

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

**PRESENT:** Bill Gregory  
Allen Johnson  
Charlie Costanza  
Paul Panther  
Tom Clouser  
Attorney Chuck Lukmann, Town Attorney

**MINUTES**

Allen Johnson moved to accept the minutes of the November 7, 2015 Town Council meeting. Paul Panther seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS & CONGRATULATIONS**

Bill Gregory made the following announcements: Ogden Dunes will participate in the Indiana Bicentennial by raising the centennial flag on December 11, 2015 at 11:00 a.m.; read letter from resident, Tim Cahillane, regarding snow removal from Grandin Court (Bill Gregory stated that leaf pickup was not possible on Grandin Court due to the size of our equipment but the Town would make a reasonable effort to snow plow the area with the small Street Department truck); stated that the Women's Club has made the following donations - \$200 Historical Society, \$200 Sandpiper, \$200 ADA, \$200 Animal Control and a 55 cup coffee pot for the Community Room; discussed email from Matt Melton, Deputy Director of Communications for the County regarding the placement of the outdoor siren.

Allen Johnson acknowledged the presence of Attorney Lukmann at this meeting and stated that the firm has been a valuable asset to the Town for over 10 years.

Marshal Reeder presented Chief Deputy Kevin Hughes with a plaque for his outstanding service to our Town on April 16, 2015 at which time a house fire occurred at 3 Locust Place. Kevin was transported by ambulance to a hospital for smoke inhalation after his attempt to rescue a 94 year old resident inside the burning home.

**COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Bridge & Railroad – Bernadette Slawinski reported that Building Commissioner, Roger Rhodes, gets reports on the number of trains passing by Ogden Dunes each day. The figure is now approximately 120 trains per day which uses up 3-4 hours per day.

Historical Society – Dorothy Kurtz stated that the 80 people were present for the annual Holiday Tea.

Community Fund – Dorothy Kurtz stated that donation solicitations were sent with the water bill. She instructed residents to specify that their donation be given to the Town of Ogden Dunes.

Environmental Advisory – Susan Mihalo stated that our recycle has dropped to 26% percent and urged residents to recycle more.

Water Works – Chuck Litzkow stated that it is the homeowners’ responsibility for the water line from their house to the water meter. He stated that several residents in Town have had water line breaks in this area and received water bills for \$6,000 and \$14,000. He urged residents to check with their insurance company to obtain coverage for the water line from the house to the meter. He also stated that the Water Works is seeking information from insurance companies to find out if coverage is available.

Beautification – Dorothy Kurtz stated that this would be her last year serving on the Beautification Committee and the Community Fund. Dorothy stated that the Beautification Committee purchased the wreath with lights which is displayed at Town Hall. Bill Gregory thanked her for her many years of service to the Town.

Park & Rec – Tim Nelson stated that a temporary ice skating rink is in place at the basketball court. He urged parents to supervise children using this facility.

Police Department – Marshal Reeder stated that the new police car should be arriving very soon. He asked that residents leaving Town for the winter should stop at Town Hall and complete the vacation form and also make arrangements to have their driveways plowed of snow.

Street Department – Jim Matthys stated that leaf pickup and chipping has ended for the season. If you still have leaves, place them in a bag and the Street Department will pick them up or you may deposit them yourself at the leaf pile near the Street Department.

## **CLAIMS**

Tom Clouser moved to accept the November claims as presented by the Clerk-Treasurer. Allen Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Paul Panther moved to approve Ordinance 813 after the second reading by title only and Tom Clouser seconded the motion. The vote of the Council was as follows: Bill Gregory, yes; Allen Johnson, yes; Paul Panther, yes; Tom Clouser, yes; Charlie Costanza, abstain. The motion was passed four to one.

Tom Clouser stated that he has worked with NIPSCO to move the pole which was located at Hillcrest and Ledge. Several accidents have occurred there which prompted the moving of the pole.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Allen Johnson moved to approve the IDEM grant as submitted by Susan Mihalo for the Environmental Advisory Board. Tom Clouser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

Paul Panther moved to suspend the rules and to adopt Ordinance 814 on the first reading by title only. Allen Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved. Paul Panther moved to pass Ordinance 814 and Allen Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion was held on the request by the Women’s Club to place an 8’ x 10’ shed to the west of their current shed to use for storing equipment and supplies. There were no objections by the Council and the request was approved.

Paul Panther moved to approve the request by the Ogden Dunes Home Association to construct a 10x10 deck with a wrapped bench on the northwest side of the Town property to the north of ODHA Tamarack access way per Rob Schlyer's email dated November 17, 2015. Tom Clouser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

#### **RESIDENT COMMENTS**

Mary Nemeth urged residents to remove all deer signs within the Town. She thanked the current Council for their work and urged the new Council to deal with nuisance properties within the Town.

Ed Rooks thanked the current Council and welcomed the new Council. He also stated that some homes within Town had visible dumpsters for extended periods causing an eyesore.

Frank Stimson thanked all the candidates who ran for office for the November 2015 election. He stated that over 60% of the registered voters in Town participated in this election. This was a higher voter turnout than the Presidential election.

#### **COUNCIL REMARKS**

Charlie Costanza, Tom Clouser, Paul Panther, Allen Johnson and Bill Gregory all congratulated the new Council.

No further business coming before the Council, Tom Clouser moved to adjourn the meeting. Allen Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

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Bill Gregory, President

ATTEST:

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Jean Manna, Clerk-Treasurer