

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
June 9, 2020

Present were council members, President, Greg Stinson; Vice President, William Lopez; Erik Wagner, Brian Finley, David Phillips also Attorney Greg Sobkowski, Police Chief James Spanier and Building Commissioner Michael Barry. Fire Chief Jay Craig, Public Works Director Sarah Olson, and Park Director Brian Bugajski were absent.

PUBLIC HEARING.

Establishing an Economic Revitalization area. Stinson stated that the decision of the Economic Development Commission means any action that would be taken can not apply to the petitioner that was presented to the commission tonight. The apartment complex is not eligible for anything, however, if he should decide to back out and someone else moves in this would provide an opportunity for them to come to the council with some type of argument for some relief.

Stinson opened the public hearing at 7:37pm
Jennifer Klug Franklin Street,

Stinson opened the public hearing at 7:37pm
Jennifer Klug Franklin Street, in regards to economic development and tax abatements. She thinks they should be considered very carefully now with the issues of the Covid virus and things shutting down. The town is in a situation that will rival the "great depression of 1930" s. When you give a tax abatement you need to look at the impact on police, fire and schools and make sure you are not shooting yourself in the foot because when you have tax abatements and you have expenses that these expenses are born on the back of citizens and businesses that are already in the community and you all have been elected even if you didn't have opponent in the election. You were elected to serve the residents of the community at that time. If someone wants to come into the community that is nice but she feels that elected official's main responsibility is to the people and businesses in the community.
Stinson closed the public hearing at 7:39

Town Council Re-organization

Stinson stated that he submitted a letter to Pomeroy and the rest of the council due to issues with work and time commitments he can no longer serve as president to the council. He is stepping down at midnight tonight. He stated that he has been president for seven years and needs a break and he does not have time with all the issues going on in town to dedicate and do the job that needs to be done. He wants to step down since he can't give everything his best efforts. Stinson asked for a nomination for president to fill out the time for this year. Wagner made a motion to appoint William Lopez as president, vote 5-0, nomination passed. Stinson asked for a nomination for vice-president, Finley nominated David Phillips as vice-president, vote 5-0, nomination passed. Karen Pisowicz thanked Stinson for his serving as president and everyone applauded.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Phillips made a motion to approve the May 26, 2020 minutes and Finley made the second, vote 5-0, minutes approved.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

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

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None

CLERK TREASURE REPORT

None

ATTORNEY REPORT

None

POLICE REPORT

Chief Spanier noted that Porter beach is still a menace. On Monday from 10:30am to 5:00pm he had 4 people working the beach and they were just maintaining traffic on a Monday. The police department is doing the best they can. Stinson asked how much cooperation are they getting from the National Park and State Park, Spanier said he wanted to commend the National Park even though they did not have anybody at their lot on Monday, but that is a day that you don't expect a lot of traffic. If the State Park would enforce putting up no parking signs on Highway 49 that would help a lot. A resident that lives on the cloverleaf from highway 49 to highway 20 has cars parking there. Spanier told him he needs to call the State police that is not town of Porter's jurisdiction. The resident stated that they are parking in his yard not on road. Spanier said to call Porter police if in yard.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

None

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT

None

PARK DEPARTMENT REPORT

Liaison Phillips presented request for the park department. A request from Beth Serafin from the "H" Life would like to have a Coffee and Canvas fundraiser at the Community Building on June 18th. The "H" Life raises money for pediatric cancer research and support for families dealing with pediatric cancer. Bugajski that we have worked with them in the past and he recommends approving this request to waive the fees for rental. Stinson asked for a motion to approve this request, Phillips made a motion to approve waiving the fee and Finley made the second, Stinson noted that they must follow the rules for social distancing and occupancy size or if they would like to wait until July when many of the restrictions go away, vote 5-0, motion passed.

State Park Little league has requested that they may use the ballpark field on weekends for practice. Bugajski recommends approval of this request pending submission of insurance paperwork and players waivers. Lopez made a motion to approve the State Park Little league using Hawthorne ball park pending the submission of insurance and players waivers and Finley made the second, vote 5-0, motion approved.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER REPORT

Building Commissioner Barry presented 15 new contractors for approval, Finley made a motion to approve the 15 new contractors and Phillips made the second, vote 5-0 motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 2020-05 Amending parking at Porter Beach

Stinson asked for a motion to table Ordinance 2020-05 and Wagner made said motion and Phillips made the second, vote 5-0 motion passed.

Ordinance 2020-07 Amending Parking issues

Stinson read Ordinance 2020-07 by title only and then asked for a motion to suspend the rules for second reading. Lopez made a motion to suspend the rules for second reading for Ordinance 2020-07 and Finley made the second, vote 5-0 motion passed. Stinson read Ordinance 2020-07 for second reading and asked for a motion to adopt, Wagner made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-07 and Phillips made the second, vote 5-0 motion passed. Phillips asked if a resident parks on the road could they be ticketed and Spanier said there is a possibility. Stinson said there can't be exceptions made for residents, this is a safety issue for example if there was a fire and the truck could not get down the road.

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution 2020-03 Establishing Economic Revitalization area

Stinson read Resolution 2020-03 by title only. Wagner made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-03 and Finley made the second, vote 5-0 resolution 2020-03 passed.

ORDINANCE 2020-06 Establish Economic Development area

Stinson announced that this Ordinance 2020-06 is dead because of actions of Economic Development Commission denying a tax abatement earlier in the evening.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

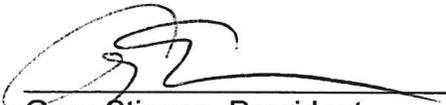
Stinson announced that he is stepping down from the Redevelopment Commission due to issues with work and time commitments he can no longer serve. Stinson noted that he was a council appointment and stated that council can only appoint council appointments. If the council wants to appoint a citizen to the Redevelopment Commission. Phillips said that he would like another resident to serve on the Redevelopment Commission and rest of council agreed. Stinson noted that in order to do that he needs to rescind his appointment of Erik Wagner as a presidential

appointment and have council reappoint Erik as a council appointment. Stinson rescinded his appointment of Wagner and Finley made a motion to nominate Erik Wagner as a council member, vote 5-0. Stinson announced that here is an open position for a residential appointment to the Redevelopment Commission. The Commission would like this appointment made within two weeks which would be June 23rd. They want all residential letters sent to the clerk treasurer office either by mail or email by June 19th. All applications will go to Lopez and he would appoint the residential appointment.

Finley thanked Greg.

Phillips made a motion to adjourn and Finley made the second, vote 5-0, motion passed.

Dated this 13RD day of June, 2020.



Greg Stinson, President

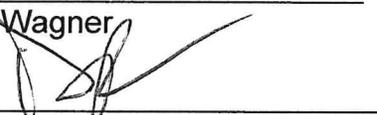


William Lopez, Vice-President

Erik Wagner



Brian Finley



David Phillips

ATTEST: 

Carol Pomeroy, Clerk Treasurer