

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
March 12, 2019

Present were council members Greg Stinson, President; William Lopez, Vice President, Erik Wagner, Ross LeBleu and Brian Finley, Attorney Greg Sobkowski, Police Chief James Spanier, Fire Chief Jay Craig, Building Commissioner Michael Barry, Public Works Director Brenda Brueckheimer and Park Director Brian Bugajski.

PUBLIC HEARING – Ordinance 2019-03 – Additional Appropriations GO Bond
Stinson opened the public hearing at 7:01 and asked for opponents or proponents for the additional appropriations for the general obligation bond. No one responded for or against and Stinson closed the meeting at 7:02.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Finley made a motion to approve the February 26, 2019 minutes and LeBleu made the second, motion passed 5-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Lopez made a motion to approve the claims as presented and Finley made the second, motion passed 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Dan Martens of 1355 Dune Meadows asked the council why he couldn't receive a Porter Beach permit. He said he came to town hall on Tuesday to get a permit but was refused because his registration was from Illinois. He said he was turned away on Tuesday because that was for Porter residents only, and was told he could come back on Wednesday a get a beach permit but it would cost him \$100 for out-of-state registration. Martens stated that he moved to Porter in November, pays taxes here and supports the town. He checked into transferring his vehicle plates but was told it would cost him a \$1,000. Stinson noted that the reason the vehicle registration must say Porter is how the town receives excise tax money. He also stated that the ordinance is quite clear that the vehicle registration must list Porter to receive the resident rate. Stinson told Martens that if he would like to start a petition to change our ordinances that he could. Police Chief Spanier noted that state law states that all new residents have 90 days to change their drivers license and vehicle registration.

CLERK TREASURER REPORT

Pomeroy said 542 beach permits on Monday and Tuesday.

ATTORNEY REPORT

None

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Spanier said he has a parade application for State Park Little League that he will present next meeting for approval.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Craig noted that last year the council had approved a 50/50 grant from Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in the total amount of \$10,000. An error was made in the application and DNR is awarding \$2,500. Craig said the Volunteers will match the \$2,500 and the town will pay the \$5,000 for the bunker gear. Craig noted that this amount will be due since it wasn't paid last year. Craig also asked permission to submit another 50/50 grant from DNR for 2019. He noted that there is only \$5,000 appropriated in the 2019 CEDIT (LIT) budget. Craig said that if the council approves this request, an additional appropriation will need to be done to cover the \$5,000 for the 2019 grant. Wagner made a motion to approve the 50/50 grant from DNR for 2019 and also approve to apply for an additional appropriation later in the year and Finley made the second, vote 5-0 motion passed.

Craig said that his anniversary date is April 1st and he is asking the council to carry over 5 vacation days. He said that with everything going on this year, he didn't have time to take any vacation. The council agreed by consensus that he could carry the 5 vacation days over but they must be used by July 1st.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Public Works Director Brueckheimer said it was good to be back to work and thanked everyone.

PARK DEPARTMENT REPORT

Park Director Bugajski asked council if Porter United Methodist Church could use the Millennium Gazebo on April 12th for Easter services for free, as they have done

in the past. LeBleu made a motion to waive the fee and give permission for Porter United Methodist Church to have Easter services on April 12th and Finley made the second, vote 5-0, motion passed.

Bugajski requested approval to get quotes for removal/replacement of basketball court at Hawthorne Park and also the installation of new HVAC equipment at Hawthorne Park Community Center. He noted that both projects would be paid out of the general obligation bond. Attorney Sobkowski clarified that a formal bid process is not necessary since both projects are well below the \$150,000 threshold. Finley made a motion to give permission for Bugajski to get quotes for work at the basketball court and a new HVAC for the community building, Lopez made the second, motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Bugajski requested approval to contract with Abonmarche Consultants for engineering and design work on a accessible path at Indian Springs Park. The contract amount will be \$12,000 and will be paid for from a combination of Lake Michigan Coastal Grant and \$7,000 from park department budget. Finley made a motion to approve the contract with Abonmarche Consultants for engineering and design work at Indian Springs Park, to be paid for by 50/50 grant with Lake Michigan Coastal Program and the park department budget and Lopez made the second, vote was 5-0 and motion passed.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT

Building Commissioner Barry presented quotes for Mineral Springs lift station force main testing. He stated that 6 quotes were sent out and only two replied. De Boer Egolf Corp submitted the lowest quote of \$2,100 and the second quote was from Woodruff & Sons at \$5,871.21. Lopez made a motion to approve the quote of \$2,100 from De Boer Egolf for work at Mineral Springs lift station and for the sewer department to pay for this and LeBleu made the second and motion passed with a vote of 5/0.

Barry also presented 6 new contractors for approval, Finley made a motion to approve the 6 new contractors and LeBleu made the second, vote 5-0 motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS


Ordinance 2019-03 Additional Appropriation for GO Bond.

Stinson read Ordinance 2019-03 by title only and Lopez made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-03 and Finley made the second, vote 5-0 motion passed.


COUNCIL COMMENTS

Finley announced that he will be out of town for the next meeting. Stinson reminded council members of the presentation of the State of Tourism on March 14th at 4:30 at Riley's Railhouse.

Dated this 26th date of March, 2019.




Greg Stinson, President



William Lopez, Vice President



Erik Wagner



Ross LeBleu

Brian Finley

ATTEST 

Carol Pomeroy, Clerk Treasurer