

OGDEN DUNES TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
SEPTEMBER 4, 2018 – 7:00 P.M.
COMMUNITY ROOM

PRESENT: Scott Lehmann
 Nate Ball
 Carolyn Saxton
 Mike Webber
 Tim Nelson

MINUTES

Mike Webber moved to accept the August 6, 2018 regular monthly meeting minutes. Nate Ball seconded the motion. The vote of the Council was as follows: Mike Webber, yes; Nate Ball, yes; Carolyn Saxton, yes; Tim Nelson and Scott Lehmann, abstain. The motion passed. Nate Ball moved to accept the minutes of the August 8, 2018 budget workshop meeting. Mike Webber seconded the motion. The vote of the Council was as follows: Scott Lehmann, yes; Nate Ball, yes; Mike Webber, yes; Carolyn Saxton and Tim Nelson, abstain. The motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS & CONGRATULATIONS

Scott Lehmann stated that parking restrictions are still in effect till October 1, 2018 and dogs are permitted on the beach beginning September 4, 2018. Carolyn Saxton thanked the Women's Club for their recent successful community event called Festival in the Park. Mike Webber thanked the Home Association for the family activities they sponsored during Labor Day weekend.

COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Plan Commission – Mike Falk stated that the building codes have been sent to Homeland Security and may be presented to the Council by year end for approval.

Beach Nourishment – Time Nelson gave the following report. A letter dated July 28, 2018 was written to the Porter County Council to request their assistance in securing funding to help place sand on the beach at the Portage Lakefront. Karen Tallian, Tim Nelson and Rodger Howell met with the Porter County Council seeking their funding support to get sand on the beach this fall as there was some dredged sand coming from the Army Corp who was dumping it offshore and there was an opportunity to take that sand and pump it onto the shore for about \$500,000. We have \$200,000 committed from the City of Portage and \$7,500 from Ogden Dunes and we were seeking the rest of the funds from Porter County. Although we knew it was a long shot we had hoped they would empathetic. They stated that were not able to provide the requested funding but they would provide letters of support to be sent to the Governor and the RDA requesting that the State help us with the funding. We feel we raised awareness of the situation with the County Council and perhaps they will think about other options

Beautification – Lois Braatz gave a lengthy report to the Council outlining the work they have performed this season. Report is available through the Clerk-Treasurer's Office.

General Code – Dick Meister stated that the Committee will address porta-potties and fireworks at their next meeting which is September 11 at the Hour Glass Museum.

ADA – Joan Machuca stated that the Committee is working to revise their transition plan and have been working with the Home Association in regards to Kratz Field.

Women’s Club – Joan Machuca thanked all the residents for their participation in the Festival of the Park event.

Environmental Advisory – Susan Mihalo stated that the beach monitoring period is now over. Adopt-a-Beach will be held on September 15, 2018. All volunteers should meet at Tamarack Beach at 9:00 a.m. and bring a pail and gloves to help clean up the beach. No plastic gloves will be provided this year.

Community Fund – Carolyn Saxton stated that a plaque will be hung on the outside of the Community Room recognizing the Women’s Club for sponsoring the “Public Art Project” completed in 2013 in conjunction with the 90th anniversary of the Town of Ogden Dunes.

Historical Society – Dick Meister stated that on September 16, the program will be the 80th Anniversary of the Women’s Club from 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Firehall. This program will also include vintage cars from the Winamac Old Auto Club and local residents.

CLAIMS

Tim Nelson moved to accept the August claims as presented by the Clerk-Treasurer. Nate Ball seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Carolyn Saxton suggested that the Council propose a mission for the recently created Historic Preservation Committee. She also stated that all members need to be advised of monthly meetings so all can participate.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike Falk discussed the requested replat of Lot 32. Tim Nelson moved to approve the replat of Lot 32. Nate Ball seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Roger Rhodes, Building Commissioner, discussed the need for the Town to retain an arborist due to the number of fallen trees in the Town due to recent storms. He would like the arborist to be the Town’s voice in speaking with NIPSCO about their right of ways and power line easements as far as their responsibility for taking care of them in a more responsible fashion. He presented a proposal from Hodge Tree Care for an annual fee of \$5,500. Roger stated that some tweaks would be proposed to this agreement and resubmitted to the Council for approval. Roger also addressed the proposed additional parking area planned by NICTD which the Town feels will be a traffic congestion problem. Roger suggested retaining a consultant that has no ties to NICTD to assist the Town in crafting a reply to South Shore’s letter. Roger suggested that the Bridge and Railroad Committee draft a request for a proposal to solicit a consultant. Roger stated and Chuck Litzkow and himself would reach out to various committees and departments to get this project started.

RESIDENT REMARKS

None

COUNCIL REMARKS

Scott Lehmann stated that the Street Department works very hard in all types of weather conditions and some residents do not show their appreciation. He thanked the Street Department for all their efforts during the recent storms.

No further business coming before the Council, Nate Ball moved to adjourn. Tim Nelson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Scott Lehmann, President

ATTEST:

Jean Manna, Clerk-Treasurer