

OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting
March 13, 2017 - 7:00 p.m. Ossian Town Hall – 507 North Jefferson

Council President, Josh Barkley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council members Bill Dowty, Brad Pursley and Renee Sweeney present. Kemper was absent.

Barkley opened a Public Hear to receive input on Ordinance #17-3-1, vacating a portion of a Metts Street Easement. There were no comments or questions. Pursley moved to close the hearing. Sweeney seconded. Passed 4-0

Dowty moved to approve the minutes of the February meetings. Sweeney seconded. Passed 4-0

Lane Gerber, represented Trusted Supply Chain Partners to request a renewal of two (2) tax abatements on personal property. Pursley moved to grant this request. Dowty seconded. Passed 4-0

The CF-1 for Gerber Development was moved down on the agenda awaiting the arrival of their representative.

Police Commissioner, Caleb Chichester reported that the commission had voted at their March 7 meeting to hire Victor Torres to fill the sergeant's position. He said they had agreed on a starting salary of \$22.75 per hour. The commission also agreed to increase Officer Tucker's compensation to \$21.50 in light of her exemplary service and dedication to the department. Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey informed them that these raises, along with other benefits for Torres would increase the police department budget by roughly fifteen thousand (\$15,000). Police Chief Dave Rigney agreed that he would most likely require an additional appropriation later in the year to fund the extra expense. Dowty moved to approve the raises, which also included a raise for the water superintendent to \$22.12 per hour. Barkley seconded. Passed 3-0 with Sweeney voting no.

Rigney presented the annual police report, briefly going over some changes made in 2016 in the way things are reported. When asked about the railroad citations, Rigney stated that when he gets a call about the railroad being blocked, he goes to the scene, waits ten (10) minutes and then writes a citation and sends it to the railway company. Council had no questions regarding the monthly report, which was also presented by Rigney.

Town Manager, Luann Martin reported that the Park Board has plans to remove the merry-go-round and relocate the swings so as to accommodate a basketball court in the Melching Park.

Rose Barrick reported for the Storm Water Board saying that the railroad project is on hold for now awaiting a response from the Norfolk & Southern railroad.

Barrick stated the residents affected by the Hickory Street project had been invited to the February Storm Water Board meeting. Only one (1) of them attended, so they plan to try again for the March meeting.

Kemper arrived here.

Barrick noted that the Storm Water Board is still short one (1) member. She invited any interested parties to send a letter Town Manager, Luann Martin. She also invited everyone to attend the March Storm Water meeting on March 29th at 6:00 p.m.

Dowty moved to approve Ordinance #17-3-5 setting new salaries and wages for the Town of Ossian. Barkley seconded. Passed 5-0

Pursley moved to approve Ordinance #17-3-1 to vacate a portion of an easement on Metts Street. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0

Martin presented an agreement with Aquatic Management for maintaining the pond in the Archbold-Wilson Park. The amount is eight hundred fifty (\$850) dollars, which has remained the same for three (3) years. Dowty moved to approve this agreement with a second from Sweeney. Passed 5-0

Town Manager, Luann Martin presented proposals from Power-Up Electric and Fuhrman Electric for the wiring in Melching Park. The proposals are for four (4) small lights in the pavilion, lights in the rest rooms, as well as, motion sensors so the lights will not be left on indefinitely. She reported that the Park Board recommended Power-Up Electric's low bid of nineteen hundred (\$1900) dollars. Barkley requested that the motion sensors be mounted on the ceiling so as to discourage vandalism. Martin stated that Power-Up is ready to go ahead with the project as soon as AEP gets their portion done. Pursley moved to accept the bid from Power-Up Electric. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0

Martin requested authorization to accept applications to add a seasonal mower. She stated that Corey Privett would be returning, but another mower would be needed. Council had no objections.

Council President, Josh Barkley moved to appoint Dowty, Pursley and Sweeney to the Ossian Redevelopment Commission. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Dowty moved to appoint Barkley and Kemper to the Ossian Redevelopment Commission. Pursley seconded. Passed 5-0

Martin presented a bid of twenty six hundred forty dollars and seven cents (\$2640.07) from Innovative Concepts for four (4) door entry keypads, along with accessories needed for operation. Council asked about adding another door. Martin replied that another four (4) door package could be added for eight hundred (\$800) plus labor. After a short discussion, Sweeney moved to allow up to four thousand dollars to install the door entry system. Pursley seconded. Passed 5-0

Pursley moved to approve the February time cards with one exception. Martin will check the questionable time card and report back. Kemper seconded. Passed 5-0

Sweeney moved to approve claims of \$270,354.92 as presented. Pursley seconded. Passed 5-0

Pursley moved to allow the CF-1 for Gerber Development even though no representative was present. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Dowty moved to adjourn. Sweeney seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Ossian Development Commission

The Oath of Office was administered to the five (5) Redevelopment Commission members by, Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey and the meeting was called to order at 8:05 p.m.

Pursley moved to appoint Barkley as president, Pursley as vice-president and Kemper as secretary. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Barkley reported that they are in the process of rewriting the TIF ordinance just to “clean-up” some things.

There being no other business, Pursley moved to adjourn with a second from Barkley. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Ossian Park Board

March 6, 2017

Attendance: Tim Rohr, Joe Lewis, Ashley Harmon, and Chrystal Streeter

1. Read and approved minutes from meeting on February 6, 2017
2. Discussed quote from Aquatic Management to maintain lake in Archbold Wilson Park. Cost to be \$850 for the season. Ashley motioned to accept. Chrystal seconded. Passed 4-0.
3. Baseball user agreements discussed. No info yet from little league, t-ball, minor league, and cofax. Will be contacted concerning user agreement which need to be signed. Ron has worked the diamonds three times so far. Ron has requested that no coaches are to work on the diamonds.
4. Two quotes have been received to get electric in Melching Park Pavilion. Luann still reviewing to make sure quotes are equal in equipment. Quote from Fuhrman Electric \$2,820. Quote from Power-Up Electric \$1,900. Ashley motioned to accept quote from Power-Up assuming it is determined that we are getting same equipment as quote from Fuhrman. Chrystal seconded. Passed 4-0.
5. Discussed a basketball court to be installed in Melching Park. Joe to get 3 quotes for a 50'X42' pad and a basketball pole and backboard.
6. One Park Board member still needed to fill vacancy
7. Next meeting will be March 27, 2017
8. Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm

OSSIAN BOARD OF METROPOLITAN POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

March 7, 2017 - 7:00 p.m. Ossian Town Hall – 507 North Jefferson

Commission Chairman, Andrew Wanner called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Commissioners Bob Miller and Caleb Chichester were present along with Town Council Liaison, Bill Dowty. Police Chief, Dave Rigney, Officer Tucker. Glen Werling of the News-Banner and Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey were also present, as well as, three (3) Ossian Residents.

Miller nominated Chichester for the 2017 Chairman. Chichester declined and the motion died for lack of a second. Chichester then moved to keep the officers the same as last year with Wanner as Chair and Chichester as Vice-Chair. Wanner seconded. Motion passed 2-1 with a no vote from Miller.

Chichester moved to approve the minutes of the February meeting. Wanner seconded. Passed 3-0

Police Chief, Dave Rigney presented his monthly report, stating that fuel costs were up due to a rise in fuel prices.

There was a brief discussion of the Uniform Policy, which was not ready for review at meeting time. There was discussion of changing the uniform budgets from individual officers' accounts to a total for the department. Rigney expressed concern over tattoos. He said there should be restrictions but did not know if that could be construed as discrimination. Wanner said he would check with Town Attorney, Mike Hartburg on that issue and report back at the next meeting.

Chichester presented the complaint section of the policy, but stated that he thought the legal part of it should be removed and handled by Lexipol later. This section had not been reviewed by Hartburg. Rigney requested more lines be added to the complaint form and a second page be added. He said complaints can sometimes be quite lengthy.

No action was taken on the New Hire Agreements for lateral hires or the one for Officer Alig. Rigney stated that Alig had been approached regarding signing a modified agreement but he had not made a decision as of meeting time.

Wanner thanked residents who had submitted a petition in support of Officer Tucker for the open sergeant's position. He reported that it had been a very tough decision. He then moved to hire Victor Torres for the position. Chichester seconded. The motion passed 2-1 with Miller voting no. Wanner moved for a starting wage of \$22.75 for Torres. Chichester seconded. Passed 3-0 Wanner then moved to increase Officer Tucker's wage to \$21.50 in light of her exemplary service and dedication to the department. Chichester seconded. Passed 3-0 Both pay rates will be taken to the Ossian Town Council on Monday for approval.

Wanner reiterated that this had not been an easy decision and that hiring Torres did not diminish Tucker's accomplishments in any way. Ossian resident, Karen Hitchcock disagreed with the commissioners, saying that she thought they should try to retain the good and loyal people we already have.

Thoughts then turned to the next meeting, as Wanner suggested they change the meetings to Wednesday. Chichester said that would not work for him at this time. The next meeting will be April 4th at 7:00 p.m.

Wanner moved to adjourn. Chichester seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

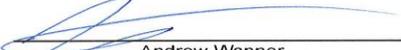
Metropolitan Board of Police Commissioners
Executive Session
507 North Jefferson, Ossian, IN

An executive session was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
Time
on March 7, 2017
Date Subject
To discuss the job performance evaluation of individual employees.

We, the undersigned, certify that no final action was taken on this matter,
no other subjects were discussed and that all proceedings will remain
confidential.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56
Time

Commissioners Present:



Andrew Wanner


Caleb Chichester


Bob Miller

Guests Present:

