

**OGDEN DUNES TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OCTOBER 5, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.
ZOOM MEETING**

PRESENT: Mike Webber
Scott Lehmann
Carolyn Saxton
Doug Cannon
Nate Ball

MINUTES:

Carolyn Saxton moved to approve the minutes of the following meetings: September 8, 2020 regular monthly meeting, September 17, 2020 budget hearing and September 29, 2020 executive session. Doug Cannon seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Mike Webber, yes; Carolyn Saxton, yes; Doug Cannon, yes; Scott Lehmann, yes; Nate Ball, yes. The motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS & CONGRATULATIONS

Mike Webber made the following announcements: Beach Nourishment Town Fundraiser – checks should be made payable to the Town of Ogden Dunes and in memo of check please write “Restore the Shore”; beach area closed during construction.

Mike Webber discussed the wild turkeys in Town and urged residents not to feed the wildlife.

The Senior Operations Manager from Indiana American Water spoke to the Council regarding the role of the IURC.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Street Department – Mark Juszcak stated that the Street Department is still collecting brush and by the end of the month will start picking up leaves. Mark stated that the rest of the paving from the INDOT grant will be done by May 2021. He also stated that the Town has till July 2021 to fulfill the INDOT grant requirements. Carolyn Saxton stated that Mark Juszcak has compiled a list of Street Department equipment inventory. She stated that several items (20” and 18” chain saw and weed whacker) are missing from the inventory list which total approximately \$2,000 worth of equipment. She asked Mark Juszcak to locate the missing items which may be in the possession of another committee in Town and have this equipment returned to the Street Department.

Police Department – Mike Teeling questioned the Council as to whether or not there will be Trick or Treat in Town this year. It was decided by the Council that Trick or Treat would be from 5 to 7 p.m. which is the normal hours. Suggestions were made to leave the candy outside a resident’s front door. It was also suggested that those giving out candy should wear masks.

Park & Rec and Home Association – Andrew Gurshick thanked the volunteers who helped clean up the park area and also thanked the Street Department for collecting all the brush that was cut down. He also stated that the Home Association and Access Ogden Dunes were responsible for the installation of a handicap swing at Nelson Rec which was paid for with a grant from Meijer’s.

Fire Department – Eric Kurtz thanked David Hiduke for 19 years of volunteer service on the Ogden Dunes Fire Department. David Hiduke is moving and will be missed on the Fire Department.

Beautification Committee - Barbara Schultz thanked Sue Adams and Shelia Grow for helping with projects in Town even though they are not members of the Beautification Committee.

Waterworks – Mike Teeling stated that the water bills have been sent and are due by October 30, 2020.

General Code – Dick Meister reported that the Committee will be working through the Clerk-Treasurer’s questions regarding standing committees. They are also working on fines and penalties.

Environmental Advisory – Susan Mihalo reported that the Committee is wrapping up the 2021 beach grant.

Community Fund – Carolyn Saxton stated that a donation for “Restore the Shore” was received through the Community Fund and was passed to the Town.

Historical Society – Ken Thompson stated that the “Battle to Save the Beach” is now on the Historical Society website for viewing.

CLAIMS -September claims will be presented in November 2020

OLD BUSINESS

Carolyn Saxton gave an update on the NITCD Double Track project.

Carolyn Saxton gave a report for the Town Manager Committee. She stated that in order to hire a Town Manager at a rate of approximately \$57,000, the Town would have to downsize part-time police officers. The Committee’s final decision was that the Town does not have the resources for a Town Manager and towns the size of Ogden Dunes do not have Town Managers.

Greg Casimer, Waterworks, discussed opting out of the IURC. He stated that 93% of Indiana municipalities have already opted out. He stated that the IURC is basically only a middleman and the Town Council has the final decision on water rates. He requested that an ordinance be available for first reading at the November meeting allowing the Waterworks to opt out of the IURC. He would like a second reading in December so this matter can be finalized by year end. Eric Kurtz provided a preliminary ordinance which will be given to the Town Attorney for review and presented to the Council at the November meeting. Nate Ball moved to accept the preparation of the requested ordinance subject to the Town Attorney review and presented at the November meeting for the first reading. Scott Lehmann seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Mike Webber, yes; Scott Lehmann, yes; Carolyn Saxton, yes; Doug Cannon, yes; Nate Ball, yes. The motion passed.

Discussion to be held on General Code’s standing committee recommendations was tabled till the November meeting since the General Code will be reviewing the questions posed by the Clerk-Treasurer and reporting back to the Council at the November meeting.

Mike Webber as President appointed Nancy Johnson to fill the remaining term of Bethany Jensen who has resigned from the Community Fund.

NEW BUSINESS

Doug Cannon moved to approve Diane Levin’s request for relief from Ordinance 798 for two rental properties located at 125 Shore Drive and 8 Turret Road. The Waterworks has approved her request for relief from Ordinance 797 for the same properties. Nate Ball seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Mike Webber, yes; Doug Cannon, yes; Scott Lehmann, yes; Carolyn Saxton, yes; Nate Ball, yes. The motion passed.

Doug Cannon moved to approve Ordinance 862, 2021 Budget. Scott Lehmann seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Mike Webber, yes; Doug Cannon, yes; Carolyn Saxton, yes; Scott Lehmann, yes; Nate Ball, abstain (Fireman). The motion passed.

Mike Webber read Ordinance 864, 2021 Salary Ordinance, by title only for the first reading.

Carolyn Saxton moved to change the current personnel manual and Ordinance 736 to include vacation days, holidays and comp time to be considered as a work day in relation to overtime hours. This change would be retroactive to November 2019. Doug Cannon seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Mike Webber, yes; Scott Lehmann, yes; Carolyn Saxton, yes; Doug Cannon, yes; Nate Ball, yes. The motion passed.

Carolyn Saxton moved to change the current personnel manual from 30 hours as full-time employment to 37 hours as full-time employment with benefits and that 30 hours will be used in conjunction with the Affordable Health Care law which gives 30 -hour employees the option of receiving health insurance only (no dental, vision, life insurance or HSA benefits). Scott Lehmann seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Mike Webber, yes; Scott Lehmann, yes; Doug Cannon, yes; Carolyn Saxton, yes; Nate Ball, yes. The motion passed.

(Clerk-Treasurer Note: After a discussion with the Town Attorney, the Clerk-Treasurer was informed that the above two motions are not valid until such time as an ordinance is written and voted upon by the Council.)

A discussion was held on a request from Shelley Simon, 9 Cottonwood Lane, requesting permission to add a gravel path in the back of her house a portion of which would be constructed on the Cottonwood Lane unimproved right of way which would give her better access to her home. Her request has been approved by the Plan Commission and she will apply for a building permit once the Town Council approves her request. Nate Ball moved to approve the homeowner's request and Doug Cannon seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Scott Lehmann, yes; Doug Cannon, yes; Carolyn Saxton, yes; Mike Webber, yes; Nate Ball, yes. The motion passed.

A request for a peddler license was before the Council for Economy Tree. No decision was made for approval. (Clerk-Treasurer note: This license was later approved by Mike Webber, Town Council President).

COUNCIL REMARKS

Doug Cannon suggested the residents mow their lawn with the leaves.

Scott Lehmann and Mike Webber thanked all the volunteers in Town.

Nate Ball thanked David Hiduke for his years of volunteer service on the Fire Department.

No further business coming before the Council, Scott Lehmann moved to adjourn the meeting. Doug Cannon seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Mike Webber, President

ATTEST:

Jean Manna, Clerk-Treasurer