

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

MARCH 8, 2016

Present were council members Greg Stinson, Erik Wagner, Tim Conroy, Ross LeBleu, Bill Lopez, Attorney Gregg Sobkowski, Police Chief James Spanier, Fire Chief Louie Craig Public Works Director Brenda Brueckheimer, Building Commissioner Mike Barry and Park Director Brian Bugajski.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

LeBleu made a motion to approve the March 8 minutes as written and Wagner made the second, vote 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Wagner made a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes as written and LeBleu made the second, vote 5-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND SEWER ADJUSTMENTS

Wagner made a motion to approve the claims and sewer adjustments as presented, Conroy made the second, vote 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None

CLERK TREASURER REPORT

None

ATTORNEY REPORT

None

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Spanier stated that the police department is in the process of getting quotes from four different dealerships for two new vehicles. He noted that Brueckheimer may want one of the cars that they will be trading in.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Craig said that the new CO forms are available for landlords. They must be filled out and returned to the fire department by June 31st.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

None

PARK DEPARTMENT REPORT

Park Director Brian Bugajski announced the Easter Egg Hunt is March 19th at 11:00am. The event is for children 9 and younger. There will be three areas including a special needs area.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER REPORT

Building Commissioner Mike Barry presented 8 new contractors, Wagner made a motion to accept the 8 new contractors and LeBleu made the second, vote 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Shared Ethics Advisory Commission Presentation

Commission President Cal Bellamy presented the council a pamphlet explaining that the goal of the commission is to provide ethics training to all town employees and board and commission members. One employee will attend training and then relay the information to the other employees. He stated that training will also be offered to department heads. To join the commission, the council will need to agree to the Commission's code of shared ethics, adopt the standard local agreement, name a representative to serve on the Commission and delegate who can be on the Commission's board that oversees finances and fees, and pay a onetime enrollment fee and an annual fee. The fee is based on the number of full-time employees. It would cost Porter \$500 for the enrollment fee and a \$150 annual fee. The shared ethics code would not impact town laws. It is merely a philosophical statement. Bellamy stated that the commission has 20 members and includes representatives from Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties. Stinson directed Attorney Sobkowski to look at the agreement so that the council can consider.

RESOLUTION 2016-03 AMENDING PARK RENTAL FEES

Stinson read the Resolution by title only and LeBleu made a motion to accept Resolution 2016-03 and Conroy made the second, vote 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 2016-03 BEACH PERMITS

Stinson did second reading of Ordinance 2016-03 and Lopez made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-03 and LeBleu made the second, vote 5-0.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Stinson announced that the town is doing an additional appropriation for CEDIT in the amount of \$200,000 and the public hearing will be at the next meeting of March 22nd.

Stinson said that he learned about the bison-centennial art project for Indiana's Bicentennial Celebration and wants the town to submit an idea. Council and audience participants suggested a painting of the old town hall building. This project is at no cost for municipalities.

Dated this _____ day of March, 2016.

Greg Stinson, President

Erik Wagner, Vice President

Ross LeBleu

William Lopez

Tim Conroy

ATTEST: _____
Carol Pomeroy, Clerk Treasurer