

**OGDEN DUNES TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
COMMUNITY ROOM
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Bill Gregory
Allen Johnson
Charlie Costanza
Paul Panther
Tom Clouser

MINUTES:

Paul Panther moved to accept the minutes of the August 3, 2015 regular monthly meeting. Tom Clouser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved. Allen Johnson moved to accept the minutes of the August 5, 2015 Budget Workshop meeting. Paul Panther seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS & CONGRATULATIONS

Bill Gregory made the following announcements: read correspondence from resident, Jim Slawinski, regarding proposed Ordinance 809; mentioned the following events to be held in Town: Chili Cook-Off at Kratz Field on September 12; Shoe Drive for Sojourner Truth House through October 30, 2015 at Town Hall and Community Church; Beach Clean-Up on September 19 at 9:00 a.m. (volunteers needed); Town Clean-Up on October 2-4, 2015 (no hazardous waste); ODHS Home Tour on September 19; 2016 budget advertisement announcement. More information on these topics is available on the Town website.

COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Street Department – Jim Matthys reported that the last day for chipping will be September 21, 2015. Town Clean-Up will be October 2-4, 2015; however, no hazardous waste products will be collected.

Park Board – Eric Jensen stated the Park Board has contracted with Tom Frain, Duneland Landscape, to maintain the areas around the new tennis courts. The Park Board is now seeking bids for perma-seal for the new tennis courts.

Beach Nourishment – Bill Gregory reported that the first three accessways to the beach are closed due to erosion. He stated that one month ago a meeting was held with the Army Corp of Engineers, National Park Service and community, corporate and government stakeholders. Opinions were given as to how the situation could be resolved; but all were long-term solutions. The Town has not at this time secured all the permits needed for a “short-term” remedy. The Army Corp has done a study which shows that the sand bypass system would be the preferred route to get sand to our beach; however, three-year studies and approximately \$850,000 in non-Federal funds to match the Federal dollars would be needed for this. No one at the August meeting volunteered to be a non-Federal sponsor. At the Beach Nourishment meeting, we discussed the Town funding \$100,000 during a one time three-year commitment period. We are hoping that NIPSCO and Arcelor will give consideration to provide the needed funds. Charlie Costanza stated that Judge Jensen dismissed the lawsuit against the Town from the National Park Service protesting our permits. The National Park voluntarily dismissed the proceedings.

Beautification Committee – Dorothy Kurtz stated that this may be her last report as she will not be extending her term on this Committee. Dorothy thanked Gerry Lehmann for all his work on the sprinklers in Town. She also is seeking donations to the Beautification Committee since their Town budget is low. Dorothy also reported that the Historical Society will be holding the program entitled “Walk in Diana’s Footsteps” on September 26.

Environmental Board – Susan Adams reported that Beach Clean-Up will be on Saturday, September 19 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Volunteers are needed. Please meet at Access 14. Susan also discussed the upcoming Septicsmart Week which is September 21-25, 2015. A new resolution by the Town Council will address this. She urged residents to view the Town website for more information on maintaining your septic system.

Bridge and Railroad – Bernadette Slawinski reported that the City of Portage may be getting Quiet Zones. She also stated that the South Shore may have an increase in passenger trains which would affect our Town. Bernadette stated that the Women’s Club Arts & Crafts Fair will be held on November 7 at the Church and Firehall. Town phone books are being updated and if any residents need changes they should contact the Women’s Club.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill Gregory stated that although the Council appointed Joan Machuca at the last regular meeting to the Portage Township Education Foundation as the Town's successor to Eric Kurtz, the Council has now been informed that they must submit three candidates to the Foundation for their consideration and appointment. The Council will submit the following names to the Foundation: Joan Machuca, Kai Ball, Susan Hale and Cindy Hicks. Any residents interested in applying should submit an application to the Clerk-Treasurer as soon as possible.

Bill Gregory stated that he has no further information on the outdoor warning system at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Paul Panther read Resolution 2015-02, Septicsmart Week. Allen Johnson moved to accept the resolution and Tom Clouser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

CLAIMS

Allen Johnson moved to accept the August claims as read by the Clerk-Treasurer. Paul Panther seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill Gregory stated that Ordinance 809 would be taken off the table as there were some language problems within this ordinance.

A discussion was held on Ordinance 810 in which Charlie Costanza objected to this ordinance. Roger Rhodes, Building Commissioner, stated that the ordinance is needed should a resident require FEMA funding in case of a major incident. The ordinance was taken from a DNR template provided to Towns. Bill Gregory stated the ordinance would be available at Town Hall and on the website and reading by title only at this meeting would serve as the first reading. The second reading will occur at the September 23 Budget Hearing meeting at Town Hall at 6:00 p.m. Ordinance 810 will be available at Town Hall and the Town website for resident viewing.

RESIDENT COMMENTS

None

COUNCIL REMARKS

Charlie Costanza stated a voter registration form is available on the Second District Facebook page. This form is also available at Town Hall. Absentee voting is from October 6 to November 2. Visit the County Voter Registration website for more info.

Paul Panther stated that more volunteers are needed for beach clean-up on September 19. September 12 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon is Portage Food Pantry Tag Day at the entrance of Ogden Dunes.

No further business coming before the Council, Tom Clouser moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Paul Panther seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

Bill Gregory, President

ATTEST:

Jean Manna, Clerk-Treasurer