

**OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting**

September 12, 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.

Pursley opened the Public Hearing for the 2017 Budget. There were no comments or questions from the public or the council. Pursley closed the hearing at 7:05 p.m.

Barkley moved to approve the minutes of the August meetings as presented. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Fire Chief, Ben Fenstermaker, requested permission to purchase three (3) sets of turn-out gear. Jefferson Township will also purchase three (3) sets. Barkley moved to approve the expenditure. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Town Manager, Luann Martin announced that construction on the Bone Yard will begin next week.

Police Chief, Dave Rigney presented the monthly Mileage and Overtime Report. There were no questions. Rigney reported that the two new recruits both were doing well at the academy and will graduate October 12, 2016.

Rose Barrick reported for the Storm Water Board, saying that the Shady Lane Project is nearing completion.

Council interviewed three (3) candidates for Police Commissioner starting with Bob Miller. Miller is an Ossian resident and a member of the Republican Party. He stated that he has been involved with law enforcement for 34 years and knows responsibility. He has no personal preferences and is not a “yes” man. He has never been convicted of a felony. Barkley asked Miller if he had met with any members of the Council, Police Commissioners or the Police Chief. Miller said he had not.

Athena Brickley is an Ossian resident and a member of the Republican Party. She stated that she had been approached by Officer Tucker and that public safety is important to her. She further stated that she had no law enforcement experience.

Jeff Kemper was not present. Dowty moved to appoint Bob Miller. Bill Miller seconded. Passed 3-0 with Barkley and Sweeney abstaining.

Martin asked that Park Board member Phil Horton be removed from the board because he has not attended meeting for quite some time. Martin said he had been notified of the impending action with no response. Barkley moved to remove him from the board with a second from Miller. Passed 5-0 Applications for his replacement will be accepted at the Town Hall starting tomorrow and continuing through noon October 3, 2016.

Jim Breckler of Engineering Resources presented information and estimates for expanding the town hall parking lot. There was a brief discussion of cost and feasibility, after which, Barkley stated he was not in favor of the project at this time. There was no action taken. However this prompted a discussion of the history of the bell in front of the town hall. There was some speculation of where the bell had come from, but no one knew for sure. It was suggested that we contact Jim Hower or Max Middaugh to find out the history of it.

Martin presented an agreement with IFN Communications for rights-of-way along the entire east side of North Metts Street and a short portion of Davis Road. Martin reported that she has become very specific in easements because of past abuses by some of the utility companies. Dowty moved to approve the agreement. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0

Sweeney questioned one of the time cards for Ron Privett. Martin said she would look into the matter. Barkley moved to approve the August time cards. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Dowty moved to approve claims of \$81,289.27 as presented. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0

Barkley asked why Haldrup was not present at the meeting for the CF-1 requested. Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey stated that she had talked with Tamra Boucher on Friday and Boucher had indicated that she would be present at tonight's meeting. Barkley then suggested that council make an exception and approve the CF-1 request, since the figures were the same as the SB-1 presented at the last meeting and Haldrup had representatives present at that meeting. Barkley moved to grant the abatement with a second from Miller. Passed 5-0

Barkley moved to adjourn. Miller seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

### ***OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL*** – Regular Meeting

September 26, 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 Dowty, Josh Barkley and Renee Sweeney present.

There were no comments from Ossian residents.

Police Commissioner, Caleb Chichester, reported that the monthly police reports would be in the council packets on Fridays as requested. He also stated that Police Chief Dave Rigney had been informed that he was welcome to attend any council meeting, but that he would not be paid to attend.

Chichester informed council of the Commission's vote to begin the selection process for a sergeant for the Ossian Police Department.

There was no discussion of the 2017 budget. Sweeney moved to adopt the 2017 budget as submitted. Dowty seconded. Passed 4-0

Dowty moved to accept the resignation letter of Bill Miller dated 9-16-16. Sweeney seconded. Passed 4-0 Dowty thanked Miller for his years of service to the town. Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey reported that County Clerk, Yvette Runkle and Ralph Garcia, Chair of the Wells County GOP, had been notified of the vacancy.

Martin reported that the demolition of the properties at 516 West LaFever Street and 403 Christ Street has been completed. These properties had been condemned at the April 11 meeting.

Rose Barrick thanked the council and everyone involved for a successful Ossian Days. She reported that she had heard numerous positive comments about the annual festival from residents, as well as, many businesses. She further stated that she had heard many comments about the new ride company, saying that they were very pleasant and polite. Pursley thanked Rose and all the committee people for all of their hard work to make Ossian Days a success.

Barkley stated his agreement with the Special Exception portion of the Proposed Amendments to the Wells County Zoning Ordinance. Barkley also had some misgivings regarding the Recreational Vehicles section and said he would discuss this with Mike Lautzenheiser of the Area Plan Commission.

Barkley moved to approve claims of \$101,312.88 as presented. Sweeney seconded. Passed 4-0

Dowty moved to adjourn. Barkley seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

### **OSSIAN STORMWATER BOARD WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 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 out of town. Also attending: Luann Martin - Town Manager, Jim Breckler – Engineer, ERI, and Glen Werling -The News-Banner.

**Minutes Approval** ----- Rose made a motion to approve the minutes for the Stormwater meeting held on July 27, 2016, Tim second, vote was 2-0 to approve.

- Old Business Railroad Drainage / w/o Rose Ann Heights** ---- Jim reviewed the most recent drawings and conceptional design information for the drainage ditch west of Rose Ann Heights. After discussion and Jim's recommendation to proceed to the next step, Tim made a motion to forward the design to the R.R. to see what their response will be. The hope is that the R.R. will join in the project to share the costs of the project or possible provide a crew to participate in the actual grading/clearing. Rose second the motion, vote was 2-0 in favor of the motion.
- 6 00 block between Shady Lane and Bittersweet and adjacent area** ----- Luann reported that Minnich's Lawn Care has been working in the project area until recent rains forced them to stop until the ground conditions dry out. The new catch basin has been installed along with the new pipe and ground cover in that area of the project. Rose commented that new grass can be seen sprouting up. Forms are also placed for the new concrete chute.
- Bob Williams, 105 Siebold St.** ----- Luann reported that the Town crew could not lower or cut off any of the catch basin that property owner Bob Williams had requested. The other option was to remove it and patch the opening in the pipe, and cover it up. This was acceptable to Bob and he was happy with the solution.

- Storm Water Budget -----** 8/24/2016 Report Balances are \$ 59,918.78 in Savings and \$ 70,187.60 in Checking Acct.
- Sometime in near future, the group will review budget items for future consideration.
- 510 Sandalwood-----** nothing new to report.
- 613 Oakdale Dr. -----** not connected.
- 510 Brenden Way -----** nothing new to report.
- TI – Industrial Park-----** Luann reported on her field trip to investigate the request from TI to clean ditch and remove trees from Town drainage ditch. Grant is the only contractor who has responded to a bid request. Group discussed the possibility of getting quote from Kaehr Excavating to do the work. Will likely need to dip clean the ditch and treat and or remove cattails.

**New Business**

- Update from Town Manager on Projects-----** Luann reported Town crew has been working on drain on W. Mill St. Entered pipe from both directions and it has a blockage. Likely collapsed on old repair and will need further work.
- Other business pertaining to the Ossian Storm Water Management Board ---** Luann reported a request from TI in the Industrial Park for some assistance on cleaning out the lateral drainage ditches around their factory. TI reported they would be willing to clear the brush/trees if the Town could make provisions for removing it. Luann will go to the site to check it out further and report back.

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

The next regular monthly meeting for the Stormwater Board will be on Wednesday, September 28, 2016 at 6:00 PM, Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted, Dennis Ramey, Secretary

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

**Regular Meeting**

September 14, 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 and Bob Miller present. Town Council Liaison, Bill Dowty was also present.

Wanner introduced Bob Miller as the newest member and welcomed him to the commission.

Chichester moved to approve the minutes of the July 6 meeting. Wanner seconded Passed 2-0 Miller abstained.

Wanner reported that he had received the first four (4) sections of the Police Policy from Town Attorney, Mike Hartburg with his approval. Wanner stated his desire to implement these policies October 1. Miller asked if Chief Rigney had had any input in the policies and if they were in accordance with the state statute. Wanner said that Chief Rigney had been given the opportunity for input prior to them being sent to Hartburg and that Hartburg had given his

approval that they are legal. Wanner said if anyone had any further input they should submit it to him by September 21.

Miller asked about the procedure of communication. Wanner said that because the commissioners cannot contact each other in an official capacity that they should contact council liaison, Bill Dowty with questions or concerns and Bill would relay these to the other members of the commission.

Chichester reminded Rigney that the Council wants to receive the reports in the packets they receive on Friday before the meetings. He also said that council feels that the monthly reports are presented clearly enough that the chief does not need to come to the meetings to read them to the council. They do not want to pay overtime for the chief to attend meeting when they feel it is not necessary. He stated that the chief is more than welcome to attend but, that he will not be paid overtime to do so.

Miller asked if they had made any decisions as to appointing another sergeant. Wanner said that they have no plans to do so as yet. Miller said he thought this should be done soon. Wanner stated that he didn't think that a department as small as Ossian need more supervisory positions. Wanner stated that Officer Tucker is already performing some of the sergeant's duties and was operating in this capacity even while Officer Foreman was the sergeant. Wanner repeated that he didn't think a five person department needed two (2) leaders. Miller went on to say that a sergeant is vital when the chief is gone, such as vacations and other days off or if he were to be off for an extended period of time, such as for a surgery or injury. Wanner said he saw no benefits to appointing another sergeant at this time. Chichester asked Chief Rigney his opinion. Rigney replied that he only covered one (1) shift and that he only overlapped a half hour. He thought a sergeant was needed to supervise the other shifts in his absence. Wanner stated that Officer Tucker is already performing the duties of the sergeant without being called a sergeant. He pointed out that whenever the commissioners ask the chief for a schedule Tucker presents it and, in fact, she was doing the schedule while Sergeant Foreman was still here. Rigney stated that she does the schedule very well and that Foreman was not doing the schedule properly so he asked Tucker to do it. Miller moved to begin the selection process of replacing the sergeant. Wanner seconded. Miller and Chichester voted yes and Wanner voted no.

Chichester asked Rigney if there were any state requirements were for the position of sergeant. Rigney replied that there were none except they have to have two (2) years on the force.

Rigney presented the Mileage and Overtime Report for June, stating that they are still under budget.

The next meeting will be October 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

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