

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 24, 2016

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

LeBleu made a motion to approve the May 10, 2016 minutes as written and Lopez made the second, vote 5-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND SEWER ADJUSTMENTS

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

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

James Waggoner of N. River Drive stated that he had two complaints first his waste water bill is too high since he has a septic system and not connected to the town's sewer and second his fee for storm water. The residents have culverts and not and storm drains, he noted if the town gave the residents the culverts they would install them. The council advised they would take his complaints under consideration.

CLERK TREASURER REPORT

None

ATTORNEY REPORT

None

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Assistant Chief Allen asked the council if they should use the same hiring process to find a replacement for Mike Veal. The council did a consensus and said yes. Allen also reminded residents to lock their cars and not to leave purses in their cars.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

None

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Public Works Director Brenda Brueckheimer asked permission to advertise for bids on a 2017 snow/plow dump truck. Stinson asked what the estimated price range would be and Brueckheimer stated between \$160,000 and \$170,000. Brueckheimer also stated that she would like to receive quotes for rates on a 5 year bond from area banks to pay for the truck. Wagner made a motion to advertise for bids for a 2017 snow/plow dump truck and also seek interest rates from local area banks, LeBleu made the second and vote was 5/0. Brueckheimer presented a quote for a tractor and boom mower and will be seeking 2 other quotes for next council meeting.

PARK DEPARTMENT REPORT

Liaison LeBleu reported that on May 30th at 1:00pm will be the Memorial Day Services. In case of rain the event will be held inside the Community Center.

The Porter Park Department is partnering with Porter County Parks to host a Family Fish Event at Indian Springs Park on Saturday June 4th from 10:00am –Noon. No fishing licenses are needed.

The Summer Park Program begins Monday June 6th at 9:00am in the Art Barn. This is a free program that runs Monday-Friday from 9am –Noon. All Duneland children ages 6 to 11 are welcome to attend. Registration takes place on site, the first day you bring your child.

The 5th Annual Summer Safety Fest will be June 11th from 10am-3pm at Hawthorne Park. This is also a free event that is co-chaired by two teenage Porter residents, Sophia Keating and Eric Ailes.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT

Building Commissioner Mike Barry presented eight new contractors, Wagner made a motion to accept the eight new contractors and Conroy made the second, vote 5-0. Barry reported that the paving project for Marquette & Krieger roads is done and looks fantastic.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 2016-08 Creating LOIT Fund

Stinson read by title only and explained that the town has received money to be deposited into this Fund and asked council for a motion to suspend the rules to have second reading and adoption. Lopez made a motion to suspend the rules and have second reading and adoption and Wagner made the second, vote 5-0. Stinson read Ordinance 2016-08 by title only and Lopez made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-08 and LeBleu made the second, vote 5-0.

MCR Partners contract

Conroy made a motion to approve MCR Partner's contract and LeBleu made the second, vote 5-0.

Abonmarche contract

Wagner made a motion to accept the Abonmarche contract and Conroy made the second, vote 5-0.

Pedal Power presentation

Mark and Dina Lecy asked the council for permission to use the town's easement at the Visitor's Center on Highway 49 for bike rentals. The season would run from June to October from 9am - 7pm, 5 days a week. They have a trailer that they would park at the end of the cul-de-sac for this period. They would mark parking places with tape so that there would not be any "footprints" left at the end of the season. They will have maps of all the area trails that will be passed out and also include Porter restaurants and shops. The council said to move forward with completing their application, paying fees and also have insurance for this business.

Storm water increase discussion

Dan Colbert President of the Porter Storm Water Board stated that the stormwater fee of \$4 per month has not been raised since it was first established in 2006. This fee is the lowest fee among the MS4 communities in this area. Colbert is requesting a \$2 hike per month which he thinks would generate enough venue to tackle some higher priced improvements. Stinson said that the Stormwater fee is also used for MS4 projects which are aimed to reduce pollution and waste entering ditches and streams. Conroy asked Colbert if this raise is enough. The council agreed to let Umbaugh do a quick study of what the increase should be after looking at the master plan. Colbert is to send information to Umbaugh.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Stinson announced that there is an opening on the Plan Commission for a Democrat or Independent. Cynthia Rojas has sold her house and is moving, the term expires 12/31/2017. Stinson congratulated St. Patrick's School and Chesterton Middle School for earning a 4-Star rating from the Indiana Department of Education.

Wagner made a motion to adjourn and Lopez made the second, vote 5-0.

Dated this _____ day of June, 2016.

Greg Stinson, President

Erik Wagner, Vice President

Ross LeBleu

Tim Conroy

William Lopez

ATTEST: _____
Carol Pomeroy, Clerk Treasurer