

Council for approval for the Town of Ogden Dunes to be included in this program. Eric stated that the Portage system differs from Nixel as residents do not need to “opt in” rather the system will be able to include all residents. Eric then discussed the outdoor warning system that was slated to be installed 6-7 years ago as part of a Homeland Security grant at which time cuts were made to this program which included the Town of Ogden Dunes. The system our Town currently has is forty-five years old. The County has now approved County funds to pay for upgrading and maintaining sirens which include the Town of Ogden Dunes. For the siren location, Eric stated that a ridge would give us better coverage in the northern (either northeast or northwest) part of the Town. Eric is recommending that the new siren be placed in or immediately adjacent to 21 and 23 Ski Hill Road. The new siren is battery operated and has a constant feed in case of a power outage. Eric is requesting that the Town Council accept the new siren as part of the Porter County Emergency Management which would be located at the property line or right of way at 21 and 23 Ski Hill Road and that the Town waive the electrical permit fee and inspection fees. The siren has a value of approximately \$25,000 to \$30,000. There is no charge to the Town including the ongoing NIPSCO electric charges which will be borne by the County. Eric also stated that the new siren will have a monthly test on the first Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. The siren would go off when a tornado is actually sighted. **Allen Johnson moved that the Council accept the new siren provided by the County with no expense to the Town of Ogden Dunes and which will be located at the property line or right of way at 21 and 23 Ski Hill Road and that the Town waive the electrical permit fee and inspection fees. Charlie Costanza seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.**

Paul Panther stated that the Fire Department donated the cement walkway for wheelchair access at the back entrance of the Community Room.

Beautification - Dorothy Kurtz stated that the spring meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 8 at 9:00 a.m. at Town Hall. On April 14, the committee is looking for volunteers to help cut ornamental grasses at 10:00 a.m. and rake leaves at 12:30 p.m. Volunteers should bring a rake and meet in front of Town Hall.

Ogden Dunes Community Fund – Dorothy Kurtz stated that a meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7 at Town Hall. Grant forms are available at Town Hall and also on the Town website. Forms are due by May 15, 2015 for grant requests. Dorothy asked residents to please contribute to the Porter County Community Foundation in the name of the Town of Ogden Dunes. Your donations help fund many Town projects.

Historical Society of Ogden Dunes – Dorothy Kurtz stated that the HSOD is hosting Larry Clark, Porter County Genealogist, on Sunday, April 19, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. at the Hour Glass Museum in Ogden Dunes. In May, David Larson will be at the Hour Glass with photography of the Dunes.

Waterworks – Chuck Litzkow stated that water meter reading will begin this week.

ADA – Sara Anderson stated that the committee is reviewing their transition plan for completed and uncompleted items. Sara thanked Tom Woodward for installing the grab bars in the Community Room restroom. Sara also thanked the Home Association for ADA improvements made to beach access 2. Paul Panther thanked Sara Anderson and Joan Machuca for their ADA progress since the inception of this committee one year ago.

Environmental Advisory – Susan Mihalo announced that their meeting would be on April 8 at 5:30 p.m. She stated that Susan Adams has submitted an application to sit on the Environmental Board and Susan Mihalo is requesting that the Council approve her application. Susan stated that Kallie Bontrager, DNR Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology will be present at the May 4, 2015 Town Council meeting to discuss the upcoming gypsy moth flyover. Regarding the high speed rail, Susan indicated that the EPA has chosen Route 5 which does not pass Ogden Dunes. There will be an annual Long Lake Marsh clean-up on Saturday, April 11 at 8:30 a.m. Volunteers are needed. Purdue University and the University of Illinois are requesting residents of Ogden Dunes and several surrounding towns to participate in a focus group on May 2 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. about home maintenance decision making. All participants will be given a \$25 Lowe's gift card. All interested residents should contact Susan Mihalo for more information.

Bridge and Railroad – Charlie Costanza reported that the committee is looking for another access road since he believes that the area which has been questionable (sand tracks east of Town) is not owned by Ogden Dunes. Charlie stated that the Council should meet with the National Park Service to discuss Boat Club Road as an exit for the Town. Bill Gregory stated that both the City of Portage and the National Park Service are willing to work with the Town for other emergency exit options. Bill Gregory stated that it has been definitely determined that the National Park Service owns the sand tracks east of Town as they supplied members of the Council with their deed.

CLAIMS

Allen Johnson moved to accept the claims as presented by the Clerk-Treasurer for the month of March 2015. Paul Panther seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

A discussion was held on the renewal of the Republic Services contract for the Town. **Tom Clouser moved to accept the contract extension as submitted by Republic Services for a period of four years. Charlie Costanza stated that he wanted more bids before making a decision. Bill Gregory stated that this was not a bidding process but only a renewal of the current contract. Paul Panther seconded the motion. The vote of the Council was as follows: Bill Gregory, yes; Allen Johnson, yes; Tom Clouser, yes; Paul Panther, yes; Charlie Costanza, abstain. The motion was passed four to one.**

Paul Panther discussed the recent deer management flyover and stated that he feels the four years of deer culls have been successful. Recent flyover indicates that there are 8 deer with a possibility of 2 additional ones in Ogden Dunes. He stated that between the Ogden Dunes cull and the National Park Service cull on the west end of Town approximately 38 deer were harvested this past winter. The cost of the flyover was paid from donated funds.

NEW BUSINESS

Tom Clouser moved that Susan Adams be appointed to the Environmental Advisory Board. Paul Panther seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

Allen Johnson moved that Gerry Scheff be appointed to the General Code Review Committee. Tom Clouser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

Paul Panther moved that Town Hall summer hours will be from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Saturdays beginning May 1 to September 30. Town Hall will be closed on Sundays. Tom Clouser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

A resolution was read by Bill Gregory. Allen Johnson moved to accept this resolution as read and Paul Panther seconded the motion. All were in favor and motion was unanimously approved. (Clerk-Treasurer has been instructed to put the resolution into the correct format, obtain signatures and also forward copies to State and County agencies. This will become Resolution 2015-01.)

Bill Gregory read Ordinance 808 – Amendment to 2015 Salary Ordinance – for the first reading. He requested that this ordinance be passed on the first reading; however, Charlie Costanza opposed his request. Therefore, Ordinance 808 will be read again at the May Town Council meeting.

RESIDENT REMARKS

Walter Sampson, 9 Ogden Court, does not agree with the RFRA resolution which was read at this meeting. He does not feel that we have discrimination in Ogden Dunes and should not address this issue until a problem arises.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Charlie Costanza discussed again the need for an additional emergency exit from Town. He also feels that the Town Council members are underpaid since they are dealing with multi-million dollar budgets. He feels that eight deer in Town proves that there is no need for additional culls in our Town.

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

Bill Gregory, President

ATTEST:

Jean Manna, Clerk-Treasurer