

OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting

January 13, 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. Terri Hughes- Lazzell was absent.

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

Steve Bracke complimented the town employees on the excellent street cleaning during the recent snow storm.

Barkley moved to appoint Larry Heckber, Larry Smith and Bob Miller to the Revitalization Committee for a three (3) year term ending 12-31-16. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-0

OSSIAN REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday January 14, 2014

Members present: Jan Williams, Linda Hambrick, Larry Heckber, Marlyn Koons, Bob Miller, Larry Smith, Jim Brewer, Bruce Sonner, Kody Kumfer, Judy Harkless, Luann Martin,

Members not present: Joel Fremion, Natalie Milholland, Tom Neuenschwander

Minutes from the December 3, 2013 meeting were approved.

Welcomed a new member, Bob Miller, to the Revitalization Committee.

Hometown Christmas December 6, 2013 from 5:00 to 7:30

A list of reports compiled by members was reviewed. There was a discussion of things that went well and things to change to make improvements for next year.

After a discussion it was agreed that all Hometown Christmas activities will start at 6:00 and end at 7:30.

Judy Harkless made a motion second by Larry Heckber to set the first Friday of December to be the annual date for Hometown Christmas. Motion was voted on and passed.

Downtown Banners: Due to weather the winter banners have not been hung yet. Bruce Sonner is working with Cliff Biberstine to schedule the banner change.

Wine Tasting, April 26, 2014

The rest of the evening was dedicated to planning for the Wine Tasting Event.

It was decided to change the name of the event to:

Ossian Economic Revitalization Presents:

A Spring Extravaganza

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

Committee members picked up many responsibilities to complete and report on at the February Meeting.

There was a discussion to raise the ticket price to \$45, and keep the \$50 price to reserve a table of 10.

Donations of \$250 or more will be listed as a Merlot Sponsor. Donations of under \$250 will be listed as other. It was also discussed that Jan will be working with our graphic designer on changing the color scheme on the booklets to be brighter and spring colors.

Natalie will be back on January 29. The committee desires to have a work session with her before the February meeting. Jan Williams will contact her for a time she will be available.

Other Business: discussion of possible future projects such as additional street lights along Highway 1 north and south, sound system, additional engraving on the back of Welcome to Ossian signs.

Tom Woodward will be at the February meeting to discuss flowers. It is the desire of the committee to direct him to use all pink petunias in the ground pots with a spike in the center.

Wine Tasting: April 26, 2014

Next Revitalization meeting: Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at 5:00 at the Town Hall.

Minutes prepared by Jan Williams

Ossian Park Board January 20, 2014

Attendance: Steve Andrews, Max Lake, Jason Heckber, and Tim Rohr

I. Read and approved minutes from meeting on December 2, 2013

II. Melissa Woodworth here concerning the minor league. Her phone number is 419-203-5885.

Melissa is the only person currently on the minor league board. She questioned the pitching machine. After some discussion, Rohr mentioned that the pitching machine should be discussed among baseball league coaches and members. Citizen in attendance Jim Cline offered to become

a minor league board member. Cline's phone number is 765-210-0470. Melissa Woodworth, Jason Heckber, and Jim Cline to organize a board and will try to recruit more members.

III. Rick Bookmiller again questioned excavating a shelf around the edges of the pond in Archbold-Wilson Park. Luann stated that she did not get any information on a shelf or pricing as of yet. Board asked Luann to have a snow fence installed between the pond. Luann to also have an orange rope installed around the rest of the pond to identify where the pond boundaries are. These projects to be completed by 1-24-14.

IV. Max talked to the Ossian psi otes and learned that they are still on track to getting an amphitheater built in the new park within 3 years.

V. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p

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Barkley moved to appoint Dennis Ramey to the Storm Water Board for a three (3) year term ending 12-31-16. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-0

Barkley moved to appoint Rose Ann Barrick to the Wells County Board of Zoning Appeals for a four (4) year term ending 1-1-18. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-0

Barkley moved to appoint Dan Baumgartner to the Wells County Area Plan Commission for a one (1) year term ending on 12-31-14. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-0

Scott Holliday, candidate for Police Commissioner, addressed the council stating that he was very well qualified for the job because of his vast understanding of police work through his work as Wells County Chief Deputy Sheriff. He said he has resided in Ossian for sixteen (16) years. He further stated that he would continue to act in an impartial manner, as he had in the past, and would strive not to be one-sided in his capacity as Police Commissioner.

Lynn Thompson, candidate for Police Commissioner, told the council that he had worked with numerous police officers in his capacity as funeral director for many years. He had never encountered any who were not willing to do whatever it took. This would be a way to thank all of those officers for their hard work and co-operation over the years.

Ron Werling, candidate for Police Commission, explained that he had been a police officer for the Town of Ossian several years ago. He said he has lived around Ossian all his life. He went on to say that he can see a situation from the police side and also from the taxpayer side. He is happy to voice his opinions and is not prejudiced.

Steve Bracke, current Police Commissioner, thanked Thompson and Werling for their interest in the Police Commissioner position. He presented and read to the council a written nomination and endorsement of Scott Holliday for Police Commissioner.

Council President, Brad Pursley, noted they will need to check into party affiliation in order to comply with Indiana Code. They also have one (1) more applicant to hear from who was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to illness. This matter will be tabled until the January 27th meeting.

Fire Chief, Ben Fenstermaker, reported that all of the things he ordered with year-end money have been received with the exception of the turn-out gear. He stated that six (6) firemen had stayed at the fire station around the clock during the recent snow storm in case there was an emergency and it would not be possible to get to the station. He said he had emailed his 2013 year-end report to the council and Jefferson Township.

There was no Park Board report as they had no meeting due to bad weather.

Police Chief, Dave Rigney, presented his monthly report and went over it with the council. He stated that fuel costs were down this year due to the cars getting better gas mileage and gas prices being slightly lower than last year. He also stated that overtime costs were kept low by his officers taking time off instead of paying out overtime. He said he would have the 2013 year-end report ready for the next meeting. He reported that the new squad car had been picked up and was currently at Baller Signs for marking. Rigney stated that they would be getting rid of the oldest car and that Officer Hunt's car would become the spare.

There was no report from the Revitalization Committee because their meeting was postponed a week because of the snowstorm.

Rose Ann Barrick of the Storm Water Board reported that they were just waiting for the weather to break before starting any projects. She announced that their meetings are held the last Wednesday of each month at the town hall at 6:00 p.m. Anyone is welcome.

Council, again, addressed the handbook, asking Town Manager, Luann Martin, to make the final additions and corrections and email the corrected copy to them. Pursley & Neuenschwander congratulated Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Sally Bracke, on going from her part time position of twenty (20) years to full time status which began January 1, 2014.

Neuenschwander moved to approve the year-end transfers of funds within major budget classifications for 2013. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

Barkley asked that Martin strike the automatic renewal clause in the contract sent by Great American Broadband, dba, Only Internet Broadband and Wireless. He moved to accept the contract without the automatic renewal clause. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-0

Barkley informed all in attendance about the Redevelopment Commission explaining that this is the first step in establishing a Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) District. He stated that the board would consist of five (5) voting members and one (1) non-voting member representing the Northern Wells School Board.

Neuenschwander moved to accept the resignation of Park Board member, Steve Lutz, who is moving to Florida. Barkley seconded. Passed 4-0

The following council committee appointments were approved for 2014:

- Park Board – Tom Neuenschwander
- Chamber of Commerce – Luann Martin
- Storm Water Board – Bill Miller
- Area Plan Commission – Dan Baumgartner
- Fire Department – Bill Miller & Tom Neuenschwander
- Economic Development – Josh Barkley
- Solid Waste District – Terri Hughes-Lazzell
- Police Department – Terri Hughes-Lazzell
- Ossian Development Corporation – Tom Neuenschwander
- Revitalization Committee – Luann Martin

Neuenschwander thanked the town employees for keeping the town streets clear through the recent snow storm.

Barkley asked Martin to check with the roof contractor about the sealing he wanted to do some time back.

Neuenschwander moved to approve time cards. Barkley seconded. Passed 4-0

Neuenschwander moved to approve claims of \$255,038.07 Miller seconded Passed 4-0.

Neuenschwander moved to adjourn. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0 Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting

January 27, 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, Terri Hughes-Lazzell and Tom Neuenschwander present.

Andrew Wanner, candidate for Police Commissioner addressed the council. Barkley asked Wanner why he applied for the position and what his qualifications were. Wanner replied that he thought it would help his career and he also thought it would help him be more involved with the town. He stated his military training and his law enforcement training as qualifications for the position. Pursley asked what his political affiliation was, to which Wanner replied “Libertarian.” Neuenschwander stated that, according to an email from Town Attorney, Andy Carnall, in order to comply with state law, which says that no more than two (2) commissioners

may be of the same political party, they must appoint Wanner because he was the only non-republican candidate and they already have two (2) republicans serving as police commissioners. Neuenschwander moved to appoint Andrew Wanner as police commissioner for 2014. Barkley seconded. Passed 4-0 with Hughes-Lazzell voting no.

Steve Bracke stated that the county records indicate only how a person voted in the last primary. Neuenschwander said the council is just doing what the attorney told them to do.

The insurance presentation was tabled to February 10 because the presenter was unable to attend due to bad weather.

Next on the agenda were the attorney and engineer choices. DLZ Engineering, A & Z Engineering and Engineering Resources will be interviewed prior to the February 10 meeting at 5:30 p.m. Attorneys Mike Hartburg and Andy Carnall will also be interviewed at that time. The regular meeting will still be held at 7:00 p.m.

Neuenschwander moved to approve the new Employee Handbook after months of deliberation. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 5-0

Barkley stated that the Redevelopment Commission is the first step in establishing a TIF District. After the Redevelopment Commission is established, then, with input from town attorney Andrew Carnall and Ice Miller Law firm in Indianapolis the boundaries of the actual Tax Incremental Funding District (TIF) will be drawn up. Barkley appointed Brad Pursley and Terri Hughes-Lazzell as the two (2) members appointed by the Town Council. Barkley then moved to approve Ordinance #14-1-2, establishing a Redevelopment Commission pursuant to IC 36-7-14-1. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0 Pursley, as President of the Town Council, then appointed the other three (3) members of the newly established Redevelopment Commission as required under IC 36-7-14-6.1. He appointed Tom Neuenschwander, Bill Miller and Josh Barkley. Pursley announced that the first meeting of the development commission will be at 6:00 on February 24, just prior to the regular meeting. This will be a public meeting pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-2.

Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey presented a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement from council member Neuenschwander to council for acceptance. Council objected, saying they had not done this before. Dickey then read section 10 of the document which states the document must be presented and accepted "in a public meeting of the government entity prior to final action on the contract or purchase." Pursley moved to accept this disclosure statement. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0 with Neuenschwander abstaining.

Hughes-Lazzell presented council with an ordinance prohibiting residents of Ossian from parking vehicles in their yard. Some council members objected, saying they were not aware of this before the meeting. Hughes-Lazzell pointed out that they had discussed it a long time ago and that this is just a draft for consideration.

Barkley inquired about the number of dumpsters located in the town. Town Manager, Luann Martin, said that, besides the one at the sewer plant, which we pay for, there were also two at the ball diamond and one at the town hall. The cost of these are included in our contract with National Serv-all.

Neuenschwander moved to approve claims of \$39,358.72 Miller seconded Passed 5-0.

Neuenschwander moved to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.