

**PORTER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
March 8, 2005
PORTER TOWN HALL**

CALL TO ORDER

President William Sexton called the meeting to order at 7:30 with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Present in addition to Sexton were Sandy Boothe, Paul Childress, Jennifer Granat, Sandi Snyder, Atty. David Hollenbeck, Asst. Police Chief Jim Menn, Building Commissioner Bill Lewis, Fire Chief Lewie Craig, Supt. of Public Works Karl Bauer, Supt of Parks Jim Miller, Tim Haas of Haas and Assoc.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

February 21, 2005 - Snyder made said motion to approve as written. Childress seconded. Vote to approve was 3-0. Boothe and Granat were absent at that meeting so they voted present.

February 22, 25, 28, 2005 - Granat made the motion to accept all three. Boothe seconded. Vote was unanimous.

CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS:

Claims – February 19-28, 2005 – totaling \$28,379.27. Granat motion to accept with Snyder seconding. Vote was unanimous.

Payroll Claims – February 28, 2005 totaling \$46,190.79 Boothe made the motion to approve with Granat making the second. Vote was unanimous.

PETITIONS & COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

CLERK TREASURER

Pomeroy stated that she had advertised for additional appropriations LECED for \$6,000.00 and Police donations for \$1,400.00. There will be a Public Hearing before the next Council meeting on March 22, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. Childress questioned why the full amount in each account was not appropriated and Pomeroy said she hope that this would be the only appropriation and if more were needed in the future she could advertise again.

ATTORNEY

He had talked with Indiana American Water Co. about the sewer delinquency bills and turning off water for those bills. Indiana American will send their standard form for that procedure and he will have it at the next meeting on March 22, 2005. Sexton inquired if a lien was filed prior to the buying of property what would happen. Hollenbeck said he would discuss that at a later day.

The work on the Woodlawn drainage project has been prepared and forwarded to the Town Engineer for their input.

POLICE

Asst. Chief Menn had no report. Chief Spanier is attending Chief's school in Indianapolis.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Craig had no report -He said that March 31, 2005 is the day the FEMA grant opens up and would like permission to apply for the grant. Sexton said the town has hired a new grant writer and she will be available to write the grant. Childress will have her call Craig.

PUBLIC WORKS

Supt. Bauer made his first report. He said it had been a busy one and ½ weeks. Two of the four chart recorders have been installed which measure the daily flow of sewer water which is basically storm water.

The sewer main on Essex Dr in Porter Cove was fixed the previous Thursday. The only thing left was to go back and put asphalt. He felt NIPSCO did cause the break putting in 220 amps but that his relationship in the past has been good with NIPSCO to work together on problems.

Indiana Underground called and he is trying to get in compliance with them with Haas and Assoc.

The manuals for Marquette Point have been found.

Sexton and Bauer will be attending a meeting of the MBDS on March 22, 2005 at Porter County Expo.

He will be meeting with the Town of Chesterton about drainage on Woodlawn.

He asked permission to make a thorough inventory of the Street Dept and set values. He will have it ready by March 22, 2005 meeting. The Council agreed by consensus.

He is currently reviewing the MS4 phase C and will get with Haas on this. There is a new federal law that all letters on street signs must be 9 inches and he will be working on that.

Bauer felt the department could handle the problem on Dunes Meadow with in house equipment. He will also look into the ordinance for Sump Pump drainage to have it enforced.

TOWN ENGINEER – Sexton said Haas was not on agenda but if he had anything. He said he was available for the Wagner Hills item later on the agenda. He also said that he and Bauer had met the previous day for 3 hours bringing Bauer up to date.

PARK DEPARTMENT - Supt Miller made his first report. The Park Dept is creating a new door opening in preparation for the remodeling of the front of the Park Bldg. Specs will be drawn up and given to the Council. When the weather clears, 400 ft of the parking lot will be paved. Plans are also underway to address 200 yards of the playground and to

treat the wood. The Annual Easter Egg hunt will be March 19th at 10:00. The Duneland Diamonds 13 year old baseball league will be having signup.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Bldg Commissioner Lewis requested approval of 6 new contractors bringing the total of 208 for the year. He asked for and received \$20.00 to attend a workshop at the Porter County Expo.

He advised the Council he had been out to Dune Meadows about the sump pump issue and had left his card at many houses. He has not received one call in return. Granat asked Haas for a copy of the smoke test results.

Granat made a motion to accept new contractors and Boothe made the second. Vote was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS

SNOW BAN PARKING ORDINANCE – Hollenbeck presented the ordinance which had input from Boothe and Snyder. He began by walking through the ordinance. There was an existing code and amending it to create an entire new section. There was much discussion on the time of restriction. By consensus the Council agreed with the ban hours being from 12 a.m. to 8 a.m. Hollenbeck will make necessary adjustments and return on March 22, 2005 for final approval.

EROSION CONTROL ORDINANCE &

ILLICIT DISCHARGE ORDINANCE - Tabled until the next meeting – March 22, 2005

NATIONAL LAKESHORE CONTRACT – S Bailey Dr - Hollenbeck said by federal law, Porter has the legal right to swap land with the National Lakeshore. He said the contract seemed in order and includes what Porter receives in return. Boothe made a motion and Childress and the Council by resolution 2005-02 voted unanimously to approve. From the floor, Jennifer Klug was reassured that resolutions do not have to be read in their entirety.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION FOR DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH – Sexton read a request for the Porter Town Council to designate March as Disability Awareness Month. Childress made a motion to read and approve. Boothe seconded. Vote was unanimous.

WAGNER HILLS LETTER OF CREDIT REDUCTION - Atty Greg Babcock representing Doug Bonin of the Wagner Hills subdivision asked for a reduction in the \$610,000.00 bond. A punch list shows that only one item remains and that is a receptacle for which they have a contract with Ellis Electric to finish. He asked that the bond be reduced to a maintenance bond of \$50,806.00. Haas said that he and Bauer had checked out the situation and agree with the reduction. Bauer has documentation on all that was done. Sexton said this entire matter has taken a lot longer than necessary. Childress made a motion to reduce bond with Granat making the second. Vote was unanimous.

Babcock asked that Pomeroy write a letter to the Fifth Third Bank approving the reduction. Childress asked if Babcock will be addressing the Marquette Point issue by the same contractor. Babcock said he would be involved.

EMPLOYEE MANUAL WORKSHOP SCHEDULE – With discussion the date of March 19, 2005 at 6:00 was set for the workshop.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL-

Sexton requested the Council approve by consensus VFW 2511 have their annual poppy day May 6 and 7, 2005. They all agreed 5-0.

Sexton then announced that the Council had received a letter from Mike Liebert resigning from both the BZA and the Plan commission. Interested Democratic residents should contact the town hall no later than March 21st. Those interested must be members of both commissions.

Granat asked which Council members will be attending the IACT Ethics in Government Workshop on March 25, 2005. Reservations are due on March 17th. Granat would let Clerk-Treasurer know in the morning. Sexton will be attending.

Snyder made a motion to adjourn. Boothe seconded. Meeting adjourned 8:35 p.m.

President William F. Sexton

Vice President Sandi Snyder

Sandy Boothe

Paul Childress

Jennifer Granat

ATTESTED BY

Carol Pomeroy, Clerk-Treasurer

This _____ of _____ 2005