

**OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting**

July 10, 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.

Barkley opened a public hearing for the re-establishment of the Cumulative Capital Development Fund. He read Ordinance #17-7-1 – An Ordinance to Establish a Cumulative Capital Development Fund and explained how the fund works. He then asked for input or questions from the residents in attendance. Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey stated that proper notifications had been published twice in the News-Banner and twice in The Ossian Journal as required by the DLGF. There being no response from residents, Barkley closed the public hearing at 7:05 p.m.

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

Fire Chief, Ben Fenstermaker requested authorization to purchase four (4) one hundred (100) foot sections of hose to replace the hoses that are frayed in places, which is a safety concern. He further stated that the township would pay for one (1) section that would be placed on a township truck. He asked that the town pay for the three (3) sections that would go on the town truck.

Fenstermaker reported that the NFPA and OSHA are recommending upgrades to the current type of hoods used in their turn-out gear because it has been found that toxins are leaking through the material and causing cancer.. He explained that the hoods they have now allow more toxins to pass through than the ones made of the new material. The cost of buying one (1) new hood for each firefighter is \$2522, of which, Jefferson Township would pay for half. Pursley moved to approve both expenditures with a second from Dowty. Passed 5-0

Police Commissioner, Caleb Chichester reported that the Police Commission had voted to hire Russ Mounsey as a part-time officer for Ossian. He stated that they were not aware of the posting requirements included in the Town Employees' Handbook and asked that council waive that requirement for this one instance. Pursley moved to grant this request. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Chichester presented a request form Officer Torres for unpaid leave August 9, 10 and 11 in order to attend a training session. Pursley moved to approve the request. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0

Officer Stephanie Tucker presented an updated version of Ossian's Ordinance regarding the treatment of animals. She stated the need for an update because there are a lot of instances of animals being abused and/or neglected within the confines of the law and nothing can be done about it. She gave several examples of animals being kept in unsavory conditions or in painful or uncomfortable situations, but could do nothing for them because there no laws broken. She said she was just opening up the discussion prior to sending the ordinance to Town Attorney, Mike Hartburg for legal approval. She will request approval when the ordinance is returned after legal approval.

Pursley moved to adopt Ordinance #17-7-1 which was discussed earlier in the public hearing. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0 Notice of adoption will now be published and posted according to the Department of Local Finance requirements.

Mike and Layne Fisher of 605 North Jefferson requested that the Town remove overgrown weeds and dead trees from the Town's property just behind the property of the Fishers. They said the weeds are going to seed and spreading to their property. Town Manager, Luann Martin said they had sprayed weed killer in that area this past week and they would cut the weeds down once they had died. She went on to say that the dead trees would be removed at the same time they are removing dead trees from the parks.

Darren Floyd of 603 Cloverleaf Court inquired of the new golf cart regulations. Martin stated that she had contacted the town attorney regarding this matter and had not gotten a reply yet. Floyd said he would come to the next meeting.

Pursley said he had received complaints about the equipment and supplies being stored on the west side of the town hall. Barkley asked Martin to get some quotes on fencing for that area.

Martin reported on the erosion at the sewer plant saying she had talked with Jarrod Hahn, Wells County Surveyor, and he thought the county would share the cost of making a permanent correction to the situation. Barkley asked Martin to meet with Hahn to come up with a viable solution and report back to council. Sweeney moved to repair the erosion at the sewer plant. Pursley seconded. Passed 5-0

Martin presented pictures of four (4) signs the Presbyterian Church had posted on the sidewalk on the south side of the church, which stated there was no parking on the south side of LaFever Street from the alley to Jefferson Street. Martin said they cannot prohibit parking on a public street. There was a short discussion concerning the situation, but no action was taken. Martin will look into the matter for some viable solution.

Martin reported that bids would be opened in the next week or so for the sidewalk renovation project on the south side of the Presbyterian Church.

Jan Chaney, representing Karen Buskirk, presented a petition to rezone 102 South Metts from B-1 to R-2. Buskirk wishes to convert the property to a duplex. Pursley moved to approve Ordinance #17-7-2, which would authorize this change. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Ossian resident, Bonnie Davidson asked if there was anything that could be done about the numerous stray cats in her neighborhood. Officer Tucker explained that there are currently no rules about this. Tucker went on to explain that there is such a thing as "community cats," but this requires the cats to be neutered and earmarked. Davidson stated that she had spoken with animal control in Bluffton and was told they would provide live traps if she wanted to trap them and take them to Bluffton. After a brief discussion Tucker said she would check with the animal shelter to see what could be worked out.

Pursley moved to accept the time cards as presented. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0  
Dowty moved to pay claims of \$135,524.84 as presented. Sweeney seconded.  
Passed 5-0

Pursley moved to adjourn. Dowty seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

## ***Ossian Park Board***

July 17, 2017

Attendance: Tim Rohr, Janet Riley, Ashley Harmon, and Joe Lewis

1. Read and approved minutes from meeting on June 5, 2017
2. Members of Ossian PSI met here to discuss amphitheater ideas for Archbold Wilson Park. Would like it to be multi-purpose. Would like to have the park board come up with some drawings and costs.
3. Next meeting August 7, 2017
4. Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm

### ***OSSIAN STORM WATER BOARD***

WEDNESDAY JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2017 6:00pm

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm. Members present were, Tim Miller, Rose Barrick, Town Manager, Luann Martin, Town Council Member, Bill Dowty and Jim Breckler, Engineering Resources.

Others present at the meeting were residents, Larry and Jeanette Lundeen, Larry Smith, Steve Detrick, Lynn Lipp.

#### **MINUTES APPROVAL**

Minutes from the May 31<sup>st</sup> 2017 meeting were approved 2 – 0

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Swale along Rail Road, Rose Ann Heights**

The meeting was turned over to Jim Breckler from Engineering Resources to explain the swale project and to answer questions from residents in attendance, whose property will be affected by the swale re-construction project.

The main concern was from Jan Lipp who resides at 411 Hickory Lane that he would be taking on more water if this project is done. Jim's response was that the volume will not change but the flow of water will show up sooner because the high areas up stream will be removed allowing for a more steady flow water.

No additional land is being added that would increase the volume of water through the swale. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided by the Board to have Jim Breckler meet with Mr. Lipp at his residence again to see if there is any solution possible to his concern of increased flow and disturbing the trees on his property.

##### **Budget**

As of 6/27/2017, the STORM Water Budget is as follows;

Checking, \$132,601.20 Savings, \$70,218.70

### **Board Member**

Position is still vacant at this time.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Bunn Addition Detention Pond**

Heard from Jim Breckler on some ideas that would help to drain the pond.

The main concern is the pond is staying wet and is making it difficult to mow and maintain.

Some possible solutions are;

- Regarding the basin or bottom of pond.
- Installation of a concrete chute.
- Install new outlet from basin. (would require a detailed field study)

It was decided that for now it would be best to have it regarded.

#### **Update from Town Manager**

Nothing new at this time.

#### **Next meeting**

The next meeting for the Ossian Storm Water Board will be Wednesday July 26<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 6:00pm at the Town Hall.

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

Respectfully submitted, Tim Miller, President