

**OGDEN DUNES TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
MAY 1, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.  
COMMUNITY ROOM**

**PRESENT:** Tim Nelson  
Mike Webber  
Kathy Kniola  
Scott Lehmann

**ABSENT:** Nate Ball

**MINUTES**

Kathy Kniola moved to approve the minutes of the April 3 regular monthly meeting and the minutes of the April 20 special meeting. Scott Lehmann seconded the motion. All present were in favor and the motion was passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS & CONGRATULATIONS**

Tim Nelson made the following announcements: Summer hours and restricted parking are now in effect; Sandpiper Beer & Wine Tasting will be held on May 13; Memorial Day activities will include a Fun Run starting at Kratz Field (please see Town website for more information on any of these announcements).

Carolyn Saxton for the Community Fund stated that the Fund has approximately \$12-13,000 available for grants. Applications are available at Town Hall and the deadline for submission is May 30. Grants will be awarded in June.

Natalie Johnson, Executive Director, Save the Dunes spoke on the topic of septic tank maintenance.

Tim Nelson announced that HB1133 – Short Term Rentals – did not pass.

**COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Police Department – Marshal Reeder stated that both the Fire and Police Department Motorola bids for the radio upgrade have been submitted to Chief Fieffer for his submission to the County. Marshal Reeder stated that he has received many complaints regarding the condition of the South Shore tracks. He stated that these tracks are scheduled for July maintenance per NICTD.

Beach Nourishment – Scott Lehmann stated that the NIPSCO dredging permit is not yet complete. He stated that the Town has requested a hearing for the Arcelor Mittal permit for dredging and we are hoping for a good turnout of Town residents when this hearing occurs.

Home Association – Rob Schyler, President, stated that summer camp information is now on the website. The Home Association is planning a renovation of the Kratz Field basketball courts and is seeking donations from residents.

Waterworks – Chuck Litzkow stated that 125 late notices will go out for first quarter water bills.

General Code Review – Dick Meister stated that the Committee intends to bring before the Council recommendations on recreation vehicle definition.

Environmental Advisory – Susan Mihalo discussed the recent chromium spill caused by the US Steel Midwest Plant. Scott Lehmann discussed the meetings that were held at US Steel regarding this spill.

Historical Society – Dick Meister, President, announced that on May 28 at the Community Room the Historical Society will have a program called the “1917 Pageant” at 4:00 p.m. The Historical Society will also hold their annual Ice Cream Social at the Hour Glass after the Memorial Day activities.

## **CLAIMS**

Scott Lehmann moved to accept the March and April claims as read by the Clerk-Treasurer. Mike Webber seconded the motion. All present were in favor and the motion was passed.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Tim Nelson did the second reading of Ordinance 829 – renaming the Animal Control Committee to the Animal Committee. Mike Webber moved to approve Ordinance 829 and Kathy Kniola seconded the motion. All present were in favor and the motion was passed.

Tim Nelson did the second reading of Ordinance 818 – amending period when dogs are allowed on the beach. Mike Webber moved to accept Ordinance 818 and Kathy Kniola seconded the motion. The vote of the Council was as follows: Mike Webber, yes; Kathy Kniola, yes; Tim Nelson, no; Scott Lehmann, no. The tie vote was decided by the Clerk-Treasurer who voted no in her ex-officio capacity per the Town Code; therefore, Ordinance 818 did not pass.

Tim Nelson did the second reading of Ordinance 826 – amending employee overtime and compensatory hours. Scott Lehmann moved to accept Ordinance 826 and Mike Webber seconded the motion. All present were in favor and the motion was passed.

Discussion was held on the reconveyance of one-half of accessway 18 and all of accessway 19 back to the ODHA. Scott Lehmann moved to declare one-half of accessway 18 as surplus and authorized the execution of the deed to be prepared by the Town Attorney transferring one-half of accessway 18 to Ogden Dunes Home Association. Mike Webber seconded the motion. All present were in favor and the motion was passed. accessway 19 will remain in possession of the Town for further consideration by the Council.

Mike Webber moved to extend the 2016 Fire Protection contract through May 30, 2017. Kathy Kniola seconded the motion. All present were in favor and the motion was passed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Tim Nelson read Ordinance 819 – Skateboarding – for the first reading by title only. The entire ordinance is available through the Clerk-Treasurer’s Office.

Mike Webber moved that Roger Rhodes be appointed to a two-year position as Building Commissioner which term will end May 30, 2019. Kathy Kniola seconded the motion. All present were in favor and the motion was passed.

Kathy Kniola moved to extend the appointment of Mike Falk as the Assistant Building Commissioner from May 30, 2017 to June 30, 2017. Mike Webber seconded the motion. All present were in favor and the motion was passed.

**RESIDENT REMARKS**

Ed Rooks, 86 Shore Drive, spoke regarding the lack of Street Department employees and the condition of the South Shore railroad tracks. He also feels that the current dogs on the beach ordinance should stay as is.

Walter Sampson, 9 Ogden Road, discussed the current potholes on the Town’s roads and the condition of the South Shore railroad tracks.

Dan Manas, 4 Pine Trail, discussed the condition of the South Shore railroad tracks. He also stated that the Town’s website email limit for notices is held at 250 emails. Clerk-Treasurer has been instructed to contact the Web Administrator concerning this problem.

**COUNCIL REMARKS**

Tim Nelson reminded residents to sign up for nixle.com in order to receive text messages regarding local alerts for emergencies, traffic, weather, criminal activities and local events.

Kathy Kniola and Tim Nelson both addressed the employee situation at the Street Department. Tim Nelson stated that Ben Newton resigned and Dave Newton is retiring. The Council is actively seeking candidates to fill these positions. During the first week of May, Jim Matthys is currently working extra hours at the Street Department.

No further business coming before the Council, Mike Webber moved to adjourn the meeting. Scott Lehmann seconded the motion. All present were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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Tim Nelson, President

**ATTEST:**

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Jean Manna, Clerk-Treasurer