

**TOWN OF PORTER
MINUTES
AUGUST 23, 2005**

William Sexton opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Present were Council persons Granat and Snyder, Attorney Lyp, Police Chief James Spanier, Fire Chief Lewie Craig, Public Works Director Karl Bauer, Building Commissioner Bill Lewis.

Sexton asked 3 times for opponents and proponents for the public hearing of the annual budget. There were none for either. Sexton closed the public Hearing at 8:49 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

August 9, 2005 Granat made the motion to approve amended minutes with Snyder seconding. Vote 3-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Claims totaling \$77,667.68

Payroll Claims totaling \$47,088.44

Sewer Claims totaling \$74,152.75

Sexton mentioned to Bauer that the Town has an agreement with a sewer company for \$120. to do clean out of sewers.

Granat made the motion to approve all the above claims with Snyder seconding. Vote 3-0.

CLERK TREASURER

- Pomeroy checked into Keystone for getting new software for their budget and payroll. The cost is approximately \$18,000. with maintenance contract \$2,850 annually.
- She also gave the Council copies of contracts for 2 bids for codification. The Council took both under advisement and tabled until next meeting.
- The Town also received \$31,352.15 for Riverboat monies.

ATTORNEY:

No report. Sexton gave Lyp the Employee Handbook to review and also stated that he had checked into 15 days of military pay for employees and could not find anything.

POLICE CHIEF

- Chief Spanier stated that the Police Commission would like a workshop with the Council to review the noise ordinance. Workshop set for September 12, 2005.
- He also received a technology grant for \$24,666 with the Town's match of \$6,249.
- The Building Corp had an annual meeting and agreed to purchase a generator for the Police Station and should receive by late next week. Spanier has offered the old one to the Street or Fire Department.

PUBLIC WORKS

- Bauer said that Chesterton had opened the bids for the joint Woodlawn Project with R.V. Sutton being the lowest bidder with \$73,270 and Boyd's bid of \$85,557. Chesterton has approved using R.V. Sutton. Granat made the motion to approve the bid of R.V. Sutton for the joint Woodlawn project. Snyder seconded. Vote 3-0.
- Bauer asked all residents to put all yard waste in the alley and to call the Street Department to request pick-up.
- Bauer would also like to purchase a flow meter from the Build Indiana Fund.
- He is also working with grant writer, Stephanie Jones for a coastal grant.
- Bauer also thanked Chesterton for helping when the Porter Avenue lift station broke.
- He also stated that Chesterton Utility had approved a 5,000 gal. per day for the new Visitor Center to be built in Porter.
- The Council gave him approval for hiring part-time help Brad Godfrey to full-time. Godfrey will start a new 90 day probation period starting August 11th at \$13.02 per hour. Godfrey has also waived health insurance.
- Bauer and Sexton were very disappointed at Indiana American Water Company when a water main broke on Lincoln St at 10:00 am and they came and said that the leak was low priority. During the day the leak started to wash out the Street. In. Am. Water finally came back at 7:30 pm.
- Shem of Haas and Assoc. stated that the meters were calibrated correctly.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER

- Lewis said their were 6 new contractors, for a total of 356. Snyder made the motion to approve with Granat seconding. Vote 3-0.
- He reported that the house demolition at 6 Box Lane was 95% complete.
- The sheds at Porter Beach which are on public-right-of-way will be dismantled.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Lewie gave the Council 2 quotes to purchase a vehicle for the Fire Department.

BID OPENING

Shem from Haas and Associated open 4 bids for the Town's resurfacing of roads. He stated that all bids were received before 7:30 pm today. The bids were as follows:

- Reith-Riley from Gary, In. Base bid \$170,277.70
- Walsh & Kelly from Griffith, In. Base bid \$199,432.00
- Bucko Construction from Gary, In. Base bid \$190,900.00
- Aggregate Industries of Kalamazoo, Mi. Base bid of \$198,022.80

The Council advised him to review and make a spreadsheet for them for the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- Animal Shelter Contract. Granat made the motion to approve the Animal Shelter contract with the following changes, to remove the word "emergency" on page 1 in Section 1. Attorney Lyp advised to strike out the word and forward to them. Snyder made the second, Vote 3-0

- Animal Control Ordinance 2005-07. Lyp wants to review and to shorten this ordinance. The council gave him permission to review and bring back for next meeting.
- Cedit monies. Granat made a motion to revise the Cedit spending schedule as follows: to remove monies from infrastructure for 2005 to the Police Department for the following amounts: \$1,410. for Software pkg. which the Police Department is short, plus, \$6,249.52 for the Towns portion for a grant, \$500. to repair the phone recorder and \$7,793. for a new copier. The total amount is \$15,952.52. Snyder made the second. Vote 3-0
- Able Disposal contract. James Smith from Able asked to be considered for the bid. The Council advised Attorney Lyp to put together a bid specifications package. Snyder made the motion and Granat seconded. Vote 3-0
- Accident Review board. Sexton stated that this is not for punitive actions but to help lower insurance rates for the Town. This was tabled until next meeting. Sexton will put a proposal together.
- BZA/Plan Commission. Sexton said he received 2 request to fill this position with the resignation of Dr. Vodnoy. This is a Presidential appointment. Sexton selected Mr. Greg Stinson, a Democrat, of 870 Quail Ridge Dr. He said both applicants were outstanding and it was a hard choice.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

The Council had received a letter from IACT for a donation toward its planned study on alternative methods of funding government other than property taxation. Snyder made a motion to give them \$500., Granat made the second and the vote was 3-0.

Sexton made comment on some very high sewer bills. Granat made a motion to change the summer billing to include May, June, July and August for 2006. Snyder made the second and vote was 3-0.

Sexton also stated that he and Karl Bauer were going to Burns Harbor Utility Board meeting on August 24 to request sewer capacity for the Town.

Snyder made the motion to adjourn at 9:07 pm, Granat seconded. Vote 3-0.

William F. Sexton, President

Sandi Snyder, Vice President

Jennifer Granat

ATTEST: _____
Carol Pomeroy, Clerk-Treasurer

Dated this _____ day of September, 2005