

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

August 14, 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.

Pursley moved to approve the minutes of the July meeting. Sweeney seconded.  
Passed 5-0

The only committee reporting was the Storm Water Committee represented by Rose Barrick. She first stated that they are still short one (1) member and asked anyone interested to step up.

Barrick reported that the Hickory Street Project was in the final design stage. She said most of the residents were in favor of the project, but at least two (2) were against it. Those two, Steve & Emmy Detrick and Lynn & Jan Lipp, were present at tonight's meeting. Barrick explained that they would be getting the necessary easements shortly. Lipp asked what, exactly, was going to be done. Barrick explained the process and stated that they would stop at his property line, since he refused to grant an easement. Lipp went to say the engineer had told him there would not be any additional water flowing, it would just flow faster. He said that, in his opinion, the water should flow slower instead of faster to slow down erosion. Detrick was concerned about flooding on his property, as well as, straw and other debris washing down and backing up on his property before it dumped into the 8-mile creek. There was a lengthy discussion, after which, Barrick said they would invite all the homeowners to another meeting to try to find a solution that all could agree on.

Barrick announced the next meeting of the Storm Water Board is August 30, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the town hall and invited all to attend.

Council President, Josh Barkley, opened the only bid for the East LaFever sidewalk project. Town Manager, Lunn Martin, said she had sent out five (5) packets and this is the only one returned. The sole bid was from Newell Construction for fourteen thousand four hundred twenty (\$14,420) dollars with a one thousand (\$1,000) contingency. Pursley moved to accept the bid as stated. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Darrin Floyd, of 603 Cloverlefe Court, was on hand to see what they had in mind for the golf cart ordinance. Barkley stated that, at first glance, it seems as though 4 wheelers on the streets would be a problem, but he wanted to read the entire ordinance before making a decision. Sweeney stated that she was not in favor of having 4 wheelers on the streets. The matter was then tabled until the next meeting.

Officer Stephanie Tucker presented an updated version of Ossian's Animal Ordinance regarding the treatment of animals at the last meeting and asked the council if they had any questions about it. Barkley stated that he wanted to study the ordinance further before making a final decision. No action was taken and they will look at this again at the next meeting.

Tucker then reported on her findings regarding feral cats that were requested at the last meeting. She stated that she had checked with animal control personnel in Bluffton and Fort Wayne. Both entities recommended a trap – neuter – release program. The only drawback to this program is that you can only take in three (3) cats per week. Dowty asked who would pay the \$35 fee per cat. To which Barkley stated that, unfortunately, it would be the Town's problem. No action was taken on the matter, but it will be revisited at a later meeting.

Mike Gerber of Trusted Supply Chain Partners requested tax abatement on new powder coating equipment. Pursley moved to grant this abatement on a 10 year declining schedule with a second from Sweeney. Passed 5-0

Mike Lautzenheiser, with the Wells County Area Plan Commission presented several proposed changes to the Wells County Code of Ordinances. Change #1 regulates power plants located within Wells County; Change #2 concerns wineries, breweries and distilleries; Change #3 deals with kennels; Change #4 changes the way lot sizes and setbacks are measured; and Change #5 regulates rights-of-way for minor subdivisions. Pursley moved to accept all the changes as presented. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0

Martin presented a request from Jim Battin, an Ossian employee, to take off three (3) days unpaid in December of 2017. Council stipulated that he may do so only if all personal time, vacation time and holiday time has already been taken. Sweeney moved to grant the time off. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey presented a rough draft of the 2018 budget. She stated that she had talked with the Ben Fenstermaker, Ossian Fire Chief, Luann Martin, Town Manager and Police Chief, Dave Rigney regarding the budget and they were all in agreement. Barkley expressed an interest in budgeting seventy five thousand (\$75,000) dollars of the Riverboat Funds available and increasing the CEDIT budget from two hundred thousand (\$200,000) dollars to three hundred thousand (\$300,000) dollars. Dickey said she would make those changes and report back at the next meeting after she had spoken with the Department of Local Government Finance.

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

Pursley moved to pay claims of \$247,176.26 as presented. Sweeney seconded.  
Passed 5-0

Barkley moved to adjourn. Kemper seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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

## **Regular Meeting**

July 5, 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 Commissioners Caleb Chichester and Bob Miller present. Bill Dowty, of the Ossian Town Council was also present, along with Police Chief, Dave Rigney, Glen Werling of the Bluffton New-Banner and Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey.

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

There were no questions regarding Rigney's monthly report.

Rigney reported that he had enrolled in Lexipol and had received his log-in information and password. He said he would do some exploring and report back.

Miller moved to approve the Media Relations Policy to be sent to Town Attorney, Mike Hartburg. Wanner seconded. Passed 3-0

A question was raised about the harassment policy. Rigney said he would look into it with Lexipol.

Miller presented the final version of the Disciplinary Policy. Chichester pointed out that it was not in the uniform format. Wanner offered to put it in the proper format so all policies would be the same. Chichester moved to approve the policy with a second from Wanner. Passed 3-0

New policy assignments are: Off Duty Employment – Miller  
Rules & Regulations - Chichester  
Part-time and Reserve Officers – Wanner

Chichester reported that Council had no problem continuing the part time officers until the end of the year. Chichester moved to hire Russell Mounsey as a part-time officer. Miller seconded. Passed 3-0 Mounsey is already qualified as he currently works for the Wells County Sherriff's Department. Rigney stated that part time Officer, Bob Frantz should be back on the job in August following a back surgery earlier this year. The commissioners decided to re-evaluate the need for part time officers at the November meeting.

The next meeting is set for August 9, 2017 at 7:00. They will look at the situation a week before the meeting time to evaluate the need for an August meeting.

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

**OSSIAN STORM WATER BOARD**  
**WEDNESDAY JULY 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2017 6:00pm**

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Members present were, Tim Miller, Rose Barrick, Town Manager, Luann Martin. Jim Breckler of Engineering Resources was not able to attend. Others present at the meeting were residents, Larry and Jeanette Lundeen, of Hickory Ln.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Minutes from the June 28<sup>th</sup> 2017 meeting were approved 2 – 0

**OLD BUSINESS**

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

After a brief discussion of the proposed project, Rose Barrick made the motion to proceed with the project, and that the project should stop at the northern end of the Lipp property. The motion passed 2-0.

The next step is the acquisition of the necessary easements and the recommendation to council for the project to continue.

**Budget**

As of 7/26/2017 the Storm water budget is as follows:

Checking \$130,390.62

Savings \$ 71,248.78

**Board Member**

Position is still vacant at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Update from Town Manager**

Nothing new at this time.

**Next meeting**

The next meeting for the Ossian Storm Water Board will be Wednesday August 30<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