$ 3,000. Rose made a motion to request approval from Town Council for F&V to perform this work not to exceed \$ 3,000, Dennis second, vote was 3-0 in favor of recommendation.

In addition, residents will need to be more aware that the swale running behind all of these properties is each property owners Stormwater channel to carry the rain waters to Eight Mile Creek. Keeping the swale clear of grass clippings, leaves, limbs, and other debris is a priority in order to keep the swale working as it should.

Three culverts under Bittersweet are rusting back so they will need replaced sometime in future, likely with this project.

Andy Bise, 302 Bittersweet Ln.-----request for info on improving swale at front of property No new information on what action Mr.Bise may want to pursue on solving his drainage issue at this time.

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

Balance as of 7-31-2013 Approx. \$ 4,400.

Melching - Metts Stormwater project approx. balance---

As of 7-31-2013 \$ 32,700.

New Business----

Siebold and LaFever Sts.----- Drainage issues have appeared at this location again.

Marty said he will take a look and may have some ideas to improve the situation.

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

The next regular scheduled meeting for the Stormwater Board will be on Wednesday, August 28, 2013, at 6:00 PM, Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted, Dennis Ramey, Secretary

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Storm water board member, Rose Barrick reported on the swale project between Shady Lane and Bittersweet saying that Fleis & Vandenbrink had completed the topographical study. Next a design study will be needed at a cost of \$2000 and about \$1000 will be needed to coordinate all the utilities. She stated that there is currently a lot of junk in the swale and also there are a lot of utilities located in that area. Neuschwander moved to hire Fleis & Vandenbrink for both these projects. Miller seconded. Passed 3-0

Police Officer, Stephanie Tucker had more information about the proposed "Daremobile" available. She said the cost of a panel truck would be \$6500 to \$8500. There will also be the cost of painting and lettering estimated at about \$3100. She further estimated the cost of items needed for the inside displays such as, display lungs, cabinets, DVD player, TV etc. would be around \$2000. She is also looking for somewhere to store the vehicle. (Terri Hughes-Lazzell arrived) Tucker said she plans to pay for these cost through grants and donations. She has an Ossian Days Fundraiser in the works. She plans to offer to cut her hair and go bald if she can raise at least \$10,000 before the end of Ossian Days. She will donate her hair to Locks of Love, an organization that accepts hair and makes wigs for cancer patients who have lost their hair to cancer treatments.

Council decided to table a discussion of the new employee handbook until the next meeting.

Town Manager Martin stated that she had no new quotes for the mower. She said they had tried out a grasshopper mower, but it had two (2) flat tires and a broken belt in short order, so she didn't think it would withstand the kind of mowing we do. It was stated that we mow about a hundred (100) acres. Neuenschwander asked that Martin meet with council member Bill Miller to make a plan for scheduled replacement of town equipment. Hughes-Lazzell moved to have Troxel Equipment repair the John Deere 1145 mower we now have at a cost of \$1424.49. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-0

Martin reported that they had been seeding the Archbold-Wilson Park and this phase should be completed earlier than expected. She presented a design for the skate park and two (2) bids. Trusted Manufacturing bid \$5225.16 and Pena's bid \$5000. Hughes-Lazzell moved to accept Pena's bid for \$5000. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-0

Martin presented a bid for marking the downtown parking areas of \$990 from K & M Asphalt. She said this is the only bid she received. Neuenschwander moved to accept this bid. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 4-0

Martin told council she had contacted the owners of properties located between 413 and 419 Willowood and had received no responses. She said AEP will begin work on the street lights soon.

Reporting on the Safe Routes to School Grant, Martin said it had been recommended to install stop signs with blinking LED lights at the corner of Metts and LaFever Streets. These would be solar powered and cost \$1600 each. Hughes-Lazzell moved to purchase four (4) of these for the above intersection with money from the Safe Routes to School Grant. Pursley seconded. Passed 4-0

Neuenschwander moved to accept an agreement with Odle Painting and Sealing to do the necessary painting and sealing at the sewer plant. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 4-0

Erin Boyle and A.J. Reynolds, of the Ossian Days, Inc. Committee reported of their findings of insurance requirements. Neuenschwander said he just wants to make sure the town is covered in case there would be any claims made. He stated that he had met with Bliss-McKnight and had their quote approved by town attorney, Andy Carnall. Boyle stated that Ossian Days, Inc. had not budgeted for the substantial increase in cost of the type of coverage that Neuenschwander was proposing. She further stated that attorney, Chris Nussbaum had approved their policy. Boyle was hopeful that they could find some insurance coverage that would cover all the needs and stay within budget. It was stated that the policy would have to include participant coverage. Boyle said that if they could insure a defined festival area instead of the whole town, it may reduce the cost to a manageable level. Boyle went on to ask the council if they would consider contributing to the extra cost with town money if the cost proved to be too much for Ossian Days, Inc. Hughes-Lazzell said it would be open for discussion. Boyle pointed out that the town benefits from Ossian Days. She cited the recent purchase of benches that convert to picnic tables by Ossian Days, Inc, which, may also be used by the town.

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

Neuenschwander moved to approve claims of \$154,136.13 with the exception of a bill from the fire dept. for uniforms. He asked that Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey, find out which account Fire Chief, Ben Fenstermaker wants to take the money out of since there was no money appropriated in the uniform account. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 4-0

Hughes-Lazzell moved to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-0

OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting

August 26, 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 Bill Miller present. Terri Hughes-Lazzell was absent.

Pursley called for comments from citizens. Lynn Thompson asked about the seeding on Highland Avenue after the Roe Street Project had been completed. Town Manager, Luann Martin said that plans are in the works and it would be done soon.

Discussion of the Employee Handbook was tabled until the next meeting.

Erin Boyle of Ossian Days, Inc. distributed insurance agreements to the council stating that Neuenschwander was working with Mike Lampton of Farm Bureau Insurance on the agreement. It was stated that State Road 1 must be open by Sunday at 3 a.m. per the agreement signed with the State of Indiana. Neuenschwander moved to approve the insurance agreement if it got the approval of Town Attorney, Andy Carnall. Barkley seconded with approval for Pursley to sign agreement as President of the council. Passed 4-0

Police Officer, Stephanie Tucker reported that a PayPal account has been set up to accept donations for the Daremobile and that fundraising continues.

Barkley reported he is still working with Tim Ehlerding on the TIF District. The next step is to establish a Redevelopment Committee. He will have more to report at the next meeting.

Jim Kibby presented information concerning health insurance for the town. He stated that, Medical Mutual, the current health insurance carrier for Ossian, has sold out to United Healthcare. United Healthcare has offered Ossian a 15 month rate reflecting a 19% increase over the 2013 rate, which begins October 1st and continue through December 31, 2014 if accepted. If the town accepts this offer prior to October 1st there would be no new requirements. Coverage would go on as if there had been no change in companies. It would be a paper change only with deductibles and waiting periods remaining as they are for the rest of 2013. Neuenschwander moved to accept this offer. Pursley seconded. Passed 4-0

Discussion of the 2014 budget was postponed until the next meeting. Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey, pointed out that the deadline to have the budget advertised as planned is noon on Sept. 9th. The council will not meet until 7:00 p.m. on the 9th. They will either have to have a special meeting or the advertising must be moved forward a week, which will give the council no leeway in meeting adoption requirements.

Neuenschwander asked Dickey if she had gotten information from the fire chief about the uniform bill presented at the last meeting. Dickey said Fenstermaker told her it could be charged to the turn out gear account.

Neuenschwander moved to pay claims of \$37,500.15. Barkley seconded. Passed 4-0.

Neuenschwander moved to adjourn. Pursley seconded. Passed 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

