

Town of Ossian
Executive Session
Ossian Town Hall - 507 N. Jefferson

An executive session was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
Time
on November 10, 2014 to discuss 2B - Initiation of litigation or litigation
Date Subject
that is pending or has been threatened specifically in writing.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm
Time

Council Members Present:

Bradley Pursley
Bradley Pursley

Joshua Barkley
Joshua Barkley

Terri Hughes-Lazzell
Terri Hughes-Lazzell

Thomas Neuenschwander
Thomas Neuenschwander

William V. Miller
William V. Miller

Guests Present:

Luann Martin

James P. Fenton

William V. Miller

OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting
November 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 Bill Miller, Terri Hughes-Lazzell and Tom Neuenschwander present. Josh Barkley was absent.

Neuenschwander stated the name Ossian Development Corporation should be changed to OD, Inc. on page 177 of the October 13th minutes. He then moved to approve the minutes of the October meetings with that correction. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

There were no comments from Ossian citizens.

Police Chief, Dave Rigney presented his monthly mileage and overtime report. Neuenschwander requested that he add YTD off-duty miles to the report. Rigney agreed. Neuenschwander questioned the overtime hours versus the overtime dollars. He suggested Rigney contact Sally Bracke, who tracks the overtime, for clarification. Hughes-Lazzell asked how we are currently utilizing the reserve officers. Rigney pointed out that, with the exception of Duane Klaus, who has completed the full academy, the reserve officers cannot be the only officer on duty.

OSSIAN REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE
Tuesday November 4, 2014

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

Members not present: Tom Neuenschwander, Luann Martin

Minutes from the October 7, 2014 meeting were approved.

Wells County Revitalization: Kody Kumfer and Jim Brewer researched becoming a subcommittee under WCR and presented information to Ossian Revitalization at the October and November meetings.

Jim Brewer made a motion second by Larry Heckber to take a letter to the Ossian Town Council meeting on November 10 requesting that Ossian Revitalization become a subcommittee under Wells County Revitalization 501C3 umbrella. Motion was voted on and passed.

Lights on Downtown Buildings: No new updates. Question unanswered is if the Town of Ossian would be willing to split the cost with us.

Hometown Christmas December 5, 6:00-7:30

Reviewed the “To do” list and continued to make plans for the event.

Larry Heckber made a motion second by Larry Smith that we purchase 6 lighted trees for pots downtown at \$100. each, for a total of \$600. Motion was voted on and passed

November 3 Park Charrette, Kody: Approximately 30 to 40 people from the community were in attendance at the Town Hall. Top priority items they targeted were: heated pavilion with restrooms, amphitheater, roads leading to the park, and a caretaker to manage the events.

Other Business: Linda Hambrick will write a letter to the editor for the Bluffton and Ossian newspapers thanking Linda Broman, Home Town Reality and Cyndi Fiechter, BKM Reality for decorating the downtown light poles for fall.

Kody made a motion, second by Bob Miller that we spend \$600 to sponsor a Disk Golf hole at the Archbold-Wilson Park. We want to work with Bill Dowty, park board member, to support his effort to bring a Disk Golf Course and Tournaments to the Ossian Park. Motion voted on and passed.

Next Revitalization meeting: Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at 5:00 pm at the Town Hall.

Other dates for your calendar:

Friday, December 5 - Hometown Christmas

Saturday, April 25, 2015 Wine Tasting,

Minutes prepared by Jan Williams

Marlyn Koons and Jim Brewer, of the Ossian Revitalization Committee, requested \$600 to sponsor a Disc Golf Hole. Neuenschwander moved to authorize this payment and Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 4-0 Koons and Brewer also requested \$600 for 6 small Christmas trees for downtown. Neuenschwander moved to authorize this payment, as well. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

Koons said it has been rumored that the Town of Ossian used to give Revitalization \$2500 each year for flowers for the downtown planters. No one knew of this so Town Manager, Luann Martin researched the minutes and found a motion in May of 2006 authorizing the use of \$2500 in CEDIT funds to purchase flowers for the downtown planters. It was agreed that this was a one-time authorization. Martin was asked to do further research.

Brewer reported that the Ossian Revitalization Committee had voted at their last meeting to join the Wells County Revitalization. They will join four (4) other entities under the Wells County Revitalization umbrella. Brewer assured the council that revitalization would still come to council for approval of projects affecting Ossian. Neuenschwander moved to allow this change as of January 1, 2014. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 4-0 It was decided that the funds remaining in the Revitalization account be earmarked for their use for projects until the balance is zero.

Rev.1 Updated information is included in the heading “Vactor Truck update”.

**OSSIAN STORMWATER BOARD
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2014 6:00 PM**

The Ossian Stormwater Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Stormwater Board members present included Rose Barrick, V.P., and Dennis Ramey, Secretary. Tim Miller, President, was absent due to work obligation. Also attending: Luann Martin, Town Manager, and Jim Breckler, P.E., of Engineering Resources.

Minutes Approval ----- Rose made a motion to approve the minutes for the Stormwater meeting held on September 24, 2014, Dennis second, vote was 2-0 to approve.

Old Business

- Roe St. project ----- Jim Breckler of Engineering Resources, Inc., presented updated plans and bid documents for the upcoming Roe St. project. This plan includes adding a manhole that Ogden Apts. area could be tied into in the future, and upsizing the manhole adjacent to the Duncan residence to accommodate the new section of 30” pipe. Jim said the estimated price including these additions would be around \$ 155K, which puts it over the \$ 150K “no bid required status”. He also recommended that the job be let for bids in January, 2015 to secure the best prices due to winter slowdown in projects. The plan would be to open bids at the second monthly Town Council meeting in February. Jim informed the group that a NIPSCO gas line will possibly need to be relocated at their expense. He requested the Board’s approval to notify NIPSCO of the proposed project schedule so they could get it on their schedule. Rose made motion to give Engineering Resources the approval to do so, Dennis second, motion approved 2-0.

As it stands now, this project should get underway next spring. This decision was arrived at the July meeting. Providing there are no major emergency repair issues, the Stormwater account should have the funds to pay for this project when it is completed next spring.

Vactor Truck update-----

1. Brown Equipment was the winning bid, and only firm that submitted a quote which could meet the size requirements to fit into the existing garage.
2. The original price of \$ 349K minus trade-in of the old equipment resulted in price of \$ 314K. The Town will pay \$ 100K from the Cumulative Capital Improvement Fund bringing the balance down to \$ 214K.
3. The Town plans to finance \$ 200K with the Ossian State Bank at a fixed rate of 2.89%. The remaining amount of \$ 14K will be paid from cash from the budgets of Stormwater, Wastewater, and Water Depts. equally.

- **600 block between Shady Lane and Bittersweet and adjacent area -----** Jim Breckler of Engineering Resources, Inc., presented opinions on the previous ideas submitted to Luann and Rose last month from representatives of Crosby Excavating and Newell Construction. They went to this site and offered opinions on alternatives to draining the area versus the proposed concrete gutter/chute. Both contractors agreed that an 8” corrugated tile covered with rock would be a less expensive alternative. The contractors also raised a concern about the concrete heaving and/or breaking down. Jim offered additional thoughts on extending this plan on downstream which would end up costing around \$ 50K plus. The group by consensus agreed to stay with the concrete chute solution. Two additional minor modifications to the concrete chute idea would be to add texture to make the surface rough (non-slippery) and add 1 or 2” of thickness to it. Newell also suggested the Town have a spec sheet to identify the re-grading work to be completed to the east of the new gutter, approx. 275’. Jim will prepare an aerial shot with dimensions to clarify the work to be bid on. Jim will also contact Comcast to verify what will need to be done with any services that may be affected by the excavating. The drawings to allow bidding should be ready in approx. two weeks.

In summary, the proposed plan is to install 135’ of concrete gutter and re-establish the swale area approx. 20’ wide x approx. 275’ back to the east of the new gutter. This would include removing some brush and trees prior to re-grading and seeding. Jim suggested to Luann that the Town Attorney research the easement descriptions to make sure there are no problems with moving ahead with this plan.

Detailed information on the installation and landscape for the original part of this project is included in the May Stormwater minutes. Town Council is aware of this project and has approved the expenses involved with the engineering and concrete gutter on the original plan.

Maplewood Drive – info from property owners to be posted on aerial map-----

Nothing new to report

Siebold and LaFever Sts.---- Nothing new to report for this month, no heavy rains.

Storm Water Budget ----- The September balance in Stormwater Fund is approx.\$ 72,722.96 in checking and \$ 27,000.00 in the emergency/equipment savings fund. The savings account money will likely go to the Stormwater portion of down payment on new Vactor Truck when it is delivered.

New Business

Update from Town Manager on Projects----- Nothing new to report for this month.

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

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

Respectfully Submitted, Dennis Ramey, Secretary

Roseann Barrick reported for the Storm Water Board. She stated that they will stay with the original idea of using a concrete chute for the Shady Lane Project. She further stated that the Roe Street Project will be resumed in the spring when the weather breaks. This will give the board time to accumulate the money over the winter.

Ossian Park Board
November 3, 2014 Special Time of 6:30pm

Attendance: Steve Andrews, Bill Dowty, Jason Heckber, and Tim Rohr

- I. Read and approved minutes from meeting on October 6, 2014
- II. Bill submitted 2 bids for disc golf equipment. Arachnid Disc Golf Targets submitted a bid of \$6,300 for 18 targets. Innova Disc Golf submitted a bid of \$6,308. Bill motioned to accept bid from Arachnid for \$6,300. Jason seconded. Passed 4-0. 2 bids presented for signs. Baller Signs bid of \$450 for 18 signs and Signs Now bid \$1,056.38. Bill motioned to accept bid of \$450 from Baller Signs. Jason seconded. Passed 4-0.
- III. Electric work done at the ball diamonds. A couple of lights still have issues and will be addressed yet this year. No bill has arrived yet.
- IV. Briefly discussed budget. Learned that at this time we are \$18,259.38 over budget. Some funds will be in this December and should offset this amount.
- V. Received a donation of \$250 from the Midwest Tandem Rally Group which used the Archbold Wilson Park this summer.
- VI. Bill motioned to adjourn at 6:55pm

Bill Dowty, reporting for the Park Board, said that thirteen (13) of the disc golf holes have been paid for and he has pledges for three (3) more. He is certain they will have all holes sponsored by the time construction can begin in the spring.

Tim Ehlerding, Wells County's Economic Development Director, stated that Haldrup, the new company locating in Ossian, has already filed with the Area Plan Commission and will attend their next meeting. He also said that Haldrup was choosing a contractor today. Ehlerding will be requesting a meeting of the Ossian Redevelopment Commission in the very near future. Ehlerding went on to explain that The Town of Ossian should invoice the County for the \$36,000 pledged by the County Commissioners and go on from there per Jim Brewer's instructions.

Ehlerding reported that Linder Oil has permission from the Norfolk & Southern Railroad for the extension of the rail spur. He stated that the Two Thousand dollars (\$2000) pledged by the Town of Ossian for this project will be due soon.

Neuenschwander moved to accept the resignation of Revitalization Committee member, Bruce Sonner. Miller Seconded. Passed 4-0

Council considered the appointment of Dan Baumgartner for the Area Plan Commission but no action was taken pending communication with Baumgartner.

Clerk-treasurer, Jeannette Dickey presented an additional appropriation to council for the 2014 budget year. She stated that it will be published in the Ossian Journal and the News-Banner on Thursday. Council can then vote on it at the next meeting.

Dickey presented a special salary ordinance granting Certified Sewer Operator, Darrell Reynolds, additional compensation of one hundred sixty dollars (\$160) each pay period. This additional compensation is for services rendered as temporary Certified Water Operator. The Ordinance also included a one-time payment of \$512.00 for the period of September 18 through October 31. Neuenschwander moved to adopt ordinance #14-11-1 granting this temporary compensation. Pursley seconded. Passed 4-0

A utility adjustment of \$56.15 was requested. The request stated that town employee, Joe Burton had verified that all of the water from the outside faucet being left on had gone onto the ground. Neuenschwander moved to approve the adjustment. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 4-0

Martin presented the resignation of Trent Fiedler, a town employee. The letter stated that his last day of work would be November 13, 2014. He requested to be paid for his accumulated comp time, personal days and vacation. Neuenschwander moved to accept the resignation. Pursley seconded. Passed 3-1 with Miller voting no.

Martin informed council of the need to replace the following water lines in 2015: Metts Street from Davis Road to Morton Lane with an associated main connecting Melching Street to Metts Street and the first alley east of Jefferson Street from Craig Street to the School.

Neuenschwander asked if that would replace all of the old lines. Martin replied that it would not. She said Hickory Lane would be the next water line replacement project. Martin presented a bid of \$42,500 from Engineering Resources for the engineering cost of the project and added that she wants to bid the water, storm and sidewalks all at the same time. Hughes-Lazzell moved to approve the Engineering Resources bid. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

Neuenschwander requested a copy of the corrected time card for Officer Tucker. Hughes-Lazzell moved to approve October time cards. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

Neuenschwander moved to approve claims of \$39,510.58 as presented. Miller seconded. Passed 4-0

Hughes-Lazzell moved to adjourn. Neuenschwander seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

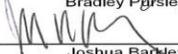
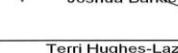
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Meeting was adjourned at 6:20pm
Time

Council Members Present:


Bradley Pursley

Joshua Barkley

Terri Hughes-Lazzell

Thomas Neuenschwander

William W. Miller

Guests Present:


Luana Martin

Dan McNamara

OSSIAN TOWN COUNCIL – Regular Meeting
November 24, 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, Josh Barkley, Terri Hughes-Lazzell and Tom Neuenschwander present.

There were no comments from Ossian citizens.

Diane Johnson, representing Wells County Economic Development, presented an SB-1 on behalf of TI Group Automotive Systems. The SB-1 request is for two (2) blower motors costing a little over ten (10) million dollars. The motors have already been purchased and will be arriving soon. They will provide about seventy (70) additional jobs in Ossian. Neuenschwander moved to adopt Resolution #2014-11-2 allowing a ten (10) year depreciating tax abatement for TI Group Automotive. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Town Manager, Luann Martin recommended Keith Arnold for one of the maintenance jobs available at the Town of Ossian. She stated that he had already passed the drug test and the physical. He is available to start tomorrow. Hughes-Lazzell moved to hire him and Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 4-1 with Miller voting against.

Clerk-treasurer, Jeannette Dickey presented an additional appropriation for 2014 totaling \$81,500 for five (5) departments. She reported that it had been presented at the November 10th meeting of the Council and since then had been properly advertised. Barkley moved to approve the additional appropriation. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Passed 5-0

Jim Brewer of the Ossian Revitalization Board presented two (2) ordinances severing the ties between the Revitalization Board and the Town of Ossian. The Revitalization Board requested the split at the November 10th Council meeting. Neuenschwander moved to approve Ordinance #2014-11-3 which sets the guidelines for the use of the funds already raised by the Board. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0 Neuenschwander moved to pass Ordinance #2014-11-4 which amends Section 34.02 of the Town of Ossian Code of Ordinances by deleting the said section. Barkley seconded. Passed 5-0

Dickey presented an ordinance granting town employee, Scott Kling, a raise of \$2.00 per hour beginning April 10, 2014. Martin stated that this is when he had obtained his Class II Wastewater License but, due to a misunderstanding of the regulations he had not been granted a raise at that time. Ordinance #14-11-5 grants the above raise plus a one-time payment of \$2618.63 for the hours worked between April 10 and November 16, 2014. Hughes-Lazzell asked that in the future we go by guidelines that were previously established. Miller and Hughes-Lazzell suggested that all job descriptions be redone because of having new employees without experience. Neuenschwander moved to pass Ordinance #14-11-5. Barkley seconded. Passed 5-0

Jennifer Heckman and Brandon Gerber of Platinum Benefit Consulting Group presented information for health insurance for 2015. Heckman explained about the Platinum Group since Ossian has not previously done business with them. Then she stated that, per government regulations Ossian, could either keep the same coverage as last year or change to an ACA plan. The Affordable Care Act plan, as recommended by Martin, Dickey and Sally Bracke, would save the town about 26% over last year's insurance cost. This policy would increase the annual deductible from \$1000 to \$1500. Other benefits would remain approximately the same except that there would be no out of network coverage. Council, with the exception of Hughes-Lazzell, did not see that as a problem because of the large network of United Healthcare. Heckman explained that once the town changes to an ACA Plan they cannot go back to a non-ACA Plan later. However, Heckman went on to say that everyone will have to change to an ACA Plan for 2016. Pursley said he thinks that Jim Kibby, our agent for twenty (20) years, did not get a fair shake this year. He stated that Kibby has done a fine job for the Town of Ossian and thanked him for his years of service. After further discussion, Neuenschwander moved to accept the HK-9 United Healthcare Plan with the addition of the VSP Vision Plan as recommended by Martin, Dickey, Bracke, Rigney and Heckman. Miller seconded. Passed 3-2 with Pursley and Hughes-Lazzell opposing.

Pursley reported that Dan Baumgartner would be happy to represent Ossian on the Wells County Area Plan Commission for 2015. Pursley asked that Baumgartner come to Council with any news that would affect Ossian. Neuenschwander moved to appoint Dan Baumgartner to represent Ossian on the Wells County Area Plan Commission for 2015. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0 Martin suggested that we have Baumgartner report at the first meeting of the month as do other committees, department heads and boards in order to keep the council informed.

Neuenschwander moved to approve the time cards for September, having received a corrected time card from Officer Tucker. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Council decided by unanimous consent to purchase hams for employees, committee members etc. for Christmas. They asked Martin to get pricing for them.

Pursley stated that he appreciates Police Chief, Dave Rigney, attending council meetings but on the nights when there is no police business he would not be paid. Pursley further stated that Rigney would certainly be welcome to attend, but that it would save the town money in overtime if he was not paid for attending. Rigney agreed.

Fire Chief, Ben Fenstermaker asked for approval to purchase a dryer for turn-out gear at a cost of \$3995 with some of the year-end money. He also requested permission to buy two (2) mustang suits for ice water rescue. He stated that the old suits start to get wet in about 30 minutes while the new ones will last about four (4) hours. He said they currently have four (4) mustang suits and they would like to phase them out, since they are quite old. He further stated that they are in need of some Class A uniforms for three of the newer members and various small tools. Fenstermaker said they also need to replace eighteen (18) batteries for their hand-held radios because they will no longer hold a charge. Barkley moved to approve these purchases. Neuenschwander seconded. Passed 5-0

Neuenschwander asked Rigney what happened at the Police Commissioner's meeting. Rigney stated that they set a new policy for selecting police commissioners. Neuenschwander said that the council did that according to state statute and that they didn't need to follow the new policy. Rigney replied that it would be best if they did. He didn't know why they wouldn't follow it. Neuenschwander asked for a copy of the policy. He said he's hearing a lot of conflicting stories and would like to know what it actually says. He said it looked to him like he's (Rigney) trying to railroad someone out. To which, Miller added that Rigney has made it quite clear that he hasn't been happy with the council's appointment last year. Miller further stated that it has been insinuated that the council did something wrong in making that appointment. Hughes-Lazzell stated that it is up to the board to take recommendations from all boards and whether or not we accept this recommendation is totally up to us. Pursley said that Andrew Wanner is currently serving our country and he applauds him for that and doesn't want anything negative to come of this. Rigney stated that it was not the intent of the policy to oust anybody. He said the policy is to set standards for the commissioners, period. Hughes-Lazzell said that the commissioners had not made any recommendations a year ago, but Neuenschwander pointed out that they had received a letter from Police Commissioner, Steve Bracke recommending Scott Holliday and Miller stated that the council did what they were advised by their lawyer to do. Miller stated that if the council is the one making the appointments, then they should be a part of the interview process. Miller stated that if Rigney wants the board to accept his recommendations he should include the council in the discussion. Rigney replied that the Police Commissioners are treated differently.

Neuenschwander mentioned that the check for the liability insurance policy for use of Grandpa Ferrell's Train for various activities should be made payable to Don Ferrell, not Insurance & Business Specialists. He moved to approve claims of \$88,361.57 with the above correction. Miller seconded. Passed 5-0

Neuenschwander moved to adjourn. Hughes-Lazzell seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.