

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
September 13, 2016

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

LeBleu made a motion to approve the August 23, 2016 minutes as written and Conroy made the second, vote 4-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND SEWER ADJUSTMENTS

Lopez made a motion to approve the claims and sewer adjustments as presented, Conroy made the second, vote 4-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Lisa Apato, Valparaiso, PAC President for Discovery Charter School, is requesting the use of Hawthorne Park on October 9, 2016, from 1-5 pm for the Annual Fall Festival. They usually have it at the school but at this time they have construction going on. They would like to keep the festival local and if it works out this year at Hawthorne park may consider doing this annually. All funds received will go to benefit the ongoing construction and playground equipment. They are also requesting for an alcohol permit. They will have food vendors and the alcohol area will be enclosed and they will also provide the security. The will go under the vendors liquor license. LeBleu made a motion to approve pending proof of insurance, Conroy made the second, vote 4-0.

CLERK TREASURER REPORT

None

ATTORNEY REPORT

None

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Spanier presented an assemblage permit from Susan Graff, Marquette Point Block party on September 24, 2016 from 5-11 pm, they would like the Council to waive them having to have insurance. Stinson states upon talking with Town Attorney our ordinance requires insurance and the request would have to have proof of insurance. Lopez made a motion to approve pending proof of insurance, LeBleu made the second, vote 4-0.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Craig stated that we will receive the rest of the money for air packs from Westchester Township Trustee.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT

None

PARK DEPARTMENT REPORT

Park Director Brian Bugajski said the Wizard of Oz Movie was a fantastic turnout. Everyone commented on they would like to see this as an annual event.

Bugajski reminded of upcoming events-Stash Dash is September 25, percentage of entry fee will be donated to park department. Porter Perfect Pint is October 1, 2016.

Bugajski would like to give a thank you to Josh Guzik of Porter Cove for doing his Eagle Scout project at Porter Cove park. He could not make tonight's meeting but will be in October or November with pictures.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT

Building Commissioner Barry presented eleven new contractors. Conroy made a motion to accept the eleven new contractors, Lopez made the second, vote 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

2017 Budget discussion

Eric Walsh from Umbaugh and Associates gave an explanation on the budget report and answered all questions. Walsh noted that the budget included a 2% raise for employees and Stinson asked council if they approve a 2% raise, the council agreed by consensus to approve a 2% raise for employees for 2017.

OLD BUSINESS

Storm water fees discussion

Eric Walsh of Umbaugh and Associates presented a rate study for storm water rates to be increased. The report had two comparisons a \$2.00 increase and a \$4.00 increase. If we increase the fee to \$6.00 monthly, the \$2.00 increase would complete ongoing projects, Lopez made a motion to increase the storm water fee to \$6.00 a month beginning January 2017, LeBleu made the second, vote 4-0. Stinson asked Attorney Sobkowski to draft up a new ordinance for the new storm water fee effective January 2017.

Lopez thanked Erik Walsh from Umbaugh for all his help with explaining the budget and doing the rate study.

Lopez made a motion to adjourn and Conroy made the second, vote 4-0.

Dated this _____ day of September, 2016.

Greg Stinson, President

Erik Wagner, Vice President

Ross LeBleu

Tim Conroy

William Lopez

ATTEST: _____
Tammie Sufana,