

**OGDEN DUNES TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
JUNE 6, 2016 – 7:00 P.M.
COMMUNITY ROOM**

PRESENT: Tim Nelson
Scott Lehmann
Mike Webber
Nate Ball

ABSENT: Kathy Kniola

MINUTES

Nate Ball moved to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2016 regular monthly meeting. Mike Webber seconded the motion. The vote of the Council was as follows: Tim Nelson, yes; Scott Lehmann, yes; Nate Ball, yes; Mike Webber, yes; Kathy Kniola, absent. The motion was passed. Scott Lehmann moved to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2016 special meeting. Nate Ball seconded the motion. The vote of the Council was as follows: Tim Nelson, yes; Scott Lehmann, yes; Nate Ball, yes; Mike Webber, yes; Kathy Kniola, absent. The motion was passed.

CORRESPONDENCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS & CONGRATULATIONS

Tim Nelson made the following announcements. The Council would like to thank the Lions Club for the Memorial Day events. ODHA Cardboard Boat Race will be held on July 2 at 3:00 p.m. at Tamarack Beach. Residents must complete an application with Voters Registration at the County Building in Valparaiso to have their name on the ballot for the Town Council election to be held in November for Wards 2, 3 and 4. Tim Nelson thanked all the residents and volunteers who participated in the recent "Meet the Town Council" event.

Nathanael Pilla from Save the Dunes stated that they are developing an outreach education program for septic awareness which is directed to homeowners, realtors and decision makers. A short survey will be placed on the Town website and residents are encouraged to complete the survey.

Susan Rhodes gave an update on the Sport Resort project. She stated that the Sport Resort has had no contact with the City of Portage and has not submitted a final development plan which is required by the City.

COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Park and Rec – Eric Jensen thanked the volunteers who spent eight hours power washing the tennis courts on Diana Road. He also stated that 68 residents participated in the 5K race. The winners are posted on the Town website.

Fire Department – Luke Brennan reminded residents that the Firemen's Ball will be held on Saturday, July 30. He also stated that the Fire Department received a large grant which was used for equipment.

Waterworks – Greg Casimer stated that there has been a substantial dollar increase in some residents' water bills because of broken water lines. To alleviate this problem, the Waterworks has contracted

with Servline (servline.com) for insurance to cover water loss and water line protection. All residents will be auto enrolled in this program at a cost of \$2.00 per month for water loss up to \$2,500. Residents will be able to opt out of this insurance if they so desire. Residents may also opt in for water line protection for an additional charge of \$5-7 per month with a cap of \$10,000. Tim Nelson requested that the Water Board send an informational sheet to residents with the next water billing and include an opt out phone number for this insurance.

Environmental Advisory – Susan Mihalo stated that the IDEM grant has not been returned as yet.

Community Fund – Nancy Johnson stated that the Community Fund would like the Council's approval for a \$3,000 grant to the ODHA for a deck and seating area at Tamarack Beach. Nate Ball moved to approve the \$3,000 grant to the ODHA as stated and Mike Webber seconded the motion. The vote of the Council was as follows: Tim Nelson, yes; Scott Lehmann, yes; Mike Webber, yes; Nate Ball, yes; Kathy Kniola, absent. Tim Nelson stated that the plans for the deck should be reviewed by Marshal Reeder before finalizing to ensure that emergency access to the beach will not be impeded. The motion was passed. Nancy Johnson stated that the Community Fund is still open to additional grant requests provided they are geared toward enhancing the Town.

OLD BUSINESS

Mike Webber stated that when the Council received notice that Jim Matthys was retiring they approached him requesting that he stay in his current position on a part-time basis. The Council then chose who they thought had the best long term potential and the most experience. As a result, they offered the position of full-time Senior Maintenance to Ben Newton. We will evaluate him in 4, 6 or 8 months as to his ability to take over the position of Street Superintendent after which Jim Matthys would no longer be with the Town on a part-time basis. Tim Nelson stated that the Council will monitor Ben Newton's performance to decide whether or not he will be selected to assume the leadership role at the Street Department. During the transition period, Jim Matthys will remain in control of the Street Department.

NEW BUSINESS

Tim Nelson did the first reading of Ordinance 816, Internal Controls, by title only. The second reading will occur at the July meeting.

Tim Nelson did the first reading of Ordinance 819, Skateboards, by title only. The Council has decided to review the content of this ordinance before proceeding with the second reading as questions arose regarding the wording of the ordinance.

A discussion was held regarding the possibility of allowing dogs on the beach during the hours of 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. from May 1 to October 1. It was decided that the Council would wait for feedback on this topic from the various committees and departments within the Town before proceeding with a decision.

Nate Ball discussed the updating of the Comprehensive Plan also known as the Master Plan for the Town which is Section 150.00 of the Town Codes. The Master Plan was originally done in 1957 and updated in 1969 and 1997. The updating would include some of our new Building Codes and an emergency exit. Nate stated that a committee will be formed to update the plan. This would not be a total rewrite but only an update to the original plan. This committee would pass their recommendations on to the Plan Commission and ultimately, the Town Council will have the final decision.

Scott Lehmann moved to nominate Doug Cannon to the Beautification Committee for a three-year term ending January 1, 2019. Mike Webber seconded the motion. The vote of the Council was as follows:

Tim Nelson, yes; Mike Webber, yes, Scott Lehmann, yes; Nate Ball, yes; Kathy Kniola, absent. The motion was passed.

RESIDENT REMARKS

Carson Costanza, 68 Ski Hill Road, asked Tim Nelson to repeat the skateboarding discussion since he was late coming to the meeting. Carson stated that his mode of transportation within the Town is by means of his skateboard. He is opposed to banning all skateboarding in Town.

Eric Jensen, 156 Shore Drive, does not want skateboarding eliminated entirely in the Town. He is also opposed to allowing dogs on the beach during May 1 to October 1. However, he does support a dog park.

Susan Mihalo, 8 Diana Road, stated that she is against dogs on the beach during the period of May 1 to October 1. She stated that "Lake Michigan is our drinking water".

Nancy Johnson, 15 Diana Road, urged residents to keep our beach clean of trash. Please make sure you properly dispose of your trash or take it home to dispose.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Mike Webber proposed doubling up on the trash cans by moving the trash cans from unusable accessways to the usable accessways since often times the trash cans are overflowing until Republic comes to pick up the trash.

Tim Nelson thanked all the applicants who applied for the Street Department position. He also thanked Doug Cannon and the Environmental Advisory Board for the recycling guideline chart that Mr. Cannon created in consultation with the Environmental Advisory Board. Tim stated that he and Jim Combs met with Colonel Drew of the Army Corp of Engineers in Chicago. The purpose of the meeting was to obtain updates and information on our beach erosion. Colonel Drew recognized that there is a Federal interest in fixing the beach erosion problem and the next step is to conduct a study to determine the best option to fix this problem. There will be dredging and dumping of sand this year beginning on June 15 by the Army Corp and the dumping of sand will occur "near" the Ogden Dunes beach.

No further business coming before the Council, Scott Lehmann moved to adjourn the meeting. Nate Ball seconded the motion. The vote of the Council was Tim Nelson, yes; Mike Webber, yes; Scott Lehmann, yes; Nate Ball, yes; Kathy Kniola, absent. The motion was passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Tim Nelson, President

ATTEST:

Jean Manna, Clerk-Treasurer