

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
August 9, 2016

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

LeBleu made a motion to approve the July 26, 2016 minutes as written and Conroy made the second, vote 5-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND SEWER ADJUSTMENTS

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

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Kevin Pazour, Porter County Museum's executive director, introduced himself to the council. He said the museum plans to expand by moving into the old police station in downtown Valparaiso and is collecting stories from every corner of the county. He gave the council a picture of the town hall as it was being built in 1913 and stated that the town hall cost \$9,990.00 in 1913.

CLERK TREASURER REPORT

None

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Sobkowski said he is in contact with Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) regarding the purchase of easement along Highway 20. INDOT is still working on correcting the contract and hopefully Sobkowski will have it at the next meeting.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Spanier thanked Travel Centers of America on US Hwy 20 for donating over 100 historic photographs. Spanier noted that these pictures included past landmarks, the Coronado Lodge, Johnson Inn and the horse race track on Mineral Springs Road.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

None

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT

Public Works Director Brenda Brueckheimer stated that she received an email from Therese Davis, Recycling & Waste Reduction District of Porter County executive director, saying that they would pay \$2175 for the removal of organic waste from the public works facility. The board and staff appreciate their relationship with the Town of Porter.

## PARK DEPARTMENT REPORT

Park Director Brian Bugajski reported that over 200 people attended last weekend's concert and movie at Hawthorne Park. This event was put on with the help of the Westchester Public Library. Bugajski reported that due to the popularity another event is planned at Hawthorne Park for Labor Day weekend on Sept. 2 and the movie will be The Wizard of Oz. Bugajski reported that Porter Perfect Pint tickets are on sale at Eventbrite.com. There are only 1,000 tickets available.

## BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT

Stinson presented one new contractor for approval, LeBleu made a motion to accept the one contractor and Wagner made the second, vote 5-0.

## OLD BUSINESS

Kubota Tractor/Lawn Mower Financing

Attorney Sobkowski spoke with Horizon Bank about the financing of the Kubota tractor and lawn mower and the dump truck and he was told that Horizon has not yet approved the contract for either. Conroy made a motion to table the Kubota and the dump truck financing until next meeting and Lopez made the second, vote 5-0.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

LeBleu read an August 9 Facebook post from Porter Police officer Unit #27 located a stalled SUV on U.S. Hwy 20 near Worthington Drive, approximately 250 feet from the TA station. The officer started to push the vehicle and five other people pulled over to help push the vehicle to the gas station. LeBleu said the officer stated; "I think the actions of those citizens emulate our community as a whole. I, along with the other officers, are proud to serve such a great community filled with such awesome people. Don't let the news and social media lead you to believe the world is such a bad place. Today, I saw the actions of good-hearted individuals going out of their way to help a police officer do his job, and for that I am thankful."

Stinson agreed that it is refreshing to see.

Stinson stated that he is going to meet with Eric Walsh from Umbaugh about budgets and they will meet with department heads to go over budgets.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of August, 2016.

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Greg Stinson, President

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Erik Wagner, Vice President

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Ross LeBleu

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Tim Conroy

\_\_\_\_\_  
William Lopez

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Pomeroy, Clerk Treasurer