

OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting
March 10, 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, Terri Hughes-Lazzell, Bill Miller and Tom Neuenschwander present.

Neuenschwander moved to approve the minutes of the February meetings. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

There were no comments from Ossian citizens.

Fire Chief, Ben Fenstermaker, announced that the new Firehouse Software had been installed and was working fine. He also stated that Jefferson Township had no problem with paying half of the cost. He requested permission to purchase a new tablet for the Command Vehicle. The laptop he has now would be moved over to an engine. The tablet would have recording capabilities that he does not have now, as well as other features. He would also need to add another air card for the tablet at a cost of about \$30 a month. New cost is \$1200. A refurbished tablet is available for about \$1000. A two (2) year warranty is an option with the refurbished one at a cost of \$60. Barkley moved to purchase a new tablet and the necessary air card. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0

Ossian Park Board
March 3 2013

Attendance: Steve Andrews, Max Lake, and Tim Rohr

I. Read and approved minutes from meeting on February 3, 2014

II. Tim made motion to accept Bill Dowty a newest park board member. Max seconded and passed 3-0. Two letters of intent were received. First from Bill Dowty and second from Rob Jolloff. Park Board discussed both applicants before motion made.

III. Learned that we received 34 surveys back concerning wants in the town parks. Board discussed the surveys. Discussed getting quotes for installing a basketball court for one of the parks.

IV. Next meeting scheduled for April 7, 2014.

V. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Neuenschwander moved to accept Bill Dowty as the newest Park Board member with his term expiring 12-31-14. He replaces Steve Lutz, who resigned because he was moving to Florida. Barkley seconded. Passed 5-0 Dowty was sworn in by Clerk-treasurer, Jeannette Dickey.

OSSIAN POLICE COMMISSION – Regular Meeting
March 31, 2014 - 10:30 a.m. Ossian Town Hall – 507 North Jefferson

Attending the meeting were Commissioners, Steve Bracke, Steve Shadle and Andrew Wanner. Also Police Chief, Dave Rigney, Town Council member, Terri Hughes-Lazzell, Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey and Glen Werling from the Bluffton News-Banner.

Ossian Police Chief, Dave Rigney began the meeting by introducing and welcoming the newest member of the Police Commission, Andrew Wanner. Rigney then read the Mission Statement for the Ossian Police Department.

The first order of business was the School Resource Officer. Rigney announced that all of the grant money for the school resource officer would be going to the Wells County Sheriff's Department. Bruce Holland will continue to cover the Bluffton schools and the county may hire another officer to cover Norwell High School and Middle School. Ossian Elementary School will not have a resource officer at this time.

Rigney stated that the performance based system implemented a little over a year ago had some unintended consequences. Based on the reviews done in December of 2012, the 2013 raises for the officers was 1.5%. The maximum for 2013 was 2%. Hughes-Lazzell stated that there were no raises in the 2014 budget mostly due to the high increase in health insurance premiums for 2014. Dave said it was his perception that the 2% would always be there. He asked the commissioners if they thought he should pursue the additional .5% through the Town Council. Shadle and Bracke agreed that he should pursue it. Wanner said he was not sure

because all the officers were still doing their jobs as prescribed and he had not seen the reviews to which Rigney referred. Hughes-Lazzell pointed out that other town employees received no raise for 2014 and that the police department also gets a longevity pay increase every five years that the other employees do not receive. She said she had no problem with it but would not venture to guess what the council would do with such a request. Rigney asked that Dickey put the request on the agenda for the April 14th meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Officer Stephanie Tucker reported for the Police Dept. She announced that the newest reserve officer, Amanda Ballard, had been sworn in on March 1st. She is up and running and has been working with Officer Hunt. Tucker also presented the monthly fuel and overtime report, stating that no overtime has been paid out yet this year. All overtime is still being banked up to 42.5 hours.

She also reported that the 2014 Charger is now on the road and that the Crown Vic that had been the reserve car could be put up for auction. She pointed out that Officer Foreman did most of the changeover work enabling the town to save about \$1800. Barkley moved to advertise the 2005 Crown Vic for sale with a \$3000 minimum bid. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed Bids will be due no later than noon on April 14.

Tucker then requested the purchase of a portable radio for the reserve car. The price of the requested radio would be around \$3660. She requested to take the money out of the LOIT Public Safety Fund. Hughes-Lazzell moved to purchase the radio out of the LOIT Public Safety Fund. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0

Tucker reported Zurcher Tire in Monroe, IN has donated six (6) new tires for the Daremobile. She went on to say that the Daremobile is now at JNS Automotive in Bluffton for repairs and the next step will be to get it wrapped and to get the logos of the companies or individuals who donated more than \$500 on the sides of the vehicle. She hopes to have it all up and running by May or June.

Officer Tucker reminded the council of the cell phone forensic training that she took last year and asked permission to purchase the Lantern Software in order to use this training in investigations. Total cost for the software, training, lodging during training, and a refurbished Macbook Pro is \$2571. Tucker had already procured a grant from the Wells County Foundation for \$1444 and a CADA grant for \$999 to cover most of the cost. There would be \$128 left plus per diem costs of \$25 a day and mileage for about 450 miles round trip to Frankfort, KY. There will also be a \$300 per year maintenance fee for the Lantern Software. Pursley asked if Wells County had similar software. Tucker replied that the software Wells County has does not have internet capabilities and cannot retrieve deleted messages from phones. The new program would be used in investigations and can access an Android or iPhone. Hughes-Lazzell moved to allow the purchase and the training in May. Pursley seconded. Passed 5-0

OSSIAN REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE Tuesday March 4, 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

Members not present: Linda Hambrick, Joel Fremion, Natalie Milholland

Minutes from the February 4, 2014 meeting were approved.

Wine Tasting, April 26, 2014 A Spring Extravaganza

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

- Jim Brewer said Ossian State Bank will order glasses with 9 confirmed Champagne Sponsors.
- Marlyn is meeting with Jerry Springer next Tuesday March 12 at 1:00 to plan the menu.
Anyone who is available is invited to this meeting.
- Luann will update the Ossian Website advertising our Wine Event.
- Continue to work on Silent Auction items. Larry Smith will get more information about the Mystery Party and how to feature it as a possible live auction item with Sam Haflich.
- Jan Williams will distribute tickets for sale to businesses listed and members later this week. Posters are made for all Champagne sponsors to display in their business. Smaller signs are available for other businesses and organizations.
Judy Harkless will help with the distribution.

A work session is planned for Tuesday, March 18 at Marlyn's house at 5:00 to plan for food, work schedules, ticket sale updates, and silent auction items.

Other: Larry Heckber was informed that the “Welcome to Ossian” sign located north of Ossian is in violation of a measurement issue. After a discussion Larry Heckber made a motion second by Larry Smith that Revitalization will go before the Board of Zoning Appeals to request an additional 2 ½ foot variance for the north “Welcome to Ossian” sign location at the cost of \$530.00 in legal fees instead of \$800.00 to move the sign. Motion was voted on and passed.

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, April 1, 2014 at 5:00 at the Town Hall.

Work session for Wine Tasting: March 18 at 5:00 at Marlyn’s house.

Minutes prepared by Jan Williams

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Town Manager, Luann Martin reported that tickets for the Winetasting on April 26th are now on sale.

OSSIAN STORMWATER BOARD
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 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. and Dennis Ramey, Secretary. Also attending was Luann Martin, Town Manager, Bill Miller, Town Council member, John Marshall of Linder Oil, and Glen Werling, The News-Banner.

Minutes Approval ----- Tim made a motion to approve the minutes for the Stormwater meeting held on January 29, 2014, Rose second, vote was 3-0 to approve.

Old Business

- 600 block between Shady Lane and Bittersweet—
Luann informer the group of the Town’s new engineering firm which is Research Engineering. Luann will invite a representative of the firm to attend next month’s meeting. Nothing further to discuss this month on this project.
- Maplewood Drive – update on letters requesting info from property owners.
The group 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. After reviewing a few of the known areas of needed improvement, Luann suggested she will transfer info from the returned survey letters onto a map of the affected area. This map could then be used as visual tool to determine needed repairs for improved Stormwater drainage.
- 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.
One 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. Some other previous items include the installation of step ponds on the Wilson farm, the Geiger project and burying of asphalt, and the need of one resident Mr. Peck, to have excavating work done on his property to save it from ruin.
Another concern for any future repairs or installations involving Norfolk and Southern R.R. property would be getting permission to cross under or work on their easement areas. A consensus of the group was this would be a good project to involve the new Town engineering firm to seek solutions.
- Storm Water Budget ----- update
The current balance in Stormwater Fund is \$ 22,876.84 in checking and \$ 3,000.00 in emergency/equipment savings.

New Business

- Linder Oil – Stormwater charges
After experiencing a frozen water line break at his business this winter, John Marshall from Linder Oil approached the group with questions about why Linder Oil is being billed for Stormwater fees. He didn’t understand why because all their water runs off into an

open ditch. After explaining the purpose and mission of the Stormwater Board, Mr. Marshall was in agreement with the reasoning of the fees. In addition, Mr. Marshall commented that Linder Oil has expansion plans in progress, and was glad to learn from Luann that the monthly fee is capped at maximum and they will not see an increase due to any expansion.

- Update from Town Manager on new Projects
Keeping up with cold weather repairs in addition to regular work.

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

The next regular scheduled meeting for the Stormwater Board will be on Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at 6:00 PM, Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted, Dennis Ramey, Secretary

Rose Ann Barrick of the Storm Water Board reported that the board will begin depositing \$3000 monthly into an account for equipment purchases in the future. She reported that she had recently viewed the flooding from the field onto Siebold Street, which was quite extensive. She said they are waiting on the weather to break before they can start any projects for 2014. She announced that their next meeting will be April 30 at the town hall at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Todd Nash, of Yoder Tree Service, was on hand to inquire of the tree trimming project. He said he had no new information and was just requesting a vote on the existing bid. Barkley stated that he would take care of the trees on his property so the cost of those could be subtracted from the bid. Martin stated that there was one (1) resident on Mill Street who had requested we only trim his trees. After some consideration Barkley moved to accept Nash's bid of \$3970 to trim various trees around town according to the list previously presented. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 5-0. This was requested some time ago by the Northern Wells School District because the limbs were scraping the school buses. Property owners have been notified and work can begin when weather permits.

Town Manager, Luann Martin presented a contract with Fleis & Vandenbrink for the Wastewater Treatment Plant only. The council had voted to hire another engineering firm but the attorney for the litigation involving the treatment plant suggested that we retain the same engineering firm for the Wastewater Treatment plant until the lawsuit is settled. The hourly rate would be the same as 2013. Hughes-Lazzell moved to accept this contract. Barkley seconded. Passed 5-0

Martin presented bids for a John Deere model 997 mower, a 2014 model for \$14,725 and a 2013 model for \$14,050. Martin stated that they were both new mowers with the warranty beginning upon delivery of the mower. After some consideration Barkley moved to purchase the 2013 model 997 commercial mower at a cost of \$14,050 with half of the cost to be taken from the Cum Capital Development Fund and the other half to be split between the Sewer Dept. and the Water Dept. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0

The Perma-Column representative said they are setting up for another good year. They are setting up a new robotic welder and business is good. Neuenschwander moved to accept two CF-1 applications – one for real property and one for personal property. Barkley seconded. Passed 5-0

JRP Machine presented a CF-1 and Resolution for approval. Barkley moved for acceptance of the CF-1 and its accompanying Resolution #2014-3-1. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 5-0

Town Manager, Martin requested permission to accept applications for part-time seasonal mowers for the summer. Council said they would like to hire two (2) mowers and maybe have another application ready in case it would be needed. She said she would try to have them ready for the March 24 council meeting.

Martin presented a utility adjustment for consideration. Martin said it was verified that the water did not go into the sewer line. Neuenschwander moved to approve the adjustment of \$71.25. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 5-0

Jim Smith of National Serv-all introduced himself as our customer service representative. He has recently taken over the position when the previous representative, Bob Young, retired. He presented an itemized report of pick-ups for 2012 & 2013 and briefly explained it to the council. He also announced Clean-up days of June 21 and October 25 for Ossian. Hughes-

Lazzell asked if we could post what can be recycled and what cannot on our website. Smith said he would send them to Martin so she could post them.

Martin informed the council that a new computer is needed at the sewer plant. She has already gotten information from Innovative Concepts. They would like to replace it before it actually crashes.

Neuenschwander reported that he and Martin are keeping an eye on the pothole problem. He said it wasn't a big problem yet, but they wanted to keep it under control so it doesn't become a huge problem.

Council verified that the overtime on the time cards was due to water breaks and snowplowing. Martin told them that most of the employees had already banked the maximum allowed overtime hours. Neuenschwander moved to approve the time cards as presented. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Barkley asked about UV light bulbs for the sewer plant. Martin replied that the UV bulbs are required and there is only one (1) company that makes them. She pointed out that they need replaced about once a year unless they break when cleaning. Barkley asked if any other systems were available. Martin replied that there were other systems but they were very expensive. Miller explained that it was very tricky to replace these bulbs and very labor intensive. Barkley asked Martin if she could at some point get some information about other systems. She said they had talked with someone before and she would try to look up the information. Barkley moved to approve claims as presented. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 5-0

Hughes-Lazzell moved to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Neuenschwander seconded.

All members of the newly formed Redevelopment Commission, Josh Barkley, Terri Hughes-Lazzell, Brad Pursley, Tom Neuenschwander and Bill Miller, were sworn in immediately following the meeting.