

COUNCIL MINUTES

AUGUST 25, 2020

Present were council members President William Lopez, Vice President David Phillips, Greg Stinson, Erik Wagner and Brian Finley, Attorney Gregg Sobkowski, Police Chief James Spanier, and Building Commissioner Michael Barry. Fire Chief Jay Craig and Park Director Brian Bagajski were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Stinson made a motion to accept the minutes as written and Finley made the second, vote 5-0 motion passed.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Finley made a motion to accept the claims as presented and Phillips made the second, vote 5-0 motion passed.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Karen Pisowicz, McDashwicz Drive, stated that the council should leave Carl Dahlin's property at the beach alone and the council should let it drop. She said he is 86 or 87 years old and is not going to live much longer. She noted that he has been parking cars there forever and all cars are parked in the lot and not on the road or obstructing anything. She also said that the building is in bad shape but has been that way for years and would probably cost \$100,000 to tear it down and he doesn't have that kind of money. She wants the council to let it go until next year. Lopez said that the town can't stop him from parking cars but the residents at Porter beach and he said residents from the town want something to be done with the building. She said why it has been looking like that for years and Lopez said it has been deteriorating more and more over the years. She said drop it this years and sees what happens next year.

Jennifer Klug, Franklin Street, regarding what people are saying about Dahlin's building, she said she was never outside looking at it but there are two individuals that said the electrical wiring that is exposed and are a fire hazard that needs to be looked at. If this is not dealt with and the building catches on fire and with people at the beach it would be hard to get a fire truck down there. It seems to her that houses directly west of there are pretty close and there was a situation many years ago where a house caught on fire and caught other houses on fire. Rob Albrecht-Mallinger, Porter Beach said that the town needs to do the inspection that was agreed upon.

CLERK TREASURER REPORT

None

ATTORNEY REPORT

None

POLICE REPORT

Alisha Brown, Chesterton presented an assemblage permit for a 10K race on October 4th at 8:00am. She is asking permission to have the race in Porter which will start at Hawthorne Park and end at Hawthorne Park. Brown noted that this is a Run-at-your-own-Risk race. She estimates 250 runners and has contacted the Porter County Health department and they have no problem with the race. She noted that 100 runners will leave at intervals of 10 minutes. Finley made a motion to approve the Run-at-Your-Own-Risk 10K race pending insurance and Phillips made the second, vote 5-0, motion passed.

FIRE REPORT

None

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

None

PARK REPORT

Phillips announced that the Duneland Seniors is still hosting a drive-thru flu shot clinic at Hawthorne Park on September 23rd from 9:30 thru 1:30pm. The shots will be provided by Walgreen's drug store and this is open to the public.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER REPORT

Barry presented 4 new contractors, Finley made a motion to approve the 4 new contractors and Stinson made the second, vote 5-0, motion passed.

Barry noted that paving and striping will be done in a few days and Walsh and Kelly did an excellent job.

Barry stated that he has received quotes for removing trash and mowing at 1037 Highway 20, a house that is in pre-foreclosure. The lowest quote was for David's Lawn Care for \$1,800. Barry asked council if this could be taken out of LIT. Stinson made a motion to pay for mowing and trash pick-up at 1037 Highway 20 out of LIT and Finley made the second, vote 5-0, motion passed.

Barry said that he has a tentative agreement to meet with Cark Dahlin this week to inspect the building. He also sent Dahlin an unsafe building notice asking Dahlin to secure the property and conduct needed maintenance within 90 days. By sending this letter it compels Dahlin to attend the September 16 BZA meeting at 6:00pm at town hall.

Barry also noted that the plow truck has a cracked frame and the bed is also rusted through. He said the repairs will cost more than the truck is worth and would like to buy a demo truck and asked for money from LIT. He said a truck will cost from \$60,000 to \$120,000. Stinson said that MVH has money in the fund and needs to use that. He said the town can do an additional appropriation once the amount is known to buy the truck.

OLD BUSINESS

Arete contract

Lopez noted that the contract has been amended that Arete shall obtain prior approval for any expenses greater than \$1,000.00. Phillips made a motion to approve the Arete contract and Finley made the second, vote 5-0, motion passed. Phillips asked where the fees for monitoring computers will be paid from and Pomeroy said from each department's budget. The cost is \$10.00 a month for each computer.

Comprehensive Plan contract

James Mandon, the town planner, submitted an estimate to re-do the Town's Comprehensive Plan that was last done in 2004 for not to exceed \$4,500. Lopez said that this can be paid out of LIT line item 114-001-410. Phillips made a motion to pay the bill for the Comprehensive Plan from LIT 114-001-410 not to exceed \$4,500 and Wagner made the second, vote 5-0, motion passed.

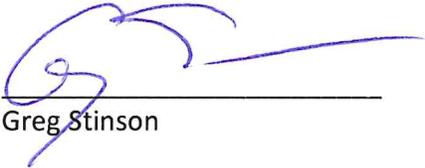
Dated this 8TH day of September, 2020



William Lopez, President



David Phillips, Vice President



Greg Stinson



Erik Wagner

Brian Finley

ATTEST: 
Carol Pomeroy, Clerk Treasurer