

**OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting**

September 11, 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 August meetings as presented. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0

Fire Chief, Ben Fenstermaker, requested authorization to purchase three (3) sets of turn-out gear from Hoosier Fire Equipment at a cost of seven thousand four hundred fifty three dollars and fifty cents (\$7453.50). Dowty moved to approve this purchase with a second from Pursley. Passed 5-0 Fenstermaker went on to report that in the last six (6) months they have lost two (2) firefighters and they will, very shortly, add three (3) more. He stated they have a maximum of thirty five (35) firefighting slots available and minimum of twenty four (24), but he tries to keep around thirty (30) on the roster.

Police Commissioner, Caleb Chichester, said that Police Chief, Dave Rigney had asked permission to get bids for a new squad car to be purchased later this year. Council concurred. There were no questions regarding the monthly report previously emailed to the council.

Officer Tucker requested to be paid for two (2) weeks of vacation for 2017 because the schedule will not allow for her to take it within this year, as required. Pursley moved to authorize the payment. Dowty seconded. Passed 5-0

Barrick reported that the Hickory Street Project was still in the works but asked for guidance as to where to go from here. She distributed drainage maps to council members to show where water drains from. Jim Breckler of Engineering Resources stated that he thought some of the drainage problem was caused when water comes in too fast and fills up the 8-mile ditch, thus causing the swale behind Hickory Street to back up as well.

Some residents had complained that the easements they were being asked to sign were open-ended easements. Barrick explained that this was because the original platted easements did not include storm water easements.

Councilman, Jeff Kemper reported that he had walked the area several times and it is his opinion that there could be a green space created between the farm and the ditch to prevent silt from the field from getting into the ditch. He went on to say that the area is a ditch, so it shouldn't have to be maintained.

Barrick asked the opinion of Robert Honegger, who is a resident on the ditch and who was present at the meeting. Honegger stated that he wasn't concerned about the ditch. His concern is for the community twenty years down the road. He wondered if there might be projects of a more urgent nature that, perhaps should be pursued instead.

Barrick said the Storm Water Board has been working on this for two (2) years. They don't just want to throw money around. They save up the money and pay for projects up front, rather than borrowing money and paying interest.

Lynn Lipp stated that he did not agree with the project as it stands, but did not object to the project extending to the north of his property. He asked if the county could be approached to work on the 8-mile ditch.

Barrick announced the next meeting of the Storm Water Board is September 27, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the town hall and invited all to attend.

Barkley read the definition of a 4-wheeler as defined in Ordinance #17-8-2. He stated that the vehicle must have a steering wheel and a seat, as opposed to a saddle. Barkley went on to say he did not anticipate any problems with this, but if problems arise they will look at it again. Dowty moved to

approve. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0 Ossian resident, Darrin Floyd asked where the twenty five (\$25.00) fee went. He was told that it was used to defray the costs of golf cart ordinance implementation.

Dowty moved to accept Ordinance #17-8-1 establishing park fees for the various Ossian Parks. Pursley moved to approve with a second from Dowty. Passed 5-0

Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey stated that she had added five thousand (\$5000) dollars to the Park Dept. budget due to the thaw of the levy freeze for the county. She also pointed out that she had made the changes that council member Barkley had requested at the last meeting. There was no further discussion. Dickey stated that she would post the budget Gateway as prescribed by the state and the public hearing was scheduled for September 25 at 7:00 pm at the town hall.

Town Manager, Luann Martin presented a request from the Post Office regarding the placement of the mail collection box. The Postmaster had requested the box be moved because people had to drive into oncoming traffic in order to deposit outgoing mail. She stated that this is hazardous and suggested that it be moved to the middle of the street with two (2) snorkels.

Martin had pictures available of how the collection box could just be turned to face south instead of East. The alley could then be made one-way to accommodate cars depositing mail. She stated that this arrangement would be less hazardous than a mail box in the middle of the street. Council agreed and asked Martin to contact the Post Office regarding this plan.

Jim Smith of Republic Services presented a letter stating a price increase for garbage collection of twenty five (.25) cents and an increase of ten (.10) cents for recycling for a total increase of thirty five (.35) cents. Council took no exception to this increase.

In other business, the council set Trick or Treating hours from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on October 31, 2017 as recommended by Town Manager Martin.

Officer Stephanie Tucker asked if there had been any progress made on the updated version of Ossian's Animal Ordinance. She stated that she had come upon a couple of instances where the new ordinance would have been of some help. She further stated that she was checking with Fort Wayne regarding their animal ordinance.

Steve Detrick, Ossian resident, said he had heard rumors that the water line on Hickory Street was going to be replaced. He asked if this was true and, if it is true, when would this happen. Martin replied that the Hickory Street Water Project is on the table, but we did not have adequate funds this year. It is hoped that the project can move forward to completion in 2018, given that funds are available.

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

Pursley moved to pay claims of \$214,448.90 as presented. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**OSSIAN STORM WATER BOARD**  
**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 30<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 and Jeff Kemper, Council Liaison. (Attached to the minutes is a scanned copy of the sign-in sheet of those in attendance.)

**Rail Road / Rose Ann Heights Swale Discussion**

Once again, the board had asked Jim Breckler of Engineering Resources to give an explanation of the proposed swale project that borders the Rail Road and parallels Hickory in the Rose Ann Heights Addition. The board then allowed those in attendance to ask any questions they have and voice their concerns about the project.

Unable to retrieve all that was spoken from the recording due to issues with the tape recording.

**Budget**

As of 8/29/2017 the Storm water budget is as follows:

Checking \$139,360.79

Savings \$ 72,278.78

**Board Member**

Position is still vacant at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Update from Town Manager**

The board approved a proposal by a 2-0 vote for Aquatic management to treat the ditch for weeds and cattails at TI Automotive for a cost of \$480.00.

Also was informed that the guys have been replacing some tile at the Archibald Wilson Park

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**Next Meeting**

The next meeting for the Ossian Storm Water Board will be Wednesday September 27<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

## Sign In Sheet

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Dick White	625 Hickory Lane
Bill Dowdy	120 Young St
Renee Sweeney	608 E mill St
Lynn M Lipp	411 Hickory Ln.
Caleb Chichester	315 W. Lafever St.
Robert Blake	901 Hickory Lane
Steve Derrick	403 Hickory Lane
Larry London	519 Hickory Lane
Bob Honegger	801 Hickory Lane
Dad & Joe Valente	515 Hickory Lane
Larry Smith & Friend	

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

Regular Meeting September 6, 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, Officer Stephanie Tucker and Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey.

Chichester moved to approve the minutes of the July meeting. The August meeting was canceled. Miller seconded. Passed 3-0

Police Sergeant, Victor Torres presented the monthly report in the absence of Chief Rigney, who was attending a training session in Indianapolis. Torres reported that the mileage had gone up a little this month due to several trainings attended by officers, but they are still within the budget allotted for fuel for the year. Torres stated that the overtime was down a little this month, however, with Ossian Days coming up shortly he expects that to change. Officer Tucker pointed out that officers are required to work at least six (6) hours of overtime during the Ossian Days Festival. Tucker also reported that part time officer, Bob Frantz, is back to work and will help cover Ossian Days.

Torres went on to say the Chief Rigney had some concerns with the Harassment Policy as it stands. Commissioners asked if they can change the Lexipol Policy. Torres replied that he did not have access, but Rigney would be able to do that. Torres reported that the format used by Lexipol is pretty much the standard in the industry and is widely accepted. Commissioners agreed that it is not that different and they are ok with that. They decided to wait until Chief Rigney is back before making any decisions regarding policy.

Torres then asked for authorization to begin getting bids on a new squad car that should be purchased this year. He will be looking at 2018 Chargers at Hiday Motors or Mike Anderson Chevrolet here in Ossian. It was asked if the prices would be just for the car or if they would include lights, decals, etc. Officer Tucker stated that prices would include all accessories but would be priced in separate packages. Chichester pointed out that the Chief would be driving the new vehicle and the unmarked car that Rigney is now driving would become the spare car. Chichester moved to authorize Rigney to accept bids for the new car. Wanner seconded. Passed 3-0 Chichester will present the recommendation to the Council.

The Media Relations Policy was discussed briefly, after which a motion was made by Miller to approve the policy. Chichester seconded. Passed 3-0

Officer Tucker presented a request to be paid for two (2) weeks of vacation time that she will not be able to take this year because there would not be adequate coverage for the department. Miller moved to approve the request with a second from Chichester. Passed 3-0 Chichester will present it to council at the next meeting.

Wanner said he would like to see council address the issue of paying out vacation because of future instances that may come up, either in the police department or some other department. He said it would be a good idea to have something in the handbook to address this uniformly in the future.

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

***Ossian Park Board***  
***September 13, 2017***

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

1. No minutes from August meeting. Tim was absent.
2. Trail people to be here at October meeting to discuss options. Possibility of obtaining a bridge from the county to cross the Eight Mile Creek connecting Brookridge to Archbold Wilson Park.
3. Discussed 5-year plan. Discussed asking Town Council for money to purchase playground equipment for Sandalwood Park. Crystal motioned to ask council for funds. Ashley seconded. Passed 5-0.
4. Next meeting October 2, 2017
5. Meeting adjourned at 8:27pm.

***OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL*** – Regular Meeting  
September 25, 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, and Renee Sweeney present. Jeff Kemper was absent.

President Josh Barkley opened the Public Hearing for the 2018 budget at 7:00 p.m. There were no questions from council members and none from the public. Barkley closed the Public hearing at 7:05 p.m.

Barkley expressed his disappointment in not receiving the requested Community Crossings Grant for the Mill Street Project. This project will now be on hold for another year.

Town Manager, Luann Martin announced that the town will be flushing fire hydrants between October 2 and October 13, 2017. She also reported that leaf pick-up will begin October 16, 2017.

Pursley moved to pay claims of \$28,606.63 as presented. Sweeney seconded. Passed 5-0

Dowty moved to adjourn. Pursley seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.