

OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting
March 14, 2016 - 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, Bill Dowty and Renee Sweeney present. Josh Barkley was absent.

Dowty moved to approve the minutes of the February meetings as presented. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

There were no comments or questions from the public.

Fire Chief, Ben Fenstermaker, reported that the new ice rescue truck has already been used on a few runs. He also requested authorization to purchase fifteen (15) pairs of gloves for a total of one thousand seventy four (\$1074) dollars. He also reported that they had put on three (3) new firefighters, since they were down to twenty four (24). He said they are all pretty big guys and they need to purchase three (3) large masks for them. These are three hundred fifty (\$350) dollars each for a total of one thousand fifty (\$1050) dollars. Miller moved to approve both these expenditures. Dowty seconded. Passed 4-0

Town Manager, Luann Martin reported for the Park Board, saying that one set of bleachers at the ball diamond has already been demolished. The Park Board requested permission to buy two (2) sets of aluminum bleachers for twenty eight hundred fifty (\$2850) dollars. Martin said if they get both at once the other set can be installed as soon as the other bleachers can be torn down. Town employees will install them. Dowty moved to approve the purchase. Sweeney seconded. Passed 4-0 Officer Tucker presented a plan for a dog park in the Archbold-Wilson Park. She said the Park Board has already approved her plans for a 55' X 210' dog park. It would be located where the Revitalization Committee wanted it in order to have it fit in with the other plans for the park. Tucker estimated the cost to be about eighteen thousand five hundred (\$18,500) dollars and requested permission to begin fundraisers as soon as possible. She said a Girl Scout who wants to earn her Gold Award is willing to provide some amenities for the dog park and a Boy Scout wants to provide an information center stating the rules and other useful information about the use of the dog park in order to earn Eagle Scout status. Tucker stated that the Wells County Foundation owns the land but she will meet with them and work out the details for a transfer of ownership. Miller moved to allow fund raising to begin. Dowty seconded. Passed 4-0

Police Chief, Dave Rigney presented a Year-end Mileage and Overtime Report for 2015 and a Year-to-Date Report for the same. He then presented a Year-End Report and explained briefly some of the information.

He reported that the Police Commissioners had recommended hiring a part time police officer to help out with coverage until the new officers are up and running. Council approved a wage of eighteen (\$18) per hour and asked Clerk-Treasurer, Jeannette Dickey to draw up a salary ordinance to reflect this. This officer would have no benefits and would work no more than thirty (30) hours per week. Miller pointed out that this would be a temporary position, to which Rigney replied he would like to keep them on to cover for days off, vacations etc.

Rigney reported that Officer Tucker had been scheduled for training the week of March 21st. However, Officer McClish is taking vacation that week, which would leave only Rigney to cover shifts. So he has rescheduled Tucker's training for April 25th through April 29th, but this session will be in Michigan, which requires council approval. Council deferred this request to the Police Commissioners. Dickey will add the request to the agenda for the March 21st meeting of the commissioners.

Rigney read a plaque for Chad Foreman. It will be presented to him for his nineteen (19) years of service to the Town of Ossian. Foreman resigned on March 4th and was not available for a formal presentation.

Rose Barrick reported for the Storm Water Board, briefly reporting on two (2) small projects for 2016.

She also reported that Martin, Dennis Ramey and Jim Breckler recently attended a telephone conference call with the Federal Emergency Management Association and that there will be a follow-up seminar on March 23rd. Ramey will not be able to attend this so, Barrick will attend in his place, as well as, Martin and Breckler.

Barrick suggested that it may be time to start to push Haldrup and/or the Wells County Drainage Board to complete the drainage at the Haldrup plant. Pursley suggested they talk with Tamra Boucher of Haldrup to see where the project stands at this point in time before continuing. Barrick announced March 30 at 6:00 p.m. as the next Storm Water Board meeting and invited all to come.

Chad Kline, the new Wells County Economic Director, introduced himself and said he is excited to work with all of the people in Wells County to improve the business atmosphere.

Dowty moved to allow Martin to advertise for garbage contract bids. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0 Martin said she will advertise with a deadline of April 9th and the bids can be opened at the April 11th regular council meeting.

Martin presented Ordinance #16-3-1 - *An Ordinance Amending Title V of the Town of Ossian Code of Ordinances by Amending Chapter 50*. The purpose of the ordinance is to bring us into compliance with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management regarding drainage issues. Miller moved to adopt the Ordinance with a second from Sweeney. Passed 4-0

Martin presented an agreement with Indiana Fiber Networks to allow them to install fifty four hundred (5400) feet of underground cable within the town limits of Ossian. Dowty moved to accept this agreement. Sweeney seconded. Passed 4-0

Martin requested of the council to have seasonal mower, Corey Privett, return for the summer of 2016 and to hire an additional person for seasonal duties. Permission was granted.

Martin announced that the 1994 Chevrolet S10 has officially died. It has been nickel and diming us for some time and it is finally time to replace it. She presented a proposal for a new Chevrolet Silverado with an extended cab and plow package that she preferred. She explained that the extended cab was needed to put tools and equipment in, as opposed to putting a cover or box on the bed. Payment for the truck would be equally shared by the Motor Vehicle Highway Fund and the Cumulative Capital Development Fund. Miller moved to approve the purchase. Dowty seconded. Passed 4-0

Stephanie Tucker and Rose Barrick spoke on behalf of Ossian Days, Inc., asking permission to have Ossian Days a week later on September 15, 16, & 17. They stated the reason for changing was to try to attract a ride company. There are several larger festivals going on at the same time and they attract the small ride companies plus there are fewer ride companies from which to choose because many of the smaller ones have gone out of business due to increasing liability insurance costs. They are hoping to have a Disc Golf Tournament that week-end, as well as, some other new attractions, while still keeping the usual activities that everyone expects. Ossian Days, Inc. will take care of getting the permit to close Highway 1 and they will also get the same insurance policy as in the past. Sweeney moved to adopt this change. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

Martin presented an estimate from Pena's Mechanical to repair the man door on the back garage. She said the top of the door frame needs to be replaced because it is sagging very badly. Pena's will remove and replace the existing masonry and the town employees will do the

painting when it is finished. Dowty moved to have Pena's do the masonry work for seven hundred fifty (\$750) dollars. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

One utility adjustment of \$11.59 was requested. Sweeney moved to grant this adjustment. Dowty seconded. Passed 4-0

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

Dowty moved to approve claims of \$474,322.05 as presented. Sweeney seconded. Passed 4-0

Miller moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting
March 28, 2016 - 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 Dowty, Josh Barkley and Renee Sweeney present. Bill Miller was absent.

Bloomin' Boutique owners, Sarah Thompson and Carlos Marcano asked permission to have a farmers' market on West Craig Street through the summer. They plan to have live music and vendors on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It was suggested that they consult the other businesses downtown, especially the NAPA Store, since their parking would be blocked off on Saturday mornings. Marcano said a nearby alley may be a good second choice of locations. Dowty suggested they attend the meeting of Ossian Rolls immediately following the council meeting. They agreed.

Police Commissioner, Caleb Chichester submitted a request from Officer Tucker to attend Field Officer Training School in Lansing, Michigan in April stating that the Police Commissioners had already approved the training. Sweeney moved to approve the schooling with a second from Barkley. Passed 4-0

Chichester said the Commissioners had approved the hiring of a second part time police officer. Sweeney moved to approve this. Dowty seconded. Passed 4-0

Barkley moved to approve the job description for a part time police officer presented by Chichester. Dowty seconded. Passed 4-0

Chichester suggested that one (1) commissioner and two (2) council members conduct an exit interview with Chad Foreman. Council agreed that this was a good idea.

Barkley moved to approve Ordinance #16-3-3, *An Ordinance Establishing the Compensation of a Part Time Police Officer in the Town of Ossian*. Dowty seconded. Passed 4-0

Sweeney reported that she had received a complaint about a storage building on the corner of Mill and Braeburn Streets. Martin indicated that she had already reported this to the Wells County Area Plan Commission. Sweeney also asked about the cleaning of storm drains clogged with debris. Martin said the employees clean them when they are out and about.

Dowty moved to approve claims of \$131,806.80 as presented. Barkley seconded. Passed 4-0

Dowty moved to adjourn with a second from Sweeney. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Ossian Park Board
March 7, 2016

Attendance: Jason Heckber, Ashley Harmon, and Tim Rohr

1. Read and approved minutes from meeting on February 1, 2016.
2. Rick Bookmiller here concerned about poles for disc golf on sledding hill. He thinks bales of straw around poles would help protect sledders from hitting poles. Next year maybe put 2 bales around each pole.
3. Angie Dial here thanking board for allowing parks to be used. July 16, 2016 an ice cream social to be held at Melching Park. Ossian Rolls to promote this event. A possible disc golf tournament to be held on Ossian Days weekend. This will be September 17, 2016.
4. Baseball league agreements for Wells Co Junior League, Norther Wells Minor League, and Northern Wells Koufax Leagues, were distributed to board members and meeting attendees. Diamonds to be prepared for play in the afternoon of each day of play. If on a rain event, the town calls a no play by 3:30pm, then the leagues are permitted to get diamonds ready by themselves by raking only.
5. User fees to remain at \$15 per player. A fee of \$25 per month for each league. Ashley motioned. Jason seconded. Passed 3-0.
6. Decided to remove old merry-go-round from Melching Park due to being unsafe. Pricing on new merry-go-round to be obtained.
7. The north side bleachers at the big diamond are currently being removed. Two sets of 3 row 21' bleachers to be ordered at \$1,425 each. Ashley motioned to purchase. Jason seconded. Passed 3-0.
8. Stephanie Tucker and Grace Moser here speaking about the dog park area in Archbold Wilson Park. Fundraisers to be held to raise funds. Approximately \$18,355 to complete the dog park.
9. Paul Turrin seeking boy scout project. He will meet with Stephanie Tucker to make possible signs for dog park and info signs for other parks.
10. Next meeting April 4, 2016
11. Meeting Adjourned 8:29pm

OSSIAN BOARD OF METROPOLITAN POLICE COMMISSIONERS
Special Meeting

March 21, 2016 - 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 Ron Werling and Caleb Chichester present. Town Council liaison, Bill Dowty was also present.

Wanner moved to approve the minutes of the March 1st meeting. Chichester seconded
Passed 3-0

Wanner announced Reid Arnold and Matthew Alig as their first choices for Ossian's next police officers. Their second choices in case either or both of the first choices don't qualify for or would decline employment are: first, Heather Williamson and second, Sean Caldwell. Chichester moved to extend these candidates a conditional offer of employment. This would be contingent upon their passing all the other requirements including, but not limited, to physical and psychological testing and a drug test etc. Wanner seconded. Passed 3-0

A request for Officer Tucker to attend Field Training Officer training in Lansing, Michigan was considered. This training will be held April 26 through April 29. Chief Rigney pointed out that Officer McClish is the only officer qualified to field train a new officer at this point and with two (2) new officers to train it would be very helpful to have two (2) officers to train them. Rigney suggested that the new officers would probably be coming on board in early May shortly after Tucker has completed the training program. Chichester moved to approve this training and send the recommendation to the Ossian Town Council, who would also need to approve. Werling seconded. Passed 3-0

Wanner asked if there was a training schedule for the year. Rigney and Tucker both said there was no such thing. Rigney stated that the state mandates were usually held in May and Tucker pointed out that each officer is required to complete twenty four hours (24) hours of training each year, of which, the state mandates are only a part. Wanner stated that in the future they would like to keep the training as local as possible in order to cut down on costs and to keep our officers available here.

Wanner presented the process of hiring a part time officer, which has already been approved by the Ossian Town Council. He stated that we will post it in the appropriate places for ten (10) days, then make a choice. They also decided to hire two (2) part time officers, as this would increase availability when needed by the Ossian Police Dept. There was a short discussion regarding wages of the part time officers and it was decided to recommend to Council a wage of \$16 to \$18 dollars per hour.. Werling moved to approve these specifications with a second from Chichester. Passed 3-0 Chichester will make the presentation to the Ossian Town Council at their next scheduled meeting.

Chichester nominated Wanner as Chairman and Werling as Vice-chairman of the Commission for 2016. Wanner moved to accept his recommendation. Chichester seconded. Passed 3-0

There was a discussion regarding the current policy of the Ossian Police Department of which there are, apparently, several different versions. The commission decided by general consensus to review and rewrite the current policy. They will work on this by sections at each meeting until it has been completed.

Chichester inquired as to the policy of the department regarding exit interviews. There being none, he suggested an exit interview be done with Officer Foreman, who recently resigned. Wanner moved to have two (2) Town Council members and one (1) Commissioner on a committee to conduct this interview. Werling seconded. Passed 3-0

Wanner asked all those present who had attended the interview session on Saturday their opinion of the process. Rigney replied that he thought it was little long. Though he had recommended about forty five (45) minutes per candidate, he thought that was a little long and suggested shortening it to thirty (30) for future interviews. Others concurred.

Rigney will notify the candidates of the Commission's decision to hire them.

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

Metropolitan Board of Police Commissioners
Executive Session
507 North Jefferson, Ossian, IN

An executive session was called to order at 5:00 p.m.
Time

on March 4, 2016
Date


Subject


To receive information about and interview prospective employees.


We, the undersigned, certify that no final action was taken on this matter and that no other subjects were discussed.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.
Time

Commissioners Present:




Andrew Wanner


Ronald Werling


Caleb Chichester

Guests Present:



William Dowty

Metropolitan Board of Police Commissioners
Executive Session
507 North Jefferson, Ossian, IN

An executive session was called to order at 5:30 p.m.
Time

on March 21, 2016
Date


Subject


To receive information about and interview prospective employees.


We, the undersigned, certify that no final action was taken on this matter and that no other subjects were discussed.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.
Time

Commissioners Present:



Andrew Wanner


Ronald Werling


Caleb Chichester

Guests Present:

