

OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting
November 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, Bill Dowty and Tom Neuenschwander present.

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

Council President, Brad Pursley opened a Public Hearing for Resolution #15-11-4, A Resolution Authorizing an Additional Appropriation. Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey explained the process and stated that the request had been published in the Ossian Journal and the News-Banner on October 22. There being no comments or questions from the residents in attendance, Barkley moved to approve the request for additional appropriation. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Jim Fenton, of Eilbacher & Fletcher reported that the ongoing lawsuit regarding the Sewer Plant has finally come to an end. He said the final settlement states that Thieneman will pay Ninety Five Thousand (\$95,000) dollars, L-A Electric will pay Twenty Five Thousand (\$25,000) dollars and Amwell will pay Ten Thousand (\$10,000) dollars. Checks should be arriving shortly. Fenton said this is a bittersweet ending, as he has enjoyed working with the Town of Ossian for almost eight (8) years. Barkley moved to accept this settlement. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Quotes were opened for a generator for the Davis Road lift station as follows:

- Two Brothers Generator Sales - \$57,360
- Furhman Electric - \$59,000

Jim Breckler and Derrick Fredrickson of Engineering Resources will take these under advisement and report back to council.

Pursley asked for questions or comments from the public, stating that they could not answer any questions regarding the current Police Department situation. Ossian resident, Lynn Lipp asked if this was the time to ask questions about the Police Commissioner position. Pursley informed that this was on the agenda later. There being no other questions, they moved on to the committee reports.

Fire Chief, Ben Fenstermaker presented his list of requests for the year end money. This includes: 2 SCBA Air Tanks, an upgrade to the Spillman software, a mustang suit for ice rescues, several batteries and lights to replace old ones that are worn out or broken, 8 reflective vests to replace lost or damaged vests and a gas detector in order to be able to pinpoint the source of a gas leak in a building. He also requested a treadmill and an elliptical machine to encourage physical fitness among the firefighters. The estimated total for all of these items is fifteen thousand one hundred seventy one (\$15,171) dollars. Fenstermaker stated that he is still getting quotes on some of the items and hopes to reduce this cost. He also reported that there is still a little left over in the budget in case they may have unexpected needs before the end of the year. Neuenschwander moved to approve these expenditures and Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Police Chief, Dave Rigney gave his monthly overtime and fuel report stating that fuel costs are down due to low gas prices and overtime is up because they are short an officer.

Rigney went on to say that he is going to advertise again for the opening that the resignation of Officer Hunt created. Rigney reported that the applicants received so far did not pass the background check.

Rigney reported that the new computers for the police cars are in and installation will begin next week.

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**OSSIAN STORMWATER BOARD
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

The Ossian Stormwater Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Stormwater Board members present included Rose Barrick - V.P., and Dennis Ramey – Sec’y. Tim Miller - President, was absent. Also attending: Luann Martin - Town Manager, and Glen Werling -The News-Banner.

Minutes Approval ----- Rose made a motion to approve the minutes for the Stormwater meeting held on September 30, 2015, Dennis second, vote was 2-0 to approve.

Old Business

- **Smith Drain – Haldrup Inc., Industrial Park** ----- nothing new to report this month.
- **Roe St. project**----- Luann reported Wisel has been paid. Also they will be back in spring to seed a couple of places and repair a few sinkholes. Luann passed out copies of a “Roe Street Project Costs” spreadsheet that Jeanette prepared showing expenses starting 5-26-11 through completion 10-10-15 of \$ 283,084. The first estimate for the Roe St. upgrade project when submitted around 2010 was approx. \$ 800,000.
- **600 block between Shady Lane and Bittersweet and adjacent area** ----- After discussion, Luann plans to request Outdoor Concepts in Bluffton to pick up copy of Jim’s design for the project and have them check it out and present a price to complete the project
- **510 Sandalwood**----- nothing decided at this time for solution.
- **519 Hickory Lane, Rose Ann Heights / Railroad Drainage**---- At the September SW meeting, Jim presented a copy of email correspondence with Norfolk Southern R.R. concerning the scope

of work being considered in clearing the ditch located on R.R. property. Jim reviewed the information that Ellis Mays, Engineer Public Improvements representative is requesting. Jim also has contacted Mike Hartburg, Town of Ossian Attorney to review Drainage Board Rights & Responsibilities.

At tonight's meeting, Luann reported that Jim was going to supply additional information to RR. We (Town of Ossian, Stormwater) are a Public Utility and have a right to be there. Are we obligated to do anything?, we are not required. Technically it is not listed as a ditch, but there is a process involving the County that could get it registered. Mike emailed saying he may have some info for Jim soon. Jim is on out of town training seminar.

- **Siebold and LaFever Sts.**----- nothing new to report at this time.
- **Storm Water Budget** ----- 10/28/2015 Report Balances are \$ 49,536.07 in Savings and \$ 19,092.84 in Checking Acct. These balances reflect the recent payment to Wisel.
- **Steve Jones, 613 Oakdale Dr.**----- **Complete?**
- **Kyle Selking, 104 N. Bunn St.**-- Pending, owner has been informed.
- **Amanda Hakes, 619 Millside Ct.**----- Luann learned that property owner is going to have drainage line connected to SW catch basin.

New Business

- **Update from Town Manager on Projects**-----
- Add some additional pipe onto the new pipe in the park to eliminate small sinkholes.
- **Other business** pertaining to the Ossian Storm Water Management Board

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

The next regular scheduled meeting for the Stormwater Board will be on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at 6:00 PM, Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted, Dennis Ramey Secretary

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Rose Barrick of the Storm Water Board announced that their November meeting would be moved up a week to November 18th because of Thanksgiving.

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Ossian Park Board November 2, 2015

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

1. Read and approved minutes from meeting on October 5, 2015
2. Mike Hartburg, Kody Kumfer, and Jim Brewer here concerning MOU (memorandum of understanding), a program trying to get better communication between park board and other committees. Hartburg presented an official document describing the new plan. Joe motioned to approve the MOU. Ashley seconded and passed 4-0.
3. Mike Baker presented an estimated for diamond dirt for the minor league. Cost will be \$11,025 for up to 25 loads of dirt. Joe to contact Mike Baker to see about paying ½ this year and ½ in January 2016. If Mike agrees, Joe motioned to accept the bid of \$11,025 with 2 payments. Ashley seconded and passed 4-0
4. Discussed big diamond parking and seating. Decided to take down both sets of cement bleachers. This work will be done by town employees. The batting cage to be moved to the northeast corner of big diamond. Moving cost to be \$3,160, by H&H Fencing. Both sides of road through diamond to track to be graded and stoned. A fence to be added from concession stand along road. Ashley motioned. Joe seconded and passed 4-0.
5. Discussed new merry-go-round in Melching Park. The old one is wobbling. Tabled any action until December meeting
6. Next meeting December 7, 2015
7. Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm

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Kody Kumfer of Ossian Revitalization presented the adjusted Memorandum of Understanding to the council for approval. The Park Board approved this at their last meeting after Town Attorney, Mike Hartburg, made several corrections. Barkley moved to approve the agreement. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0

Larry Heckber of Ossian Revitalization brought up the downtown railings again. He said the business owners did not like the black oval pieces, so Revitalization was recommending the original plan. Barkley pointed out that council had approved five thousand dollars for this purchase at a previous meeting. (June 22, 2015) Heckber had two (2) bids for the previous railing – one from R & C Fence for eighty seven hundred seventy dollars (\$8770) and one from Pena's Mechanical for eighty six hundred twenty five dollars (\$8625). Dowty moved to accept the Pena's Mechanical bid and have the work done in early 2016. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Engineering Resources representative, Jim Breckler presented for payment two (2) pay requests from Crosby Excavating for the 2015 Water Project - the first one for two hundred twenty eight thousand five hundred twenty one dollars and five cents (\$228,521.05) and a second one for forty five thousand

four hundred sixty one dollars and eighty three cents (\$45,461.83). Neuenschwander moved to pay these and Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Breckler stated that additional cost would be partially offset by a savings in other costs by using directional drilling and the contingency sum set aside for such changes.

Barkley moved to approve Allowance Authorization #2 for the 2015 Water Project for twenty six thousand four hundred thirty one dollars and eighteen cents (\$26,431.18) for directional drilling. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Darrell Reynolds and Rose Barrick, representing the Sewer Committee and Jim Breckler representing Engineering Resources presented information regarding the proposed repairs at the Sewer Plant. Darrell Reynolds, sewer plant manager stated that the sewer plant is in need of a new UV disinfection system. Reynolds stated that the existing system is unreliable and in need of almost constant repair. He said the only place they can get parts is a small place in California because the equipment is obsolete. Failure of the system would lead to NPDES permit violations. Reynolds further stated that the sewer committee does not think waiting another year is a viable choice, in light of recent and ongoing problems with the system. Breckler reported that the bidding and design process could take several months and recommended getting started right away so replacement can be started by April 2016. Breckler has only found one supplier so far who can work with the existing equipment, but he is going to try to locate at least one more. Reynolds said he has notified IDEM of the situation and will keep them apprised of the progress. Councilman Miller pointed out that without these critical repairs the sewer plant will be in violation of IDEM regulations and we do not want to declare a state of emergency. Breckler estimated the cost of replacing the system to be around two hundred fifty thousand (\$250,000) dollars and said the difficulty is in finding a supplier who can work with the existing plant. Reynolds further stated that money obtained from the lawsuit will be used to pay for the new system. Barkley moved to accept Breckler's bid of thirty eight thousand fifty dollars (\$38,050) for engineering services on the project. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0 Miller pointed out that IDEM needs to be informed of the progress and they will be much more lenient.

Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey presented a Salary Ordinance for 2016. The ordinance provided for a two percent (2%) increase for all employees, including council, with the exception of a ten thousand dollar (\$10,000) wage adjustment for the Clerk-Treasurer. Pursley said he would like to see the adjustment for the Clerk-Treasurer phased in. Barkley stated that the council didn't need a raise and reduced the wage adjustment for the Clerk-Treasurer to twenty five hundred dollars (\$2500) and said they will look at the money situation next year. He also asked that Dickey present a corrected Salary Ordinance at the next meeting. Dowty said it sounded good to him. There was no vote taken.

Martin presented a Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for Wells County for approval. Barkley asked what other entities in Wells County had already approved it. Martin did not know. Approval of the plan was tabled until the next meeting.

Martin presented a draft of a proposed ordinance to require residents to display house numbers on their home or garage. Council agreed to have Martin proceed further with this ordinance.

An announcement was made of board appointments needed for the following boards for 2016:

Storm Water Board – one member

Park Board – two members

Police Commissioners – one member

Any resident of Ossian may apply for these positions by delivering a letter of intent to the Clerk-Treasurer's office on or before December 31, 2015. Lynn Lipp asked about the criteria for a Police Commissioner? Dickey gave him a copy of the state statute. Council thought there should be some research done on the subject. Lipp said he would do that. Appointments will be made at the first meeting in January 2016.

Martin presented two requests for utility adjustments. She stated that the adjustment for forty dollars and sixty eight cents (\$40.68) met the criteria for adjustment. Barkley moved to approve the adjustment with a second from Miller. Passed 5-0

Martin presented a second utility adjustment. She said the water from a toilet leak had gone down the sewer, therefore not meeting the adjustment requirements. Council took no action on the adjustment.

Martin presented a report from Jim Smith of Republic Services. There was a brief discussion which resulted in Pursley stating that we all need to recycle more.

Neuenschwander moved to approve time cards as presented. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Neuenschwander moved to approve claims of \$604,298.40 as presented. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Dowty moved to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.