

**OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting**  
May 12, 2014 - 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 Josh Barkley, Bill Miller, Terri Hughes-Lazzell and Tom Neuenschwander present.

Neuenschwander moved to approve the minutes of the April meetings with corrections. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 5-0

Ric Bookmiller asked about the Lifeline boxes being installed around the pond at the Archbold-Wilson Park. Town Manager Luann Martin explained that the installation had been hampered by the recent rains. She said they would be installed when a plaque for the walking trail was received. That way they can do all the concrete work at the same time. Bookmiller asked if something could be put in the paper as to the purpose of the boxes because people may not know what they are for. Glen Werling of the News-Banner confirmed.

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**OSSIAN REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE** Tuesday May 6, 2014

Members present: Jan Williams, Larry Heckber, Marlyn Koons, Jim Brewer, Bruce Sonner, Kody Kumfer, Natalie Milholland, Linda Hambrick,

Members not present: Cheryl Laley, Luann Martin, Tom Neuenschwander, Bob Miller, Judy Harkless, Larry Smith

Minutes from the April 1, 2014 meeting were approved.

Wine Tasting, April 26, 2014

General Overview: Net Profit: \$16,787.72

Ticket Sales: 180 tickets were sold.

Silent Auction: 16 items brought in \$1,945.

Positive comments: liked the spring date, liked the smaller crowd, wineries were successful, cheese table and Olive Twist were appreciated, Jazz band was excellent. The food was excellent. A big Thank You to Jerry Springer for donating his time. He provided an elegant facility and room arrangement, his expertise overseeing committee food prep, and overall organization was excellent and greatly appreciated.

Needs improvement: Granite City did not bring enough beer, lack of support from the town, was the price too high?, rename the event to a simple name such as Wine Tasting and keep it the same every year, make posters easier to read. Also suggested that Revitalization members wear name tags.

Committee divided responsibilities to write and deliver Thank You's to all who made donations. Jim Brewer will bring the "Big Check" from Ossian State Bank to present the grand total earned to the next Town Council meeting. We will ask the newspaper to do a picture to be published in the News Banner.

Note: Wine banners are still hanging because the man who made the Welcome To Ossian signs is coming to insert brackets to make it easier to attach banners. He needs them hanging so he will know where to place the brackets.

Flowers: Tom Woodward will bring the flowers for pots on the ground on Saturday, May 17.

All members and friends available to help plant them should meet up town at 9:00 AM.

Hanging Baskets: will not be delivered until we have confirmed who is watering them. A call was made to Dawn Thornsberry. She will check with the Cub Scouts at their Thursday meeting to see if they plan to water again this year.

Garage Sales: Linda Hambrick will check with Luann about what needs to be done for the Town of Ossian Garage Sales June 32.

Other Business: Committee brainstormed ideas on how to use earned money from fundraisers. We are working on a meeting to include grant writers, Town Council members, and Revitalization members to brainstorm further and see what support there is from the town.

Important Dates:

Town of Ossian Garage Sale June 21, 2014

Town of Ossian Clean-up Day – June 28, 2014

Freedom Fest – June 24 6:00 to 10:00

Next Revitalization meeting: Tuesday, June 3, 2014 at 5:00 at the Town Hall.

Minutes prepared by Jan Williams

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Kody Kumfer, representing the Revitalization Board, reported profit on the Spring Extravaganza of \$16,787.72. Several members of the board were on hand to have their picture taken with the Council and the large check made available by Ossian State Bank. Kumfer

reported that since the first Winetasting they had made over \$180,000 profit. The Council commended the group for their hard work and contribution to the town of Ossian.

Fire Chief, Ben Fenstermaker, announced that the Fire Department had twenty three (23) runs in April, which is unusual. He also said they had 2 new firemen pass their test and he hopes to have them off probation soon.

He presented copies of the Fire Siren Policy to the council. He said the policy has not changed and they will stick to the policy again this year. He said that, typically, they don't use the siren in the daytime for fire runs, but there are a few pagers not working so they may need to use it sometimes. Fenstermaker pointed that fire siren is a two (2) minute "up & down" siren, while the tornado siren is a five (5) minute one tone siren. For tornado sirens there will be a one (1) minute one tone siren when all is clear.

Fenstermaker also reported that one of their thermal cameras is not working all the time. He said it works well when it works, but it only works when it wants to. He had a quote from Bullard of \$2700 to repair it. He thought that was a little high, so he is negotiating with them on the price. A new one is \$10,000, so he said \$2700 was the most it would be. They still have another camera to use until that one is repaired.

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### **Park Board Minutes June 2, 2014**

Attendance: Max Lake, Steve Andrews, Bll Dowty, and Tim Rohr

- I. Read and approved minutes from meeting on May 5, 2014.
- II. Jeanette Dickey here and presented board members with latest budget. Board discussed budget with Dickey. Learned that cash balance as of June 2, 2014 is \$ 26900.16.
- III. Discussed quote from Fuhrman Electric to repair wiring and install new breaker box at the ball diamond complex. Total quote is \$10317.00. The major expense will be the 600 amp breaker box. After discussion, Max motioned to approach town council with request to contribute 50 percent toward total expense. Bill seconded and passed 4-0.
- IV. Discussed quote on options for a drive through the Archbold-Wilson Park. Board feels more road options should be obtained as far as entrance and exits.
- V. Rick Bookmiller here and is again concerned about the safety around the pond in the Archbold-Wilson Park. Bookmiller and a concerned citizen whose name was not obtained expressed interest in creating a shelf around the pond to eliminate someone from falling in and going straight to the bottom of the pond. Luann to obtain a quote before next meeting for a shelf to be added and a decision will be made at the July meeting if or not to proceed with any more discussion on this topic. Bookmiller left meeting after referring to the park board members as expletives not to be mentioned here.
- VI. Max to get more information on possible cornhole game board material options.
- VII. Learned that the playground much is here and will be distributed to the parks as weather permits. Should be done by mid June.
- VIII. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

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Town Manager, Luann Martin reported for the Park Board. She said they are ordering new mulch for the parks. She also said the Lifeline Boxes would be installed shortly depending on the weather. She also reported that there are new chains on the swings in the various parks because the old ones had a one hundred (100) pound capacity. It has been reported that larger children and adults have been using them, so the 100 pound capacity chains were replaced with two hundred (200) pound capacity chains.

Police Chief, Dave Rigney presented the monthly fuel and overtime report. There was nothing unusual.

Martin stated that the Revitalization Board has been considering railings for those downtown sidewalks that are at an uneven level. There will be more information at the next meeting.

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### **OSSIAN STORMWATER BOARD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2014 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, Secretary. Also attending was Luann Martin, Town Manager, Bill Miller, Town Council member, and Derek Fredrickson of Engineering Resources.

Minutes Approval ----- Tim made a motion to approve the minutes for the Stormwater meeting held on March 26, 2014, Rose second, vote was 3-0 to approve.

## Old Business

- Roe St. project ----- The group discussed and reviewed information about getting an estimated cost to install a new section of pipe to join the other two recent projects on this section of SW pipe. Derek Fredrickson of Engineering Resources presented an aerial drawing showing the area to be replaced. Bill Miller, Town Council member and past Town of Ossian employee, is familiar with and provided details of some of the work that has been performed in the area in past years. Luann also commented that there is probably one tree that will need to be removed for this project. Derek will work on a job description to bid costs for completing the installation of the new section of pipe and present it at the May Stormwater meeting. It was determined that the depth of the pipe to be installed would be unsafe for Town crews to perform due to the required equipment not being available. This project is considered a top priority on the “to do” list and plans are to move ahead as soon as possible.
- 600 block between Shady Lane and Bittersweet and adjacent area -----

Derek Fredrickson of Engineering Resources presented the group with an aerial drawing with ‘storm event’ calculations and a detailed drawing of existing Stormwater and Sanitary equipment for the area around Bittersweet and Hickory Lane area. Derek proceeded to describe two options to improve the present situation. Listed below are the main points of the presentation and discussion:

  1. Planning options should be driven by #1 Safety to Public & Property, and #2 Maintenance considerations including cost factors.
  2. Using storm event data from 2 yr. and 10 yr. information, arrive at a compromise solution when evaluating options.
  3. The present pipe sizing shown on the detailed drawing with three-12 inch culverts at Bittersweet and Hickory Lanes is pretty good and should handle 10 yr. storm data. These culverts will need to be replaced due to aging/rust. Derek pointed out that the new replacement culverts will be a little larger and therefore will not match up with existing concrete junction box. He will check to see what replacement boxes may be available so special order (more expensive) can be avoided if possible.
  4. Derek recommended that the most cost effective option in the area between 613 Bittersweet and 612 Shady would be to remove the rip-rap, re-grade the swale and pour a concrete trough about the size of a sidewalk, 4” thick, with a 3” recess in the center to channel the Stormwater to the existing catch basin area. The existing catch basin should be replaced with a different style concrete structure with a sump pit in the bottom to collect debris passing through. The pit could be pumped out occasionally as needed with the Town’s Vac Truck. This option should also reduce the potential problem of working around existing utilities which are believed to be buried shallow, cable in particular. If any residents in the general area are presently placing their grass clippings or leaf rakings in an area which would allow them to be washed into the drainage area, it should be discontinued.
  5. Another option to improve water flow is to install an 8” line north of the catch basin, running at an angle below Hickory Lane to the west side of the street, then north to drain into the existing open ditch.
  6. An item of general info is that the general high point for north and south water fall is Meadow Lane.
  7. At some point in time, outfall into the ditch running along the old inter-urban track downstream to the Eight Mile Creek will need to be evaluated for whatever maintenance may be required. This could include the need to contact adjacent landowners.

Additional information and discussion will be required to reach a final decision on the plan to move ahead with.
- Siebold and LaFever Sts.--- update  
After discussion on this area at the last Stormwater meeting, Bill Miller, Town Council member and adjacent land-owner made contact with John Peck, also an adjacent land-owner to seek any input Mr. Peck may have. John informed Bill that the 2 stand-pipes that drain into the 12” Geiger pipe do take a lot of water during heavy rain fall. Bill also asked John if he would be available to attend a Stormwater Board meeting to share information he has of the drainage patterns. This may be a future possibility. Some additional items of information from the discussion are as follows:
  1. There was some type of agreement made between Town Council and the owner of the farm that the Town of Ossian was not responsible for the stand-pipe and step pond installation. The Water and Soil Conservation Dept. was involved to some degree with this project.

2. Bill commented that he has lived at this location 21 years, which was his Grandfather's home previously, and never recalled the water problem existing until after the RR line was installed.
3. The Stormwater line heading downstream from the LaFever area through private property; Derek pointed out purchasing an easement may be more cost effective than relocating a new line along roadway. See additional info below from March's meeting.
4. An additional option if necessary to explore may be to research purchasing the properties affected by standing water.
5. Derek stated that another option would be to contact the RR and check into upsizing the line along the RR to Eight Mile Ditch. This would depend on the RR being a willing participant.
6. A second option would be to replace the existing line from this area to Eight Mile with larger pipe and would be the most costly option. With either of these options there will still be water running down Siebold St. because it is the lowest point in the area.
7. A third option is to check into the possibility of purchasing a few acres of the farm ground adjacent to the Geiger tile and create a detention pond to slow the water-flow rate. This could be the most cost effective plan depending on price of acreage.

This project will be discussed further as info and prices become available from Derek. Included below is the discussion of information from the March SW Board meeting which pertains to the Siebold & LaFever for easy reference.

March 26, 2014 Stormwater Meeting info A discussion about the history of some of the drainage issues concerning this area included some first-hand knowledge from Bill Miller, Town Council member who resides in that area. Bill was also familiar with some of the Town's previous jetting and repair work on tiles in this area. At the present time during periods of high water run-off, the stream draining from the adjacent farm ground comes to the area of John Peck's property. Approximately 20 years ago, the Soil and Conservation Dept. (?) was involved in the installation of a tiered pond configuration, also called Step Ponds, on the Wilson farm ground. This was supposed to slow down the volume of water runoff and spread it over a longer period of time. During this period in time, Mr. Peck had to contract a bulldozer to perform excavating a dirt berm around a portion of his property to avoid flash flooding of his home. During heavy rains and large snow melts, there are still issues with spotted flooding in this area.

Another piece of the history in this area was the Geiger Project which involved the installation of a 12" pipe and a couple of catch basins.

Derek suggested to the group that a good first step in resolving this situation is to get an aerial map of the area and determine watershed volume and direction of flow. In this process it may show other options to divert Stormwater another direction, possibly back to a previous pattern. This could reduce the amount of water needing to be managed. Bill suggested that the map we obtain should show a large enough area to include the entire watershed involved with this problem. Luann or Derek will contact Jarrod Hahn, County Surveyor for assistance in obtaining the map if needed.

In the planning for future improvements in this area, consideration should include replacing the large pipe running from LaFever St. to the Eight Mile across private property. Rose suggested that installing the new pipe parallel to LaFever to the Eight Mile may be the best route. Derek suggested that another alternative would be to purchase an easement from the land-owner and possibly insert a liner into the existing tile. Then, if necessary, sometime in the future, another smaller pipe could be installed along LaFever. Luann said that during the water project, the take-off off the pipe was uncovered at the intersection of LaFever and Barnett Sts., running under the property owners house, and then on across the field.

Another item of concern is that the pavement thickness of Siebold and LaFever Sts. has caused part of the problem over the years due to re-paving and not milling down part of the old pavement. Luann is going to check the street paving schedule so we can try and have some milling included to lower the asphalt buildup.

- Maplewood Drive – info from property owners to be posted on aerial map----Nothing new to report
- Archbold-Wilson Memorial Park-----Luann and Derek informed the group about flooding in the new park area during the recent heavy rainfall. No damage or emergency situations occurred due to the flooding. It was pointed out that the most likely cause of this was due to an adjacent land-owner installing an 8" drainage pipe instead of something larger. No action is necessary at this time.
- Storm Water Budget ----- The April balance in Stormwater Fund is \$ 40,250.16 in checking and \$ 9,000.00 in emergency/equipment savings.

#### New Business

- Update from Town Manager on new Projects

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

The next regular scheduled meeting for the Stormwater Board will be on Wednesday, May 28, 2014 at 6:00 PM, Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted, Dennis Ramey, Secretary

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Storm Water Board member, Rose Barrick said there was nothing to report yet. She invited everyone to come to the next meeting on Wednesday, May 28 at 6:00 p.m.

Police Chief, Dave Rigney continued his quest for a pay raise for his officers in 2014. He stated that in the future he would like to see the salary ordinance state wages in a range instead of a set amount. He cited an email from Charlie Pride and a salary ordinance from 2012. Hughes-Lazzell said what happened in that year felt a little murky to her. Miller said he liked the idea of pay being based on evaluations, but went on to say that if raises are given later, anyway, then the evaluation is a moot point. Rigney responded by saying that the officers have already lost their raise for a year and a half. Hughes-Lazzell pointed out that whatever the council does now will set a precedent for the future. Miller said maybe it would be best if everyone was given an across-the-board raise. Rigney asked if they could do both. Pursley said he didn't think it would be fair to the other employees who did not receive a raise for 2014. Miller pointed out that the original salary ordinance said nothing about receiving the half percent raise at a later date. Hughes-Lazzell said she would be ok with granting the raise just this once. Pursley said he wasn't ready to make a decision at this time. Barkley suddenly moved to grant the half percent raise to the police officers. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. There was a brief pause before President Pursley called for a vote. The motion failed 2-3 with Barkley and Hughes-Lazzell voting for and Miller, Neuenschwander and Pursley voting against.

The issue of a sewer rate hike came up again with the council deciding by general consensus that there would be no sewer rate increase at this time. They asked if John Julien from Umbaugh would be available for the second June meeting to discuss the refinancing.

There was no representative from Berne Apparel or H & N Properties to discuss the CF-1 requests. This was tabled until the next meeting.

Martin presented Phase 2 of the Wellhead Protection Plan. Barkley moved to accept this and Neuenschwander seconded. Motion passed 5-0

Martin presented the agreement to transfer our current agreement with Great American Broadband dba Only Internet to its new owners. Council declined this saying they wanted more information before signing.

Barkley moved to approve the time cards as presented. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 5-0

Neuenschwander moved to approve claims of \$48,932. Barkley seconded. Passed 5-0

Neuenschwander moved to adjourn.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.