

**OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting**  
March 9, 2015 - 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 Bill Miller, Josh Barkley and Tom Neuenschwander present.

Town Engineer, Jim Breckler of Engineering Resourced presented eight (8) bids for the Roe Street Storm Water Project. Council President, Brad Pursley opened them and announced the following:

Ironclad - Roanoke, IN	\$121,106.00
Dave’s Excavating – Marion, IN	\$244,616.90
API Construction – Laotto, IN	\$171,625.00
Flemming Excavating – Decatur, IN	\$139,267.49
Geiger Excavating – Fort Wayne, IN	\$122,975.00
Underground Contractors – Indianapolis, IN	\$217,534.00
Wisel Enterprises – Roanoke, IN	\$110,052.80
Crosby Excavating – Fort Wayne, IN	\$162,857.70

Engineering Resources will take all bids under consideration and report to the Storm Water Board on March 18 at 6:00 p.m. at the town hall. The Storm Water Board will make a recommendation to the Town Council at their regular meeting on March 23, 2015.

There were no comments from Ossian residents.

Pursley asked candidates for the open Center Ward Council Position to speak to the council and residents who were present.

Andrew (A.J.) Reynolds introduced himself and stated that he was seeking the position in order to pay back to the town. He briefly assessed his qualifications and stated that he would not be running for election in November.

William (Bill) Dowty introduced himself and stated his qualifications. He reported that he already has some experience in government by serving on the Park Board and he has already filed for candidacy in the May primary election.

Without further ado, Neuenschwander moved to appoint Dowty as the new council member. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey administered the Oath of Office to Dowty and he took his place at the table with the council.

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**Ossian Park Board March 2, 2015**

Attendance: Bill Dowty, Jason Heckber, Joe Lewis, Ashley Harmon, and Tim Rohr

- I. Read and approved minutes from meeting on February 2, 2015
- II. Learned from Jason that the sound system for minor league will be installed before season begins on May 2, 2015
- III. 2 Applications have been received for ball diamond maintenance position. Applications accepted through March 17, 2015
- IV. Rick Bookmiller here questioned safety of disc golf course around pond. Rick concerned about a disc going into the pond. Bill stated that this spring is when the representatives are to lay out the course and this concern will be brought up.
- V. April 9 will be a steering committee meeting at the Ossian School, meeting to start at 7pm
- VI. Discussed pond maintenance for Archbold Wilson Park. Aquatic Management of Bluffton sent contract proposal of \$850 for the summer season. Joe motioned. Ashley seconded and passed 5-0.
- VII. Discussed stocking pond with fish. Luann to get more information on costs and possible DNR participation.
- VIII. Bill motioned to keep ball diamond user fees at \$15 per player. Also, a flat fee of \$75 for 3 months at minor to cover water and electric. Joe seconded and passed 5-0.
- IX. Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm
- X. Next meeting April 6, 2015, 7pm

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Wells County Economic Development Director, Tim Ehlerding and Ryan Melching, Vice-President of Melching Machine, Inc., presented an SB-1 application for the purchase of a new Haas CNC Mill. Melching stated that this machine would only add one (1) job at this time, but that the plan is to add more jobs as business increases due to the advantage of having the Haas mill that the majority of their competitors don't have. Melching stated that they have not asked for a tax abatement in the past, but decided to give it try this time. Barkley moved to approve the tax abatement. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0

Eric Gerber, of Edge Manufacturing presented a CF-1 to the Council for approval. He stated that Edge Manufacturing would be utilizing a portion of the building and the remainder of the building would be leased to Trusted Manufacturing, which is located in the same Industrial Park as Edge Manufacturing. Barkley moved to approve the abatement. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0

Ossian Fire Chief, Ben Fenstermaker reported a need to purchase nine (9) pairs of gloves for the fire department because they have had numerous fires recently and some of the gloves have been damaged and need to be replaced. He would purchase these gloves from Hoosier Fire Equipment at a cost of six hundred seventy five dollars (\$675). Neuenschwander moved to approve this purchase and Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Fenstermaker reported that they had recently added three (3) new firefighters who had transferred from other fire departments.

Police Chief, Dave Rigney presented his monthly Mileage Report and Overtime Report. He stated that the department spent much less on fuel this month due to gasoline prices being down. He does not expect this to last. Rigney also reported that no overtime has been paid out this year because everyone is still banking it.

Rigney distributed the Year-end Report and briefly went over some of the items. He stated that things have been fairly consistent in the past five (5) years. Rigney explained that his officers try to give warnings instead of citations. In 2014 only 14% of the traffic stops resulted in citations.

Rigney requested \$600 to hire In-Synch to retrieve information prior to 2007 from the police server. Neuenschwander moved to approve this expenditure. Barkley seconded. Passed 5-0

Neuenschwander moved to approve leadership training for Officer Tucker in May at Ligonier, IN, making the stipulation that the Clerk-Treasurer's office receives the itinerary for the training. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Rigney said he had attended a demonstration of in-car computers by Brite, Inc. He reported that there would be a three (3) year no-fault warranty. He has no quote yet, but expressed the possibility of a lease arrangement. He also stated that he would apply for a local grant.

Jim Brewer, representing the Ossian Revitalization Committee, presented brochures to the council announcing the date for the Wine and Roses Celebration as April 25 at 7:00 p.m. He invited all to attend.

Jim Breckler of Engineering Resources gave an update on the Sidewalk and Street Projects for 2015. He estimated the cost of the sidewalks to be around fifty five thousand dollars (\$55,000) and the streets to be around one hundred twenty five thousand dollars (\$125,000). A notice for bids will be published this week.

Barkley moved to approve Engineering Resource's bid for Phase 3,4 & 5 of the waterline project at a cost of twenty seven thousand five hundred (\$27,500) dollars. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0

Derrick Frederickson, of Engineering Resources presented information on the maintenance and rehabilitation of the sewer plant. He reported that the sewer plant, now ten years old, is in need of some routine maintenance. He stated that the mechanical bar screen was in need of repair, explaining that this is the first line of defense in keeping out materials that could get into the inner workings of the plant, causing serious and expensive damage. Certified Wastewater Operator, Darrell Reynolds concurred and recommended we hire Mason Engineering to complete this project. He said Mason had previously done work at the plant and he had been favorably impressed with the quality of their work. Neuenschwander moved to accept Mason's bid not to exceed forty thousand (\$40,000) dollars. Barkley seconded. Passed 5-0 Reynolds also pointed out the need for work on the diffusers, the sludge line and the clarifiers in the near future.

Frederickson cited the need for a Capital Improvement Plan for the sewer plant and Reynolds suggested appointing a Sewer Committee to accomplish this. Council agreed.

Reynolds suggested the need for new as-builts and a hydraulic profile for the sewer plant, stating that the current as-builts no longer reflect what is actually there. He said he doesn't want to spend unnecessary money but having good information early could save money down the road. Pursley stated the need for a proactive approach in order to save taxpayer money. Council authorized Breckler and Frederickson to draw up new as-builts.

Town Manager, Luann Martin, Storm Water Board member, Rose Barrick, Council member, Bill Miller and Certified Wastewater Operator, Darrell Reynolds were appointed as the Sewer Committee.

Martin reported that the street sweeper is in need of repairs and presented an estimate from Brown Equipment of twelve thousand three hundred sixty three dollars and thirty nine cents (\$12,363.39). She pointed out that we have put very little money into it and now it's time. Barkley moved to make the recommended repairs. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Martin pointed out the need to remove three (3) trees on Craig and Metts Streets at a cost of twelve hundred sixty (\$1260) dollars and two (2) trees on West LaFever Street at a cost of thirteen hundred thirty (\$1330) dollars as part of the sidewalk improvements. Barkley moved to have Yoder Tree Service do the work on Craig and Metts Streets. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0 Neuenschwander moved to have Yoder Tree Service do the work on West LaFever Street. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Martin presented four (4) sewer adjustment requests. She assured them that three (3) of them met the town guidelines for adjustments. Neuenschwander moved to approve one (1) for one hundred seven dollars and three cents (\$107.03). Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0 Barkley moved to approve the second for sixty eight (\$68.00) dollars. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0 Miller moved to accept a third for one hundred eighty one dollars and eighty six cents (\$181.86). Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0 No action was taken on the fourth adjustment.

There was a brief discussion of overtime for Police Chief Rigney and Officer McClish. Rigney had included the lunch break at training on his time card and McClish put time on his card for attending a Police Commissioners' meeting, both of which had resulted in overtime. Neuenschwander pointed out that the Employee Handbook clearly states that lunch breaks at training is not paid and that McClish's presence at the Police Commissioners' meeting had not been requested, therefore, should not be paid. Barkley quickly moved to approve the January time cards with the exception of Brian McClish and Dave Rigney. He suggested they approve those time cards at a later date after they have more information. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0

Barkley moved to approve claims of \$140,592.98 as presented. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Neuenschwander asked Police Chief, Dave Rigney if the recently replaced server was up and running properly. Rigney replied that the server was working fine but there has been some difficulty retrieving some of the old data. They are still working to rectify that situation.

Neuenschwander moved to adjourn. Miller seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

***OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL*** – Regular Meeting  
March 23, 2015 - 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 Bill Miller, Josh Barkley, Bill Dowty and Tom Neuenschwander present.

Neuenschwander moved to approve the minutes of the February meetings. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

There were no comments from Ossian residents.

Jim Breckler of Engineering Resources and Rose Barrick recommended Wisel Enterprises of Roanoke for the Roe Street Drainage Project. Their bid fulfilled all the bid requirements at \$110,052.80. Breckler reported that he had checked references and found nothing negative. Barrick stated that the Storm Water Board also recommended Wisel. Neuenschwander moved to accept the Wisel bid with a second from Miller. Passed 5-0

Barrick, on behalf of the Storm Water Board, recommended having Engineering Resources serve as inspectors on the Roe Street Drainage Project. She stated that, in light of the current problems at the sewer plant, she thought it prudent to have an inspector on site to eliminate problems down the road. Breckler offered a price of ten thousand (\$10,000) dollars or less. Barkley moved to approve Engineering Resources as the inspector for the Roe Street Drainage Project at a cost of no more than ten thousand (\$10,000) dollars. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0

Barrick requested permission to have the design work done for the Ogden Place Drainage Project. She stated that it would be less expensive to do the work there while the contractor is already on Roe Street. Since the Roe Street Project came in less than the estimate Barrick felt that we may be able to do both at the same time saving the town money. She requested Engineering Resources do the design work at a cost of two thousand (\$2000) dollars and that Stody & Associates do the survey work at a cost of one thousand (\$1000). Barkley moved to approve this expenditure. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0

Barkley moved to approve a ten (10) year declining balance abatement schedule for Melching Machine for an abatement that was granted at the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Town Manager, Luann Martin requested that we hire Engineering Resources to do As-Builts and a hydraulic profile for the sewer plant, as we did not receive them when the original work was completed. Barkley moved to have Engineering Resources complete the As-Builts and hydraulic profile per their offer of twenty thousand (\$20,000) dollars or less. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0

Larry Heckber, representing Ossian Revitalization, presented plans for a railing on the east side of Jefferson Street between LaFever and Craig Streets. This is needed because the sidewalk in this area is on two (2) levels, making it a potential hazard to pedestrians. Heckber presented several plans ranging in cost from fifty eight hundred (\$5800) dollars to fourteen thousand nine hundred (\$14,900) dollars. Dowty was concerned that the railing may hinder snow removal in the winter and the watering of the flowers in the summer. Barkley suggested another route and said he would bring pictures to the next meeting because he couldn't recall the name of the product. After some discussion Neuenschwander suggested they talk with the businesses located on that section of the street and get their input before making any decisions.

Martin presented a contract from Aquatic Management, Inc. for 2015. This is for the management of the pond in the Archbold-Wilson Park. She reported that the Park Board has already approved this. The cost is eight hundred fifty (\$850) dollars which is the same as 2014. Barkley moved to accept this agreement and Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Kiel Nunn, representing Ossian First Baptist Church, requested the use of the Archbold-Wilson Park July 5<sup>th</sup> through July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 for a block party etc. They will be erecting a tent for the festivities. Neuenschwander moved to approve this request with the stipulation that the Church provide the town with the Certificate of Insurance as is customarily required. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Neuenschwander moved to accept the resignation of Bill Dowty from the Park Board and to a replacement for Dowty on the Park Board. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0 with Dowty abstaining.

Neuenschwander reported that he had heard from several citizens of Ossian that they were quite pleased with the progress of the pothole filling this spring. He stated that anyone spotting potholes needing to be filled should report the location to Town Manager, Luann Martin.

Dowty reported that construction would be starting soon on the Disc Golf Course. They are just waiting for the weather to break.

Barkley moved to approve claims of \$23,231.29 as presented. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0

Neuenschwander moved to adjourn. Miller seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.