

OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting
June 12, 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 Brad Pursley, Bill Dowty, Jeff Kemper and Renee Sweeney present.

Dowty moved to approve the minutes of the May meeting. Pursley seconded. Passed 5-0

John Marshall, representing Linder Oil, and Chad Kline with Wells County Economic Development requested tax abatement for 2018. Marshall stated that business had been good in 2016 with Linder hiring eight (8) new employees, but expressed concern that it is becoming more difficult to retain employees. Sweeney suggested a program at Norwell High School that may interest him. Pursley moved to grant the abatement. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Police Commissioner, Caleb Chichester requested authorization to purchase a subscription to Lexipol, a company that writes and updates policy manuals for public safety departments. The cost is Fifteen hundred thirty four (\$1534) dollars for the remainder of 2017. Dowty moved to approve this expenditure to be taken from the LOIT Public Safety Fund. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0

Chichester said that Police Chief Dave Rigney has requested the hiring of an additional part-time officer to replace Officer Brooksher who resigned about a month ago. Chichester said this is in order to keep down the cost of overtime. Council asked for figures confirming that this would be the case before making any decision.

Rose Barrick, reporting for the Storm Water Board, said they had several residents attend the last meeting regarding the Hickory Street project. She reported that the Railroad will not waive the fifteen thousand (\$15,000) dollar fee for access to their property, as she had hoped. But, she had not expected that they would, so the fee had been included in the original estimate.

Barrick stated the need to obtain six (6) easements from residents at two hundred fifty (\$250) dollars each. She requested authorization to spend fifteen hundred (\$1500) dollars to have surveys done for these. Pursley moved to approve with a second from Sweeney. Passed 5-0

Barrick, again asked that anyone interested in becoming a member of the Storm Water Board step up by sending a letter to the Town Hall, since they are still one (1) member short.

Martin presented information regarding the speed limit on 850 North. Jenni Milholland of Berne Apparel had requested an increase in the speed limit on that road at the last meeting. The information Martin presented did not substantiate the need for this. Barkley said he saw no need for an increase since the stat recommended 30 mph for urban roads. Council agreed and the speed limit will remain 30 mph.

Council President, Josh Barkley opened the sole bid for abandoning the sewer line just north of the sewer plant. The bid was from Crosby Excavating for twelve thousand three hundred fifteen (\$12,315) dollars. Pursley moved to accept the bid. Dowty seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Martin recommended Chad Foreman to fill the vacancy in the town's maintenance department after the resignation of Herb Bergman last month. Dowty moved to approve the hiring of Foreman. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0

Pursley moved to approve Salary Ordinance #17-6-1 to reflect the newly hired Foreman. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Martin presented a request for a utility adjustment due to a pool leak. This did not fall within the parameters of the ordinance currently in effect. No action was taken.

Sweeney moved to accept the time cards as presented. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Pursley moved to pay claims of \$134,268.91 as presented. Sweeney seconded.
Passed 5-0

Barkley pointed out the Annual Freedom Fest would be held at the Ossian Healthcare on June 29, 2017.

Pursley moved to adjourn. Kemper seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

OSSIAN BOARD OF METROPOLITAN POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

June 7, 2017 - 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 Bill Dowty, of the Ossian Town Council in attendance. Police Chief, Dave Rigney, Officer Tucker, Glen Werling of the Bluffton New-Banner and Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey were also present. Commissioner Bob Miller was absent.

Wanner moved to approve the minutes of the May meeting. Chichester seconded.
Passed 2-0

Rigney reported that gasoline costs and payroll costs are still under budget for the year.

Chichester reported that we can still subscribe to Lexipol at 2016 prices for a limited time and that we are entitled to an extra 15% discount because our insurance carrier is on the Lexipol list of preferred insurance companies. Chichester moved to purchase a subscription to Lexipol for the remainder of 2017 for fifteen hundred thirty four (\$1534) dollars. Wanner seconded.
Passed 2-0 Chichester will present the matter to the Ossian Town Council at their next meeting.

Wanner stated that he thought there had been sufficient input on the uniform policy to warrant sending it to town attorney, Mike Hartburg, for review. Rigney said he wanted to clarify the Indiana Statute regulating plain clothes officers and marked police cars. Wanner said he would check into it.

Chichester presented the policy on media relations. He stated that he wanted to make a few minor changes to a couple of sections before sending it to Hartburg for review.

Rigney stated that the probationary period for new Ossian police officers has always been one (1) year. He also stated that the sergeant has always done the reviews of the other officers. He saw no reason that Officer Torres would not be qualified to do them.

Wanner moved to send the uniform policy to Mike Hartburg for review. Chichester seconded. Passed 2-0

Wanner reported that he had researched paying reserve officers and found that this is only done for special events. Rigney, again brought up adding another part time officer. Chichester said that he would want to run it past council again because they had originally approved the part time officers until the end of 2017 or until the department was, once again, fully staffed. Since the department is now fully staffed, Chichester was skeptical.

Chichester stated that he would put all the new policies on a thumb drive and it would be stored in the town vault.

Wanner moved to adjourn. Chichester seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

**OSSIAN STORM WATER BOARD
WEDNSEDAY MAY 31, 2017 6:00pm**

Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm. Members present were, Tim Miller, Rose Barrick and Town Manager, Luann Martin.

Jim Breckler had prior arrangements and was unable to attend.

Also present were residents, Steve Detrick, Lynn Lipp, Larry and Jeanette Lundeen, Joe and Deb Valenti.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Minutes from last meeting(s) are still in the to-do list.

OLD BUSINESS

Swale along Rail Road, Rose Ann Heights

Luann informed Board members the Norfolk & Southern will not waive the access fee which will cost an additional fifteen thousand (\$15,000.00) for the re-construction of the swale along the rail road tracks in Rose Ann Heights Addition.

Discussed project with residents who attended the meeting and whose properties will be affected by this project.

The board felt some of the questions that were of concern, were better suited for the boards engineer. It was decided they should attend the June meeting to present these questions.

A motion was made by Rose for council to approve spending \$1,500.00 for acquiring easements' along the Rail Road for the swale re-construction. Motion passed 2-0.

Woodcreek Tile Replacement

Will be getting a quote for this.

Budget

As of 5/31/2017, Balances for checking, \$123,864.30 and savings \$69,188.78

Board Member

The position is still vacant.

NEW BUSINESS

Update from Town Manager

There is nothing new to report at this time.

Next Meeting

June 28th, 2017 at 6:00pm, Ossian Town Hall

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

Respectfully submitted, Tim Miller, President