

**OGDEN DUNES TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
COMMUNITY ROOM
SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Tim Nelson, President
Mike Webber
Kathy Kniola
Scott Lehmann
Nate Ball

MINUTES

Mike Webber moved that the minutes of the August 3, 2017 Budget Workshop meeting and the August 7, 2017 regular monthly meeting be approved as submitted. Scott Lehmann seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously passed.

CORRESPONDENCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS & CONGRATULATIONS

Mayor James Snyder, City of Portage, spoke regarding the City's desire to relocate the Porter County North Annex to downtown Portage and combine this facility with the Portage City Hall rather than expand the facility at its current location as proposed by the Porter County Council. Mayor Snyder spoke of the potential cost benefits as well as the increase to development potential with the relocation of the Porter County North Annex to the Downtown area. He requested that the Ogden Dunes Town Council author a letter to the Porter County Council requesting their cooperation in discussing this plan at a meeting with City of Portage officials. Kathy Kniola moved that a letter be written stating Mayor Snyder's request. Scott Lehmann seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

Speaker Amanda Alaniz, Superintendent, Portage Township Schools, spoke regarding the Portage High School West renovation project.

Speaker Mitch Barloga, Transportation Planning Manager, NIRPC, spoke regarding the Marquette Greenway Plan which has the potential for a bike trail through Ogden Dunes following the old Harbor Belt trail extending across Diana Road and Hillcrest Road to Boat Club Road. The cost to the Town of Ogden Dunes would be approximately \$250,000 to \$500,000 to build the trail plus a maintenance cost of \$5,000 to \$10,000 per year. Mr. Barloga stated that there are likely funding sources through NIRPC that would cover approximately 80% of the cost to build the trail.

COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Street Department – Chuck Litzkow stated that they have cleaned up Boat Club Road and made minor patches to the road on the Ogden Dunes side. The road can now be used as an emergency ingress and egress. He stated that brush left out by residents would be picked up until “the snow flies”.

Beautification – Lois Braatz discussed the new native plants that were purchased and planted. She also thanked the Street Department for their help in fixing the sprinkler systems.

General Code – Dick Meister reported that their next meeting will be on September 12 at the Hour Glass Museum at which time they will discuss parking of recreational vehicles, review fines for littering and discuss the Dark Skies issue.

Environmental Advisory – John Morris stated that Saturday, September 16, 2017 is beach clean-up from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. All volunteers are welcomed.

Historical Society – Dick Meister announced the three programs that will be held for the remaining year. Please see Town website for information. He also stated that the Ogden Dunes Historical Society has been selected by the Indiana Historical Society Awards Committee to receive the “Outstanding Historical Organization Award”. This award is presented to a local or county historical society, organization or site in Indiana which has demonstrated remarkable public services and programs to its community. The award will be presented at the annual Founders Day Dinner on Monday, November 6, 2017. Dick Meister will be present in Indianapolis to accept this award.

CLAIMS

Mike Webber moved to accept the August 2017 claims as presented by the Clerk-Treasurer. Kathy Kniola seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion was held on the “Emergency Planning Guide” developed by the Life Safety Committee. Gerry Scheff reported that he will reconvene the Committee in order to develop plans to disseminate this information to Ogden Dunes residents.

Scott Lehmann discussed the recent and upcoming meetings with the National Park Service regarding the pending permits that would allow homeowners on the north side of Shore Drive to reinforce their seawalls with toe protection. Tim Nelson stated that the National Park Service was currently considering whether to retract its continued objection to the permit request.

NEW BUSINESS

Tim Nelson read the Septic Smart Week proclamation which essentially is a reminder to residents to upkeep their septic systems. Septic Smart Week is September 18-22, 2017.

Discussion was held on the new Indiana law regarding various mandatory benefits be given to Reserve Police Officers. Anton Insurance had provided the Council with three benefit packages to consider. Kathy Kniola moved to accept “Plan 3” from Provident Insurance Company as presented by the Town’s agent, Anton Insurance, for a cost of \$1,083 per year to cover approximately 12 reserve officers effective October 1, 2017. Mike Webber seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

RESIDENT REMARKS

Walter Sampson, 9 Ogden Court, stated that he was happy to hear from the local BMV that Ogden Dunes residents do not pay the Portage Wheel Tax.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Kathy Kniola thanked Doug Cannon for building the new trash receptacles.

Tim Nelson requested Town Council members to report to the Council at the monthly meetings any current happenings with their liaison committees.

Scott Lehmann thanked Jim Combs and Steve Coombs for their ongoing efforts with the Beach Nourishment Committee.

No further business coming before the Council, Mike Webber moved to adjourn the meeting. Scott Lehmann seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Tim Nelson, President

ATTEST:

Jean Manna, Clerk-Treasurer