

**OGDEN DUNES TOWN COUNCIL  
FEBRUARY 4, 2013 MEETING  
OGDEN DUNES FIREHALL – 7:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** Charlie Costanza, Bill Gregory, Paul Panther, Tom Clouser

**ABSENT:** Allen Johnson

**MINUTES**

Paul Panther moved to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2013 Town Council meeting. Charlie Costanza seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Paul Panther stated that Allen Johnson wrote to the National Park (letter dated January 10, 2013) requesting that they begin culling deer on the western boundary of Ogden Dunes. Superintendent Constantine Dillon of the NPS responded (letter dated January 15, 2013) to Allen Johnson's letter and stated that a deer management plan would not be in place until next fall at the earliest. At that time, the NPS will cooperate with the Town of Ogden Dunes as their deer management program is implemented.

Paul Panther announced that there are still openings on some committees/boards as follows:

Beach Nourishment has four positions  
Animal Control has three positions  
Ogden Dunes Cable Advisory has one position  
Bridge and Railroad has one position  
ADA has positions which will be filled at the discretion of the Town Council

**COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Police Department – Marshal Reeder stated that on March 2, 2013 the OD Police Department will sponsor a home safety/security program which will last about three hours beginning at 9:00 a.m. More information will be posted on the cable TV station and the Police Department's Facebook page. He also reminded residents that house numbers must be clearly visible on all homes for police and emergency purposes.

Plan Commission – Greg DePorter spoke regarding code changes that were being made to the site plans and specifications which is Town Code 152.062. He stated that he hopes a decision will be made at the Plan Commission meeting this month. He encouraged residents to go to the Town website and read the two proposed code changes. Any resident comments or recommendations should be put in writing and dropped off at Town Hall. Charlie Costanza questioned Greg DePorter regarding a \$500 charge from the Town Attorney in relation to building codes. Greg responded that Allen Johnson would have more details about that but Greg did feel the Town Attorney has been involved with the Building Code changes.

General Code Review – Jim Slawinski stated that this Committee has submitted to the Town Council a revision on Code 94.02 regarding the Park Board ex-officio and liaison position. Tom Clouser stated that this code revision would be voted on at the March 2013 Town Council meeting. Jim Slawinski stated that the General Code Review would be making revisions to many codes that are over 20 years old. He stated that he does not feel every change should be submitted to the attorney for review. Charlie Costanza agreed that not every change needs to go to the Attorney.

Environmental Advisory – John Morris spoke for Susan Mihalo and stated that this board will be working on septic systems and recycling this year.

Grant Committee – Carolyn Saxton spoke for this committee and stated that departments within the Town need to advise her of their specific needs so that she can research grants available. These “wish” lists need to be submitted within the next month to either Carolyn Saxton or Maryann Schaefer.

## **CLAIMS**

Bill Gregory moved that regular claims 044856 to 044901 and payroll claims 04405 to 04443 be approved as presented by the Clerk-Treasurer. Paul Panther seconded the motion. Charlie Costanza commented on the amount of the Town Attorney bill included with these claims and stated that he would not approve paying all the legal bills. **The vote of the Council was as follows: Bill Gregory, yes; Tom Clouser, yes; Paul Panther, yes and Charlie Costanza, no. The motion was passed three to one.**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Charlie Costanza reported that a meeting was held with the National Park Service (NPS), Curt Winkle’s students and himself to discuss the southern route around Town as the bike path solution. Charlie stated that the National Park indicated that a \$50,000 study on the southern route was done years ago and to do another study for the southern route would probably now cost \$100,000. The NPS feels that another study of this area would not meet the Park’s specifications; therefore, would be useless. The NPS stated that the only solution would be a bike path through the center of Town utilizing sand track trail. If the Town agreed to this, we would trade for Boat Club Road as an emergency exit. Charlie stated that he would like the Town residents to have input regarding this bike path with a questionnaire in the next water bill. He stated he does not want to have more meetings if the Town is not in favor of this bike path. Paul Panther questioned who would be paying for this bike path. Charlie stated that at present the NPS does not have funding for this. However, Charlie stated that he feels we should accept the NPS offer of using the sand tracks for the bike path in exchange for Boat Club Road as an emergency exit. Bill Gregory stated that the bike path and emergency exit issues should be considered separately. He feels that should there be an emergency in Town and we cannot use the main entrance that we would use Boat Club Road regardless of any opposition from the NPS. Bill Gregory stated that he would not be opposed to a questionnaire in the water bill to get resident input regarding the bike path. However, he stated that he would like the Park Board to study if there is a way to get a bike path in or around Town going from the east to the west and the cost to the Town. Bill stated that he is against any trades with the NPS. He also stated that our eleven miles of roads are our trails and bike paths and does not feel we need another bike path in Ogden Dunes for residents that are bikers.

Bill Gregory discussed the 2013 Fire Department contract and recommended that the contract be adopted as written in the amount of \$51,500.00 for fire protection plus \$2,250.00 for firefighter clothing allowance payable quarterly during the year 2013. Bill stated that a separate agreement will be

forthcoming addressing the maintenance of the Firehall and expenses related to it. **Bill Gregory moved that the 2013 Fire Department contract be accepted as presented by the Fire Department. Paul Panther seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously passed.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Bill Gregory introduced Jennifer Brown of 11 Deer Trail as the new Town web administrator. Bill made the motion that the Town of Ogden Dunes contract with Jennifer Brown, 11 Deer Trail, Ogden Dunes, Indiana to provide administrative services for the Town website. Such services will include, but not limited to, regular updating of the calendar of events, updating of information relating to official Town business, information relating to departments, clubs, committees, commissions, and inclusion of other information of general resident interest. Other services shall include recommendations for selection of web host, url name, and website design. For these services, Jennifer Brown will be paid one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per month. This agreement will be on a month-to-month basis and may be terminated by either party with one month's notice. Charlie Costanza seconded the motion. **All were in favor and the motion was unanimously passed. Charlie thanked Mark Coleman for all his previous work on the Town's website.**

The health insurance policy for the Town's four full time employees is due for renewal with Anton Insurance Agency. In order to keep the premium at its current level, the Council has opted for the insurance plan which will increase the employee deductible to \$1,000.00 in-network from \$500.00 in-network. Increasing the deductible will save the Town approximately \$3,800.00 per year in premiums. The Town will continue to pay \$2,500.00 per full-time employee for their HSA (Health Savings Account). Other than the deductible increase, no other changes were made to the coverage. **Paul Panther moved that the new policy with Anton Insurance with a deductible of \$1,000 be approved by the Town Council. Bill Gregory seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was passed.**

## **RESIDENT COMMENTS**

Jim Slawinski – Stated that he is not in favor of a bike path going through the center of Town. He is in favor of having a simple questionnaire for the residents to voice their opinion of a bath path. He also feels that the Town needs an emergency evacuation plan. He stated that even if we have several emergency exits we have no plan in effect to contact residents to advise them of an emergency.

Bernadette Slawinski – Questioned ice on Aspen Road during the last snow storm. Jim Matthys stated that he must do the main roads first.

Alec Mackenzie-Discussed the project at 34 Diana Road that he feels generated two special meetings by the Plan Commission. He also stated that a similar project on Hillcrest Road was not given any extra considerations.

## **COUNCIL REMARKS**

Charlie Costanza responded to Alec Mackenzie's comments and stated both projects (Hillcrest and Diana Road) were given equal consideration and no extra permissions were given to the Diana Road project.

Bill Gregory moved to adjourn the meeting. Paul Panther seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was unanimously passed.

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Tom Clouser, Vice President

ATTEST:

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Jean Manna, Clerk-Treasurer