

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
APRIL 12, 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, Building Commissioner Mike Barry and Park Director Brian Bugajski.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

LeBleu made a motion to approve the March 22 minutes as written and Wagner 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, Conroy made the second, vote 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Nathaniel Pilla, 22 5 Michigan Street, from Save the Dunes asked if the council to waive the fee to rent the backroom of the community building for a public meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm to 9:00pm. The meeting is to teach residents about the Dunes ecosystem and what they can do to protect it.

Candance Korbell, 115 Franklin Street, asked the council if the Porter beach permits can be limited to Porter residents first for a certain period of time. The council agreed to look into the matter for next year.

CLERK TREASURER REPORT

None

ATTORNEY REPORT

None

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Spanier presented a parade application from the Duneland Business Initiative Group (Dune Big) for a July 4<sup>th</sup> parade. He noted that the insurance needs to be amended. LeBleu made a motion to accept the parade application for Dune Big pending corrected insurance and Conroy made the second, vote 5-0.

Chief also presented an application from State Park Little League for their annual parade and stated that their insurance is also needed. Conroy made a motion to approve the parade application for State Park Little League pending insurance and Lopez made the second, vote 5-0.

Tyler Spence of Stoke Riders presented an application and business plan for a peddler's license at Porter Beach. He will be renting kite boarding gear, kayaks, various boards and wetsuits. He asked the council for approval and will get insurance as soon as his application is approved for the summer months. Wagner made a motion to approve the peddler's license application pending insurance and LeBleu made the second, vote 5-0.

#### PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

None

#### PARK DEPARTMENT REPORT

Park Director Brian Bugajski stated that he was absent at last the meeting because he attended a meeting with the Chesterton Lions Club and received a donation for playground equipment in the amount of \$3,000. Bugajski and Council thanked the Chesterton Lions Club for this donation.

Bugajski announced that on April 16<sup>th</sup> at Hawthorne Park the Northwest Indiana Geocachers will be hosting a clean up day from 8:00 to 10:00am. Bugajski said that geocaching is the modern day treasure hunt. He stated that the NWI Geocachers would like to make Hawthorne Park one of their locations for caching with up to five spots. Nancy Lakin of NWI Geocachers stated that Indiana Dunes State Park has been a popular site for geocaching and they are also looking for sites at Coffee Creek. Stinson asked Pomeroy to place a resolution on the next agenda for geocaching which the council will consider.

Bugajski announced that Porter Park department has been picked by Rebuilding Together Duneland as a site for volunteers to replenish wood fiber mulch at the playground and to replace the railing at the community center. Bugajski presented a CEDIT request for not to exceed \$1,600 for supplies for this project. Lopez made a motion to grant the request of not to exceed \$1,600 and LeBleu made the second, vote 5-0.

#### BUILDING COMMISSIONER REPORT

Building Commissioner Mike Barry presented 9 new contractors, Conroy made a motion to accept the 9 new contractors and Lopez made the second, vote 5-0.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Save the Dunes Presentation

Nathaniel Pilla of Save the Dunes stated that they will be publishing a guide for residents on what they can do to protect the Dunes and their own properties. They will also have a downloadable copy of their guide on their website.

### 2016 Lakefront Fireworks

Maura Durham of Duneland Chamber of Commerce stated that this event has been held since 2009 and attracts nearly 20,000 people. This year's event will be held June 30<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of July 5<sup>th</sup>. She noted that the Chamber would like to see this continue, and that this is a big community event beneficial to all three of our towns. Durham asked the council to repeat last year's donation of \$2,500 of in kind services for police and a cash donation of \$2,000. She noted that Chesterton is on board and she will be going to Burns Harbor tomorrow night for their support. Stinson asked if the State Park was donating and Wagner asked if Pavilion Partners has donated. Durham said that the Chamber approaches the town council members first and then ask businesses to donate. Durham said that she had asked people if they would miss the fireworks if they went away and most responded that they would. Stinson stated that he also asked residents and some said they avoid it all together, but some did say they enjoyed it. Stinson said their concern is that money is tight and the town also has their own fireworks that we support. He also noted that it would be hard to tell residents that we can't pay for road improvements but we can support blowing up fireworks at the beach. Conroy agreed and said we would be double dipping supporting the beach and also our own fireworks. Wagner made a motion to donate \$2,500 of in kind police and fire protection and Conroy made the second, vote 5-0. Stinson asked council pleasure on donating \$2,000, no motion was made, Stinson asked for a motion for any amount to be donated, no motion was made.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Ordinance 2016-05 Amending Sewer Rates Residential/Commercial

Stinson did 2nd reading of Ordinance 2016-05 by title only. Wagner made a motion to approve Ordinance 2016-05 and Lopez made the second, vote 5-0.

### Interlocal Agreement for Trail Signage

On February 9<sup>th</sup> council meeting Resolution 2016-01 was adopted and \$400 from CEDIT was approved to pay for this signage for the bike trail. Another study was done and the location of the signs are not in Porter but Chesterton and Stinson asked for a motion to rescind Resolution 2016-01 and to cancel the CEDIT request for \$400. Conroy made a motion to rescind Resolution 2016-01 and to cancel the \$400 CEDIT request and LeBleu made the second, vote 5-0.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

Stinson announced that the council has received the Porter Redevelopment Commission TIF report that is due by April 15, 2016 and it has been entered on Gateway.

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

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

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Greg Stinson, President

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Erik Wagner, Vice President

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Ross LeBleu

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Conroy

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