

**OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting**  
April 11, 2016 - 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, Bill Dowty, Josh Barkley and Renee Sweeney present.

Dowty moved to approve the minutes of the March meetings with a change in the time of adjournment from 8:15 to 7:15 on the March 28 meeting. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

There were no comments or questions from the public.

John Sherbourne, reporting for the Fire Department, reported that they will not need to purchase the fire masks requested at March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting because the company has agreed to exchange masks already purchased for the larger ones needed.

Sherbourne also reported that there were no bids received for the retired ice rescue truck. He asked permission to list it with an agency who will sell it for us for a small fee. All Council members agreed.

Police Chief, Dave Rigney reported that the new officers have completed all the required tests to enroll in the 77 Fund portion of the Public Employee Retirement Fund (PERF) and the applications were mailed Saturday, April 9th. He said that it will take three (3) to four (4) weeks to get the approval from PERF. Rigney went on to say that one (1) polygraph test had been done today in his office and the other one (1) is being done right now in his office. He is awaiting approval on those. Rigney said he is hoping to have them on duty by mid-May, but it is up to PERF at this point.

Rigney presented his monthly mileage and overtime report. Miller asked why the off-duty miles used to be listed but since last July or August have been zeros. Rigney said that he has asked all the officers to voluntarily cut back on off-duty miles. Pursley said, to zero? Rigney replied – yes, we're not having any off-duty miles right now.

Rigney reported that overtime is up because of being short two (2) officers right now.

Town Manager, Luann Martin asked the council's approval to hire Aquatic Management of Bluffton to manage the Archbold-Wilson pond for 2016. Barkley moved for approval. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Rose Barrick reported for the Storm Water Board, saying that everything is on hold until the weather breaks.

Caleb Chichester reporting for the Police Commissioners, announced the Commissioners had approved Kurtis Brooksher and Robert Frantz to be hired as part time police officers. Brooksher is currently working in law enforcement in Bluffton. Frantz is a former Wells County Sheriff and former Bluffton Chief of Police. Miller questioned Frantz's qualifications, since he had been retired for a few years, reminding Rigney that the agreement was that the part time officers were to be fully qualified and "ready to hit the pavement." Rigney stated that Frantz has been retired for six years and would need to catch up on state mandated training of twelve (12) hours per year. Rigney also said that Frantz would be issued a weapon and he would have to qualify with that weapon. Miller stated that he doesn't have a problem approving the full time officers, but he would rather approve Frantz when he is fully trained and ready to go because that was the original agreement and he doesn't want to create any liability for the town. Barrick asked if we would be paying Frantz while he was doing this training and if we would be paying Rigney to administer the training. She didn't think the town should be paying someone eighteen (\$18.00) an hour unless they are on the job. Sweeney asked how long it would take to complete the required training. Rigney said it can be done on line and would probably take a couple of weeks to complete. Pursley suggested approving Brooksher now and Frantz upon completion of the required training. Sweeney moved to hire Brooksher now and Frantz upon his re-certification. Miller seconded. Passed 4-1 with Barkley voting no.

Chichester asked the council to choose their representatives to conduct the exit interview with the resigned officer Foreman. Council chose Miller and Dowty and the interview will be set up.

Chichester reported that the Policy Manual is still in progress and suggested contact our attorney for help with this.

Pursley opened a hearing for the condemnation of 403 Christ Street at 7:20 p.m. Emily Osborn, owner of 403 Christ Street was not present and no one spoke on her behalf. Pursley closed the hearing at 7:22 p.m. Pursley, then opened a hearing for the property at 516 West LaFever Street. Roman Koroncevicius, representing property owner, Linda Koroncevicius, reported that he is either going to renovate the property or sell it to an interested buyer. Building Inspector, Ted Smith said that usually in a case like this, the town would allow a property owner a reasonable amount of time to present a plan to rehabilitate the property. This plan should include a start date, as well as, an estimated completion date. Martin said that this has been done several times in the past with no result. Pursley closed the hearing at 7:30 p.m. Pursley asked Koroncevicius several questions pertaining to the property and pertinent to the order of enforcement and it was established that Koroncevicius will reappear at the May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the council to present his plan of action.

Smith stated that a letter had been sent to Osborne in November, which she refused. There was also a letter sent by first class mail and certified mail to which there has been no response. Smith recommended that all buildings on the Christ Street property be removed. Miller asked how the expense would be handled. Smith stated that there would be a tax lien put on the property for the demolition cost. He added that the cost of the Christ Street property would be less than ten thousand (\$10,000) dollars and therefore would not need to be bid out. He further stated that the cost for the LaFever Street property would most likely be over ten thousand (\$10,000.) Martin said she would file the necessary paperwork with the County Recorder.

Ossian Rolls asked permission to hold an ice cream social and a disc golf tournament. Council did not object.

Tom Neuenschwander announced his recent merger with Amstutz Insurance of Fort Wayne and presented an insurance quote for May 2016 through April of 2017. He thanked Dowty and Martin for their help. They got quotes from five (5) companies, two (2) of which, did not meet our requirement of occurrence basis claims. He recommended keeping EMC and IPEP since their quotes were the lowest. The cost will be fifty seven thousand four hundred fifty three (\$57,453) dollars, which is an increase of 1.1% from last year's premium of fifty six thousand eight hundred one (\$56,801) dollars. Neuenschwander briefly explained the features of the coverage. and recommended increasing the umbrella portion of the coverage from one million (\$1,000,000) dollars to four million (\$4,000,000) dollars at an additional cost of thirty five hundred eighty five (3585) dollars. Dowty moved to accept this proposal with the four million (\$4,000,000) dollar umbrella coverage at total cost of sixty one thousand thirty eight (\$61,038) dollars. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0

Neuenschwander asked that the council start thinking about what they would like to see the Ossian Development Corporation accomplishing in the next few years. He said he would be back in thirty (30) to sixty (60) days to get their ideas.

Martin presented a quote from W.A. Jones for a spray on truck bed lining with a lifetime warranty for five hundred twenty five (\$525) dollars and a snow plow for the recently purchased 2016 Chevy Silverado at sixty three hundred sixty one (\$6361) dollars. The plow is a straight plow with spring levelers. After a brief discussion Dowty moved to approve the purchase. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Martin presented a plan for 2016 street repairs. She stated that only some small repairs were planned for this year because she hoped to carry over some of this year's street money to next year so Mill Street could be completed in 2017. Council granted permission to get quotes. Martin said she thought she could have something ready for the next council meeting.

One utility adjustment of \$158.95 was requested. Dowty moved to grant this adjustment. Barkley seconded. Passed 5-0

When time cards were presented, Miller said he had been listening to the recorded meetings over the week-end and noticed that the March 21<sup>st</sup> Commissioner Meeting had lasted only twenty five (25) minutes, while Rigney put two (2) hours of overtime on his time card for attending this meeting. Rigney replied that he had stayed after the meeting to catch up on some police work. Sweeney moved to approve March time cards. Dowty seconded. Passed 4-1 with Miller voting no.

Miller moved to approve claims of \$71,298.57 as presented. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0

Martin reported that the new UV disinfection system is installed and working well. She said they had met the deadline with a few days to spare.

Barkley moved to adjourn. Dowty seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

### **OSSIAN STORMWATER BOARD WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2016**

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. was absent on vacation. Also attending: Luann Martin - Town Manager, Bill Miller - Town Council, Tom Somers, resident, and Glen Werling -The News-Banner.

Minutes Approval ----- Tim made a motion to approve the minutes for the Stormwater meeting held on February 24, 2016, Rose second, vote was 2-0 to approve.

#### Old Business

- Water/Storm project - 600 block between Shady Lane and Bittersweet and adjacent area ----- Luann has been working on getting email addresses for landscape contractors to bid this work. Rose added information about a Veterans business somewhere in our area that could be contacted.
- FEMA prior list meeting Luann and Rose discussed the recent meeting at Bluffton with FEMA and other County officials pertaining to setting priorities for Stormwater issues. Items discussed included the Ossian Wastewater Plant, Woodcreek Dr. culvert, Smith Drain, and a few lower priority items where no homes were in danger. Further discussion will likely begin if/when funds are allocated.
- 519 Hickory Lane, Rose Ann Heights / Railroad Drainage---- Luann informed the group that the R.R. requested info from the Town about what type of liability insurance it has and has not responded to Jim for follow up information. Luann believes the R.R. is backing out of assisting with the project. As far as we know, the fee to enter R.R. right-of-way would still be waived. Luann said that the topic came up at the recent FEMA meeting that the R.R. property is the cause of water not being able to drain directly to the Eight Mile Creek. The group will continue to explore possibilities in the future.
- Water Improvements 2016 Rose Ann Heights / possible Stormwater improvements at same time---- Luann informed the group that it now appears that more of the Water line improvements will be installed in the street rather than on property owners area. The reason for this is a gas main is located on Shady Lane and Water line must have minimum amount of separation. Luann also reported that while a crew was out checking a catch basin in this area at Quatman's, they discovered that the line does not stop here but continues on. Luann said the

plan is to find the end of this section and likely install a catch basin. With this discovery could also result in finding some I & I.

Jim previously presented info on exploring possibilities of Stormwater improvements (refer to ERI report to Stormwater Board Meeting, 24 February 2016, Rose Ann Heights Potential Stormwater Improvements at location of upcoming Water Main Improvements).

- 510 Sandalwood----- nothing new to report.
- Amanda Hakes, 619 Millside Ct.----- Luann learned that property owner is going to have drainage line connected to SW catch basin. Waiting to hear from owner.
- Storm Water Budget ----- 2/24/2016 Report Balances are \$ 53,656.07 in Savings and \$ 29,188.37 in Checking Acct.
- Steve Jones, 613 Oakdale Dr.----- waiting to hear from owner, he may have contractor doing work.
- Kevin Pritchard, 510 Brenden Way----- requested approval for attaching new 4" drainage pipe into Town catch basin. Will call Luann to have connection verified for seal.
- Budget Priorities for future----- The group continues to brain-storm priorities of unfinished projects to target for 2016. At January's meeting, Jim presented an ERI information sheet summarizing items that have been discussed (refer to ERI report to Stormwater Board Meeting 13 January 2016). The items listed on the report are as follows:  
Eight Mile Erosion at WWTP  
Inflow & Infiltration Reduction  
Siebold & Lafever  
Homestead Avenue  
Rose Ann Heights Roadway Drainage  
Woodcreek Dr. culvert--- Jim reported on meeting with Drainage Board at February meeting. Refer to ERI report to Stormwater Board Meeting, 24 February 2016, Woodcreek Drive Culvert, also exhibits  
Industrial Parkway Erosion  
Davis Road Ponding  
Millside Court Field investigation planned for March while doing nearby I&I field investigation.

#### New Business

- Tom Somers, resident, ---- Tom had a few questions pertaining to some work done in the past.
- Update from Town Manager on Projects-----  
Other business pertaining to the Ossian Storm Water Management Board

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

The next regular monthly meeting for the Stormwater Board will be on Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 6:00 PM, Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted, Dennis Ramey, Secretary

### **Ossian Park Board April 4, 2016**

Attendance: Jason Heckber, Joe Lewis, and Tim Rohr

1. Read and approved minutes from meeting on March 7, 2016.
2. Madeline Queener, Girl Scouts, has ideas for a butterfly garden in Archbold-Wilson Park. Has ideas for fundraisers to cover expenses. Madeline to get more information and present to the Park Board.
3. Grace Moser will be selling bow-ties and bandanas for a fundraiser for the dog park.

4. Brad Zeddis questioned whether the park department would be interested in getting rid of the home run fence. Joe to get information and contract Brad.
5. New bleachers in and assembled. Stone to be laid. Pea gravel to be added to batting cage.
6. Aquatic Management presented ½ of seasonal cost of \$425. Proposal to be sent to Town Council for approval.
7. Next meeting May 2, 2016
8. Meeting adjourned at 7:57pm.

## ***OSSIAN BOARD OF METROPOLITAN POLICE COMMISSIONERS***

### **Special Meeting**

April 6, 2016 - 7:00 p.m. Ossian Town Hall – 507 North Jefferson

Commission Chairman, Andrew Wanner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Commissioner Caleb Chichester present and Commissioner Ron Werling absent. Town Council liaison Bill Dowty, was also present.

Wanner moved to approve the minutes of the March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. Chichester seconded Passed 2-0

Wanner announced Robert Frantz and Kurtis Brooksher as the only two (2) candidates for the part time police officer openings. Frantz is a former Bluffton Police Chief and former Wells County Sheriff. Brooksher is currently a Wells County Sheriff's Deputy. When Frantz's qualifications were questioned, Rigney stated that he would need to complete the State Mandates this summer. Chichester moved to accept these two applicants. Wanner seconded. Passed 2-0  
Chichester will present this to the Ossian Town Council's April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Commissioners approved adding Dorsey Simmons as an Ossian Reserve Officer. Simmons is currently a jailer at Wells County Jail and a New Haven Reserve Officer.

Rigney reported that there may no longer be an Allen County Reserve Academy due to insufficient attendance. Rigney stated that this could present a problem because Ossian's agreement with the Wells County prosecutor states that they will not accept citations from reserve officers unless they have successfully completed the Allen County Reserve Officer Academy. Wanner expressed a concern regarding the cost of training reserves because, historically, Ossian has paid for training and then the officers use Ossian as a stepping stone to go elsewhere. Rigney replied that there was no cost to the Allen County Reserve Academy.

Rigney reported that Reid Arnold and Matthew Alig have passed physical, psychological and drug tests. These are ready to be sent to the Public Employee Retirement Fund (PERF). The required polygraph test will be administered on April 11. As soon as they have been accepted by PERF Rigney will enroll them at the Police Academy in Indianapolis for the class starting in July, 2016.

Wanner, again, addressed the exit interview with Officer Foreman, who recently resigned. Chichester said he will present this to the Ossian Town Council at their April 11 meeting. Wanner said he would contact Foreman to see if he is open to an interview.

Discussion of Policy and Procedure was tabled until the next meeting, May 3 at 7:00 p.m.

Wanner moved to adjourn. Chichester seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.