

**OGDEN DUNES TOWN COUNCIL  
SECOND YEAR-END WRAP-UP MEETING  
DECEMBER 30, 2014 – 10:00 A.M.  
OGDEN DUNES TOWN HALL**

**PRESENT:** Allen Johnson  
Charlie Costanza  
Paul Panther  
Tom Clouser  
Julia Klingensmith, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

**ABSENT:** Bill Gregory

**MINUTES**

Tom Clouser moved that the minutes of the December 22, 2014 Town Council wrap-up meeting be approved as submitted. Charlie Costanza objected to the correction to the minutes made by Bill Gregory regarding Charlie's statement concerning Boat Club Road access. Paul Panther seconded Tom Clouser's motion. The motion was approved three to one as follows: Allen Johnson, yes; Paul Panther, yes; Tom Clouser, yes; Charlie Costanza, no.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Charlie Costanza questioned the ownership of sand tracks east. Tom Clouser explained that the Town now has a deed to that property. He explained that Midwest Steel once owned that property before US Steel took over. He stated that US Steel should have the plat work on all the land as they donated the land to the Town. The deed which Tom Clouser obtained to the sand tracks east is recorded with Porter County. Tom Clouser suggested that someone should go to US Steel and discuss the ownership of the sand tracks beginning at the eastern border of our Town and running east to the mill area. Charlie stated that it has been six months since the Town Attorney has been working on the ownership of this land and he suggested that it be turned over to Meridian Title and stated that they would have an answer in one week.

Allen Johnson stated that Serenity Park would not be used for the remainder of the deer cull. Charlie Costanza questioned how many deer were culled at sand tracks west. He questioned why that site was allowed to be used for this cull when in the past three years it was banned as a cull site. Allen Johnson stated that the sand tracks would be closed again Sunday afternoon. Charlie Costanza requested that another survey be taken within the Town regarding the deer cull. No further discussion was held on this subject.

**Paul Panther moved to accept the 2015 Joint Operating Agreement between the Town of Ogden Dunes and the Ogden Dunes Volunteer Fire Department as presented.** Charlie Costanza objected to the length of the contract which ends in 2040. Tom Clouser seconded the motion made by Paul Panther. The vote of the Council was as follows: Allen Johnson, yes; Paul Panther, yes; Tom Clouser, yes; Charlie Costanza, abstain. The motion was passed three to one.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Tom Clouser explained the reason for a Street Department truck upgrade and stated that a snow plow could not be put on the current 2014 truck as it would void the warranty. Therefore, an upgrade to a 2015 four-wheel drive truck with a snowplow is necessary at an upgrade cost of \$13,351.00. He stated that Arnell is giving full value for the current 2014 truck; therefore, no money will be lost in the transaction. **Charlie Costanza moved that the purchase of the 2015 Chevrolet truck and snowplow be purchased at a cost of \$13,351.00 and the cost be split equally between the Town (CCD/Capital Items) and Sanitation Department. Paul Panther seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.**

Mike Anton from Anton Insurance was present at this meeting to renew the Town's workman's compensation insurance and the Town's commercial package insurance which both renew January 1, 2015. Mike Anton indicated that there will be a 3% increase in the 2015 premium on the property values to reflect inflation and an 8% premium increase (which includes the 3% increase in premium on property values) on property, liability, auto, and inland marine coverage resulting in a total dollar increase of approximately \$1,800.00 for the commercial package policy. This is not a result of anything the Town has done but rather an industry wide increase. He also stated that due to several workman compensation claims made by the Town, the premium for workman's compensation will increase from \$14,000 in 2014 to \$22,000 in 2015. Mike Anton stated that since the Town's budget process is started in June of each year, he would meet with us in May and give us a feel for how the market is doing in terms of premium increases. **Paul Panther moved to accept the insurance renewal on workman's compensation. He also moved to accept the renewal of the Town's commercial package per the Statement of Values presented by Anton Insurance with the understanding that a survey of properties may be necessary and the figures on the Statement of Values for the Town properties may be changed. Charlie Costanza seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.**

**Paul Panther moved to pass Resolution 2014-12, A Resolution providing for the Transfer of Appropriations for the Town of Ogden Dunes". Tom Clouser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.**

**Charlie Costanza moved to accept the 2015 Contract between the Town of Ogden Dunes and the Ogden Dunes Sanitation Department as submitted. Paul Panther seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.**

## **RESIDENT REMARKS**

Mark Coleman, 8 Turret Road – Discussed the separation of water and sanitation departments. Disagrees with the term length of the joint operating agreement between the Town and the Ogden Dunes Volunteer Fire Department and feels that it should be on a yearly basis.

Jim Slawinski – Discussed the workman's compensation insurance coverage presented by Anton Insurance.

## **COUNCIL REMARKS**

Tom Clouser stated that Republic will be coming soon to discuss the sanitation contract which is up for renewal in June 2015. Charlie Costanza stated that Total Disposal would like to bid on the sanitation contract and will beat the advertised price of Republic.

Charlie Costanza requested that Meridian Title be assigned to research ownership of the land from the mulch pile to the mill. He indicated that the search would be done in one week by Meridian Title. Allen Johnson stated that the Town Council will have their regular meeting on January 5, 2015 and the Council hopes to have more information regarding the title search by that time. Charlie Costanza stated that if there is no additional information regarding ownership by the January 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, he would like to move the title search to Meridian Title.

Allen Johnson thanked all the Town employees for their work for the Town.

No further business coming before the Council, Paul Panther moved to adjourn the meeting. Tom Clouser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

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Allen Johnson, Vice President

## **ATTEST:**

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Jean Manna, Clerk-Treasurer