

**Ogden Dunes Town Council Meeting
Monday, February 2, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.
Ogden Dunes Community Room**

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

MINUTES

Charlie Costanza moved to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2015 regular monthly meeting. Tom Clouser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONGRATULATIONS

Bill Gregory acknowledged receipt of the 2014 Annual Report of the Shared Ethics Advisory Commission which will be available through the Clerk-Treasurer's office for resident review. Bill stated that he would discuss some of the materials received from the Commission with Dr. Stephen Grandfield.

A memo was received from Senator Karen Tallian regarding the upcoming Town election in November, 2015. This memo includes information for candidates seeking offices in the Town. This has been posted in the foyer at Town Hall and also on the Town website.

Paul Panther announced that the Ogden Dunes Police Department along with all other police departments in Porter County, the Porter County Prosecutor's Office, the Porter County Drug Unit, the Porter County Coroner's Office, DEA, US Attorney David Clapp and the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) entered into an agreement today to form a Heroin Over Dose Response Team to combat the ever increasing problem of heroin overdoses in Porter County. Mike Teeling will be the representative for the Ogden Dunes Police Department.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Waterworks – Chuck Litzkow stated that Indiana American Water has received approval for an 11% rate increase which will be passed on to the residents of Ogden Dunes. He stated that the increase to the residents may be less than 11% since we purchase water in bulk.

Street Department – Tom Clouser again asked the residents not to park on the street. Make sure your car is completely off the road due to the snow plows.

Community Fund – Bill Gregory stated the Ogden Dunes Community Fund 2014 Duners Circle is now posted on the Town website showing those residents who have contributed to the Community Fund.

Bridge and Railroad – Bernadette Slawinski reported that the committee is still working on the quiet zone and determining how long the gates are actually down each day.

Police Department – Paul Panther stated that a new police car was budgeted for 2015 as no new car was purchased in 2014. He stated that they will be replacing a 2012 squad with 70,000 miles. Because the squads idle constantly, 70,000 miles equates to 140,000 miles. We will be purchasing a Ford police SUV 4-wheel drive. Retail price is \$35,000 but with municipal discounts, the price is lowered to \$29,400 with a trade-in of \$6,000 and a final cost of \$23,400 plus add-ons of approximately \$3,000 to \$4,000. **Paul Panther moved that the Council approve the purchase of the 2015 Ford police SUV squad car for a total cost of \$27,000 including add-ons and trade-in. Allen Johnson seconded the motion. The vote of the Council was as follows: Allen Johnson, yes, Bill Gregory, yes; Paul Panther, yes; Tom Clouser, yes; Charlie Costanza, abstain. The motion was passed four to one.**

CLAIMS

Paul Panther moved to approve the January 2015 claims as submitted by the Clerk-Treasurer. Tom Clouser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill Gregory announced that the deer cull was officially over on January 30, 2015. Paul Panther stated that he would like to have a cooperative venture (flyover) in March 2015 to include Ogden Dunes, Dune Acres and Beverly Shores and possibly part of the National Park area that is close to our borders. Paul Panther stated that the flyover would show the progress of the three years of culling. Charlie Costanza questioned how many deer were culled this year and Paul Panther stated “17”. Charlie feels the cull should have ended sooner since no deer were culled during the last weeks. **Paul Panther moved to pursue joining Dune Acres, Beverly Shores, Ogden Dunes and possibly the National Park Service in a cooperative flyover to assess the deer population. The motion is requesting approval to pursue the feasibility of the flyover in conjunction with the availability of Davis Aviation. The motion also states that Ogden Dunes will only pay for Ogden Dunes acreage associated with the flyover from the Deer Donation Fund. Paul Panther is to report to the Council how the remaining cost of the flyover will be paid by the other towns involved. Allen Johnson 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, no. The motion was passed four to one.**

Bill Gregory reminded the residents that the November 2015 Town election will be based on the staggered terms ordinance which was passed in 2014 by the Town Council. This ordinance will enable to future Town elections to be on the County cycle which is a monetary benefit to our Town.

Bill Gregory stated that there is still conflicting information regarding the ownership of the Sand Tracks. He stated that the Town is working with Global Survey in Michigan City and will continue to do so until ownership is determined. Charlie Costanza stated that he went to the County Auditor in Valparaiso and they stated that the property belongs to the National Park and Charlie disagrees with spending any more money to determine ownership. Bill Gregory disagreed and stated that the Council was not yet satisfied with the information they have and need to pursue this in depth.

NEW BUSINESS

Allen Johnson stated that the bid process has begun for the Town sanitation contract which expires this year.

RESIDENT REMARKS

Jennifer Wilson – Questioned the sanitation survey that was on the Town website. The Council informed her that the survey was merely asking whether or not the residents would be opposed to every other week pick-up of recycle materials. Bill Gregory stated that the results were showing that residents were not in favor of decreasing the pick-up cycle of recyclable materials.

Mark Coleman – Stated that the recycle survey online was good as the residents were able to give their input. He felt the Council should put a survey online for the deer cull, too. He discussed the new police car and the deer cull.

Bernadette Slawinski – Questioned whether Dune Acres and Beverly Shores would make a monetary contribution to the flyover. Paul Panther stated that Ogden Dunes would only pay for own acreage of the flyover from the deer management donation fund.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Charlie Costanza reminded residents that the Town election is coming in November 2015. He stated that this was an opportunity for the residents to vote for their choice of Town Council members.

Tom Clouser stated that the Street Department has 100 tons of salt on hand and has ordered another 100 tons. They are well prepared for the winter season.

Bill Gregory stated that the hills and intersections in our Town are always salted but not flat roads.

Bill Gregory stated that the following committees still have volunteer openings: Environmental (1), Animal Control (2), Cable Advisory (1) and General Code (3). Please complete the form on the Town website if you wish to apply for a committee and drop it off at Town Hall.

No further business coming before the Council, Paul Panther moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Tom Clouser seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Bill Gregory, President

ATTEST:

Jean Manna, Clerk-Treasurer