

TOWN OF OGDEN DUNES
Regular Council and Pre Budget Meeting
September 14, 2009

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Bob Hicks, Bill Gregory, Brad Wood, Eric Haussman, Eric Kurtz all present

Dr. Erin Argvilan gave a slide show presentation and update on the recently installed wells.

Minutes:

August 3, 2009 motion to approve was made by Councilman Haussman and seconded by Councilman Kurtz and all were in favor. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Claims:

Councilman Kurtz motioned to approve claims #42208-42271 and 2152-2186 excluding 2164 & 2170 and Councilman Haussman seconded, all in favor. Motion passed.

Councilman Haussman motioned to approve sanitation claims #348-351 and seconded by Councilman Kurtz. All in favor motion passed.

Reports:

Police Department:

Police Chief reported there was 1 traffic accident, 6 arrests, 1 murder, 19 traffic infractions, 63 town violations, 38 warnings, 118 calls for assists to town residents and other jurisdictions, the reserve officers put in 118 hours, and the three squad cars travelled 5665 miles for the month. He also thanked all the agencies (Task Force) that helped with the investigation of the murder we recently had. He also asked if the council would approve the department joining the task force. The cost would be \$500 and there is a 3 day class coming up. The council approved and said he really did not need their approval. Chief Reeder said he was aware of that but he wanted the council to know so when he took the class or was called out of town for an investigation they would know why. By joining the task force we would be assisting other jurisdictions in their investigation. Chief Reeder also wanted to remind everyone that if they see anything suspicious to call county at 477-3000, and they will dispatch our officer.

Street Department:

Street Commissioner Jim Matthys reported they have cleaned out 51 drywells, they painted all the white lines and dura patched the streets. They chipped 13 tons of brush and gave 3 tons to residents. Long lake was cleaned up and they planted grass. Fall clean up will be September 26th, and 27th. The street department will go around on Monday the 28th and pick up any large items, or the residents can place items in the town dumpster. NO RAILROAD TIES! The 28th will also be the last day for chipping, and leaf pickup will be starting October 5th. Remember to rake leaves to the street and not on gravel. There were no accidents or injuries.

ODVFD:

Chris Tanis reported that they had 3 EMS calls, 4 mutual calls, 1 brush call and the roof on the fire department is complete.

Building Commissioner:

Frank Stimson reported in the absence of Commissioner Mihalik. There were 9 permits issued, and a permit for the new house on The Thumb. The retaining wall repairs have begun at 16-18 Skyline and all the shaking everyone is calling about is over. A permit for whole house remodel at 43 Shore Drive was issued.

Plan Commission:

Frank Stimson reported that 16-18 Skyline now has a building permit to work and should be completed in November. Ownership has been approved, notarized, and recorded. The Ferro foundation is gone. There will be no dwelling on 18 Skyline ever. There will only be an extension of the property at 16 Skyline. Councilman Hicks asked if the major work is done. He also got a call that a residents house was shaking.

BZA:

Frank Stimson also reported for the BZA. They did have a meeting, and granted a variance and approval of setbacks for 16-18 Skyline. Councilman Hicks asked about the Tallackson retaining wall that is in need of repair. Frank replied that only the town council can approve since the wall is encroaching on town property.

Water Board:

Water supervisor Jim Kopp reported that not much is happening. They have painted hydrants, and flushing will begin shortly. Sign will be posted. He has a meeting on permits for the beach. They had a meeting with the fire department and water board and they have issues. There is an INDOT project meeting on Thursday on the ditch and surveying bids came to \$12, 600. John Hannon will get a meeting. The town will share the cost which will be \$3520. The council asked if the clerk treasurer could find the money for this.

Park Board:

Charlie Costanza reported that the next meeting will be Thursday, September 24th. Councilman Hicks asked about the status of the Penn/Mason property. Charlie said they were waiting to hear from Attorney Chuck Lukmann.

Cable Board:

No Report

EAB:

Susan Mihalo reported on the air pollution that occurred last week. It smelled just like electrical burnings. Many residents complained that it was very strong. One resident thought that her house was burning. IDEM was to get an inspector out. Air monitor did show a 2.5 high reading. Beach cleanup is Saturday and everyone is to meet at Diana and Shore at 9:30am, international cleanup day. Pollywog pond has been restored successfully. There were 5000 tons of batteries collected. Charlie Costanza asked about the dredging in Burns Ditch. Are we working to get sand for the beach? Councilman Gregory replied that he went to a meeting and suddenly they are being more responsive. NIPSCO dredging is being dropped east of Burn Harbor and piping within 300 – 500 feet.

Town Beautification Committee:

Gerry Lehmann reported that 550 wristbands were given out for the Reggae party. They wanted to thank all the volunteers for their help. Don't forget the beach cleanup and any teen needing community service needs to sign up.

ODHA:

Frank Moran reported that soccer has started and movie night is done for the season. The last movie was "Cars". An eagle scout will be installing a handrail at Pollywog pond. A vehicle backed into an item at the soccer field and broke it.

Women's Club

No Report

Animal Committee

No meeting

Historical Society:

A reminder that they will be having on October 4th an artist studio walk from 11am to 4pm,

New Business:

Ordinance #738 amending Ordinance #736 1st reading was read by Councilman Kurtz second reading and passing will be done at the October 5th meeting.

Comments on the 2010 budget

Any other business that may come before the Council:**Resident Remarks:**

Larry Kovaick, 12 Indian Camp Tr. gave a report on the water situation on in front of the Levin property at 14 Indian Camp Trail. He asked that something be done. Could we put a drainage pipe to go to long lake?

Jim Kopp commented that we should try to dig a hole and scrape off the muck. If we scrape the surface the water may drain.

Susan Adams the new home at 17 Turret, asked the council if they would move the mailbox rack that is in front of her house to Ogden & Ogden Court, next to the one already there. She said that she has talked to the people who have their mailboxes there and said it would be alright.

Councilman Haussman told her she has to go through the process that has been laid out for moving mailbox racks. She must have written approval from:

1. The Home Association
2. Every homeowner that has a box on the rack
3. Street Department
4. Police Department
5. Postmaster
6. Cover all costs of moving the rack

Ms Adams said she did not know that is what she had to do. She was told she only had to get approval from the council.

Council Remarks:

Councilman Gregory asked if the Clerk Treasurer would make copies of a letter from Beverly Shores town council inviting our council to a workshop to discuss the impact of the high level of ground water that has impacted the surrounding communities, on October 3, 2009 at 10:00, at the administration building in Beverly Shores.

Councilman Kurtz suggested that the Clerk Treasurer lower and re advertise the net assessed value from 126 million to 106 million on the 2010 budget.

Councilman Kurtz suggests that the town enter into the Marquette Greenway Trail.

Motion was made by President Wood to enter into the Marquette Greenway Trail and was seconded by Councilman Gregory. All were in favor. Motion passed

Councilman Gregory said Attorney Lukmann said he needs a request to file a complaint against the Gilreaths at 118 Shore for renting their home for under 30 days. Councilman Gregory motioned to follow through on this request and Councilman Haussman seconded the motion and all were in favor. Motion passed.

Councilman Hicks suggested that we get a letter out to all the people who are renting their homes out.

Councilman Kurtz commented that it would be nice to get a newsletter out that way a lot of things could be put in it.

Councilman Kurtz also mentioned that the repeater was on loan from Tom Tittle after the one we had went out. Would it be possible to get a new one, the clerk treasurer said yes.

Discussion was on new house and water at 1 The Thumb.

President Wood mentioned that the Porter County Grants are having a Grant Education session at 8 pm in Valparaiso.

Next Meeting is October 5th, at 7 pm at the Firehouse

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Haussman and seconded by Councilman Hicks.

President Brad Wood

ATTEST:

Donna Smith
Clerk Treasurer