

OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting
April 14, 2014 - 7:00 p.m. Ossian Town Hall – 507 North Jefferson

Council President, Brad Pursley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council members Josh Barkley, Bill Miller and Tom Neuenschwander present. Terri Hughes-Lazzell was absent.

Neuenschwander moved to approve the minutes of the February meetings. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

There were no comments from Ossian citizens.

Ossian Park Board May 5, 2014

Attendance: Steve Andrews, Max Lake, Bill Dowty, and Tim Rohr

- I. Read and approved minutes from meeting on April 7, 2014.
- II. No update from town engineer which was requested at April meeting on the estimates for a basketball court and goals as well as an entrance road to the Archbold-Wilson Park off of 900 North.
- III. Received a quote from Pena Manufacturing on cornhole game boards. total cost to be \$2200.00. Luann to check with local game suppliers to get additional quotes before any further decision is made to purchase.
- IV. A new backstop needs to be installed at the big diamond. Also learned that the leagues have made some repairs on the batting cages.
- V. One load of playground mulch will need purchased this year to be distributed to all parks. No estimate for mulch has been received yet.
- VI. All swing chains in all parks have been upgraded to heavier chains to support heavier loads.
- VII. Next meeting scheduled for June 2, 2014.
- VIII. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Next up was the renewal of the town insurance. Tom Neuenschwander presented a Conflict of Interest statement. Barkley moved to accept the Conflict of Interest. Miller seconded. Accepted 3-0 with Neuenschwander abstaining. Neuenschwander then joined Jeff Deckard of EMC Insurance to make a joint presentation. Neuenschwander presented a bid from Insurance & Business Specialist and another from Star Financial. There was a third bid from Hylant Insurance which had previously been withdrawn. Neuenschwander pointed out the differences in price and coverage of the bids. Deckard stated the credentials of EMC. The Star Financial quote was \$52,918 and the Insurance & Business Specialists bill was \$48,982. Pursley moved to accept the bid from Insurance & Business Specialists for \$48,982. Miller seconded. Passed 3-0 with Neuenschwander abstaining.

There were no reports from the Fire Department or the Park Board.

Police Chief, Dave Rigney presented the Monthly Fuel & Overtime Report. He also submitted the 2013 Annual Report, which he discussed briefly, pointing out declines in several criminal areas. He further stated that golf cart permits were over 60 for 2013, which is a substantial increase from the previous year. He has already issued several for 2014.

OSSIAN REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE
Tuesday April 1, 2014

Members present: Jan Williams, Larry Heckber, Marlyn Koons, Bob Miller, Jim Brewer, Judy Harkless, Larry Smith, Bruce Sonner, Kody Kumfer, Luann Martin, Tom Neuenschwander, Natalie Milholland, Cheryl Laley

Members not present: Linda Hambrick, Joel Fremion,
Minutes from the March 4, 2014 meeting were approved.

New Member approval: Kody made a motion second by Bruce to approve Cheryl Lalie as a new member of Ossian Revitalization. Motion voted on and passed. Welcome Cheryl.

Wine Tasting, April 26, 2014 A Spring Extravaganza

An Evening of Wine Tasting, Microbrews, Jazz, and more.....

Discussed ways to advertise: Judy Harkless will check into Waynedale news
Jan Williams will email the poster to everyone so they can email to their contacts
Luann will email Main Street website to advertise our event Judy Harkless will email Two EEs, Statek, and Granite City for a description of what wine/beer they will bring. Kody will be

contact Country Heritage Winery for their's. Those descriptions along with any other information for the Booklet must be returned to Natalie by the 14th of April.

Ticket Sales: Jan will email a list of names of tickets sold last year for reference Marlyn will be contacting additional people within the community to see if they are interested in helping us sell tickets.

Kody is going to see if the Ossian Library will help advertise on their LED sign.

Food Prep: a signup sheet is available to help with food prep

Silent Auction: Jan will email an updated list of silent auction items. More work to be done to organize and describe items for display. Natalie will help print the item descriptions for the table. Silent Auction items will be collected at the iAB Bank for public view and bid the week of the 14th. Items will be moved to Ossian State Bank for week of 21st, and moved to Lighted Gardens for the event.

A work session is planned for Monday, April 7 at Marlyn's house at 5:30.

Important Dates:

Wine Tasting: April 26, 2014

Town of Ossian Garage Sale June 21, 2014

Town of Ossian Clean-up Day – June 28, 2014

Next Revitalization meeting: Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at 5:00 at the Town Hall.

Work session for Wine Tasting: Monday, April 7 at 5:30 at Marlyn's house.

Minutes prepared by Jan Williams

There was no representative of the Revitalization Committee but Martin reminded everyone of the Winetasting event on April 26th. Tickets are available now at various locations around town.

OSSIAN STORMWATER BOARD
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2014 6:00 PM

The Ossian Stormwater Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Stormwater Board members present included Tim Miller, President, Rose Barrick, V.P., Dennis Ramey, Secretary, was absent on vacation. Also attending was Luann Martin, Town Manager, Bill Miller, Town Council member, Derek Fredrickson of Engineering Resources, and Glen Werling, The News-Banner.

Minutes Approval ----- Rose made a motion to approve the minutes for the Stormwater meeting held on February 26, 2014, Tim second, vote was 2-0 to approve.

Old Business

- Roe St. project ----- The discussion centered around getting a ballpark figure on what it is going to cost to install a new section of pipe to join the other two recent projects. Luann had a drawing showing the area to be replaced and Bill Miller was familiar with and provided details of some of the work that has been performed in the area in past years. Luann also commented that there is probably one tree that will need to be removed for this project.
Derek Fredrickson of Engineering Resources will work on a job description to bid costs for completing the install of the new section of pipe. It was determined that the depth of the pipe to be installed would be unsafe for Town crews to perform due to the required equipment not being available. This project is considered a top priority on the "to do" list and plans are to move ahead as soon as possible.
- 600 block between Shady Lane and Bittersweet and adjacent area -----A group discussion and review of present conditions at this location delivered an informed overview for the Town's new engineering firm representative, Derek Fredrickson of Engineering Resources. Several options are available for consideration, and after discussing it seemed to be the consensus that the least costly, first step would be to proceed with the removal of rip-rap stone behind the two residences, possible grading, and planting grass in the swale to allow for better Stormwater flow heading downstream.
Also to be decided would be any modifications to the catch basin in this area which presently takes water at above ground level. In addition, three 12" existing culverts under Hickory Lane will need to be replaced sometime soon as they are rusting. After this work has been completed, a period of evaluation will determine if further action is needed in the existing water-flow path to the ditch along the old inter-urban line.
Related to this issue, Derek plans to get aerial map of the area including the 70+ acres to the north to determine watershed pattern. It is believed that top soil and silt accumulation in the ditch is coming from the north causing restriction in the ditch which drains into Eight Mile Creek. The Stormwater which comes from the northern

area is muddy while the Stormwater draining from the eastern area including Rose Ann Heights is clear.

- Siebold and LaFever Sts.--- update---A discussion about the history of some of the drainage issues concerning this area included some first-hand knowledge from Bill Miller, Town Council member who resides in that area. Bill was also familiar with some of the Town's previous jetting and repair work on tiles in this area. At the present time during periods of high water run-off, the stream draining from the adjacent farm ground comes to the area of John Peck's property. Approximately 20 years ago, the Soil and Conservation Dept. (?) was involved in the installation of a tiered pond configuration, also called Step Ponds, on the Wilson farm ground. This was supposed to slow down the volume of water runoff and spread it over a longer period of time. During this period in time, Mr. Peck had to contract a bulldozer to perform excavating a dirt berm around a portion of his property to avoid flash flooding of his home. During heavy rains and large snow melts, there are still issues with spotted flooding in this area.

Another piece of the history in this area was the Geiger Project which involved the installation of a 12" pipe and a couple of catch basins.

Derek suggested to the group that a good first step in resolving this situation is to get an aerial map of the area and determine watershed volume and direction of flow. In this process it may show other options to divert Stormwater another direction, possibly back to a previous pattern. This could reduce the amount of water needing to be managed. Bill suggested that the map we obtain should show a large enough area to include the entire watershed involved with this problem. Luann or Derek will contact Jarrod Hahn, County Surveyor for assistance in obtaining the map if needed.

In the planning for future improvements in this area, consideration should include replacing the large pipe running from LaFever St. to the Eight Mile across private property. Rose suggested that installing the new pipe parallel to LaFever to the Eight Mile may be the best route. Derek suggested that another alternative would be to purchase an easement from the land-owner and possibly insert a liner into the existing tile. Then, if necessary, sometime in the future, another smaller pipe could be installed along LaFever. Luann said that during the water project, the take-off off the pipe was uncovered at the intersection of LaFever and Barnett Sts., running under the property owners house, and then on across the field.

Another item of concern is that the pavement thickness of Siebold and LaFever Sts. has caused part of the problem over the years due to re-paving and not milling down part of the old pavement. Luann is going to check the street paving schedule so we can try and have some milling included to lower the asphalt buildup.

- Maplewood Drive – update on letters requesting info from property owners. Luann discussed the original purpose of the survey letters to property owners in this area was to seek input for future changes to improve the Stormwater flow through the swales and culverts, and to obtain information from the property owners such as if they have a tile under driveway, pipes in swale areas, swales filled in, etc. After reviewing a few of the known areas of needed improvement, Derek suggested implementing an "Asset Management" system by taking an aerial map of Rose Ann Heights and writing any/all information onto the map as an ongoing reference into the future upgrades and repairs concerning Stormwater issues. This could consist of a PDF or CAD mapping file on the Town's computer.
- Storm Water Budget ----- No new info for the March balances in Stormwater Fund. The February balance in Stormwater Fund was \$ 22,876.84 in checking and \$ 3,000.00 in emergency/equipment savings.

New Business

- Update from Town Manager on new Projects

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

The next regular scheduled meeting for the Stormwater Board will be on Wednesday, April 23, 2014 at 6:00 PM, Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted, Dennis Ramey, Secretary

Rose Barrick of the Storm Water Board reported that there are no new projects at this time. She invited everyone to attend their next meeting on April 23, which is a week earlier than usual

Martin reported that she had received four (4) applications for the seasonal positions. She recommended hiring Ben Buck & Robert Rohr for the mowing positions and Ed Weisenhauer to maintain the ball diamonds. She also recommended we raise the seasonal wages to \$8.50 per hour because all three (3) of the applicants come with experience. Neuenschwander

moved to accept Martin's recommendations with the suggested pay raise. Miller seconded.
Passed 4-0

Council President, Brad Pursley opened the bids for the 2005 Crown Victoria. One for \$808 from Yousef Dabbagh from Island Lake, IL and one from Jim Hower of Ossian for \$3200. Barkley moved to accept the bid of \$3200 from Jim Hower. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-0

Neuenschwander moved to accept Cheryl Laley of 306 Countryside Drive to the vacant town position on the Revitalization Committee. Barkley seconded. Passed 4-0

Barkley moved to adopt Ordinance #14-4-1, An Ordinance Enacting and Adopting a Supplement to the Code of Ordinance for the Town of Ossian and Declaring an Emergency. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-1 Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey will advertise as soon as possible per Indiana Statute.

Police Chief Rigney presented a request for a one half percent raise for his officers. He stated that this is the remainder of a 2% raise granted in December of 2012. He said that because of the new Performance Based Evaluation his officers received only 1.5 per cent at that time. He said that this was an unintended consequence of the Performance Based Evaluations. Now that they have fulfilled the requirements that they lacked at that time Rigney requested the additional half percent. Neuenschwander asked why this had not been brought up until now, to which Rigney said he hadn't thought it was necessary because he thought they were all on the same page. Neuenschwander said he was not in favor of it because the council members had not seen the reviews. He asked Rigney if he would get copies to the Clerk-treasurer for the personnel files. Rigney refused, saying he would only do so on the advice of legal counsel. Rigney said he is not asking for a raise, just the remainder of the 2% awarded for 2013. He further stated that if they did not approve this that it would send a message to the officers and they would be permanently penalized because they could never get that half percent back. Council decided to table this until the next meeting.

Pursley asked Martin about the flashing stop signs that were going to be put up at the school crossing. She stated that the ground was still too frozen, but that they should be able to install them shortly, as the weather is breaking now.

Martin presented a work order from Fleis and Vandenbrink for the final payment to Fedewa, Inc. for the water tower restoration project. Barkley moved to pay \$10,453.48 to Fedewa, Inc. as final payment. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

Martin reported that Scott Kling has taken the test to obtain his sewer license. It will probably be about two (2) weeks until the results are known. She also stated that Trent Fiedler will take the test for his water license in about two (2) weeks.

Martin said they will be starting cold patching, hopefully this week, weather permitting. She will also check on filling the cracks in the pavement. She presented a map of Ossian with the proposed work to be done on the streets in 2014. Martin also said she will inquire of ells County about inspecting the LaFever Street bridge over the eight mile drainage ditch.

Martin reported that several water meters had been sent back before their warranties expired. They are warranted for ten (10) years, so they were exchanged for new ones in order to take advantage of the ten (10) year warranty.

Barkley asked Martin about a program which would enable the utility workers to get readings and warnings on their iPhones. She said the ones they had checked into were very expensive but that was several years ago. Barkley said he had heard that Allen Bradley makes one that can be purchased at Wabash Electric. He did not have any other information so Martin will check into systems for the wells and the lift stations.. Martin said, the way it is now is that she gets a call if a pump goes down. Barkley stated a new system could possibly eliminate the need for making rounds every day, thus saving time for the employees.

A utility adjustment of \$119.88 was brought before the board. Martin verified that the water had not gone through the sewer system. Neuenschwander moved to grant the adjustment. Barkley seconded. Passed 4-0

Neuenschwander moved to approve the time cards as presented. Miller seconded.
Passed 4-0

Barkley moved to approve claims as presented. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

Neuenschwander moved to adjourn.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting
April 28, 2014 -7:00 p.m. Ossian Town Hall – 507 North Jefferson

Council President, Brad Pursley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council members Bill Miller, Terri Hughes-Lazzell and Tom Neuenschwander present. Josh Barkley was absent.

Pursley called for comments or questions from the public. There were none.

John Roembke of Roembke Manufacturing presented three (3) CF-1/PP forms for approval. Neuenschwander moved for approval. Miller seconded, Passed 4-0

Gil Pena presented two (2) CF-1/Real Property forms and one (1) CF-1/PP form for approval. Neuenschwander moved to approve. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

Tony Crowell of Gordon and Associates legal firm presented a Form SB-1 for Gerber Development. He represented Gerber Development. Eric Gerber of Gerber Development and Edge Manufacturing was also present. Gerber stated that he had purchased the building previously occupied by Dawn Foods that has been vacant for well over a year. He said it is still vacant because he is making extensive renovations. He plans to rent it to tenants or move Edge Manufacturing into the building. He also said he may rent freezer space. Hughes-Lazzell expressed concern over approving a tax abatement without knowing the use of the building. Crowell noted that the abatement requested is for rehabilitating a vacant building and the abatement must be applied for prior to occupancy of the building. Neuenschwander moved to approve the abatement requested on form SB-1 and the accompanying Ordinance #14-4-4. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

John Julien of Umbaugh & Associates presented information to the council pertaining to combining and refinancing of the 2000 Sewer Bond Issue and the 2005 Sewer Bond Issue. He stated that interest rates have been dropping recently and the town can save money by refinancing. The rates are currently 3.5% for the 2000 Bond Issue and 4.78 for the 2005 Bond Issue. He is proposing to consolidate both sewage bonds into a single bond issue with an estimated rate of 3.18% saving the town an estimated \$424,000 over the 13 year life of the loan.

Julien went on to say he thought it was about time for a sewer rate increase, stating that we have not raised rates for nine (9) years. He went on to say that when those rates were set there was no margin figured in for inflation and prices have gone up substantially since then, increasing our operation costs. Julien suggested a five (5) to ten (10) percent increase phased in over two (2) years. He also brought in the factors of increasing regulations being put on sewage treatment and that less federal grants are available in recent years as there had been in the past.

Julien went on further to say that if rates are not increased lenders would probably not offer the lowest interest rates. We would be considered a higher risk because we are now at a break-even point and as costs go up we would be at risk to default. He also said the pending litigation involving the sewer plant would be a factor in determining the interest rate.

Council will consider their options and discuss this again at the second May meeting. That meeting will fall on Memorial Day so a special meeting so an alternate date may be scheduled.

Bids were presented for core sampling of the streets. Patriot Engineering and Environmental Services bid \$3075, GME Testing bid \$1500 and Alt & Witzig bid \$1000. Neuenschwander moved to accept the Alt & Witzig bid of \$1000. Miller seconded. Passed 3-0 with Hughes-Lazzell abstaining.

An agreement with Only Internet was presented. Hughes-Lazzell pointed out that there was no ending date on the agreement. Therefore, the agreement was tabled until the next meeting.

Hughes-Lazzell moved to accept a letter of resignation from Joel Fremion, who is resigning from the Revitalization Board. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

An agreement allowing Ossian's engineering firm, Engineering Resources, access Wells County's GIS system. This is needed because of the pending litigation regarding the sewer plant. Hughes-Lazzell moved to grant this request. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-0
The agreement will be sent to the Wells County Commissioners for approval.

A utility adjustment was presented which met all of the criteria for acceptance. Neuenschwander moved to grant the adjustment. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

Miller moved to approve claims of \$79,653.74. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 4-0.

Neuenschwander moved to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.