

**PORTER TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2005**

William Sexton opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Present were Council members Sandi Snyder Vice-President, Jennifer Granat, Sandy Boothe and Paul Childress, Attorney David Hollenbeck, Police Chief James Spanier, Fire Chief Lewie Craig, Director of Public Works Karl Bauer, Park Superintendent James Miller and Building Commissioner Bill Lewis.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- August 23, 2005 Granat made the motion with Snyder seconding. Vote 3-0. Boothe and Childress were absent.
- September 7, 2005 Executive Session. Boothe made the motion with Granat seconding. Vote 4-0. Snyder was absent
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APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

- Payroll \$50,880.76. Childress made the motion with Boothe seconding. Vote 5-0
- Claims \$38,246.57. Childress made the motion with Boothe seconding. Vote 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Jennifer Klug asked if the Town has a curfew law and if anything can be done about under age children being out at all hours of the night. Police Chief Spanier said the Town does not have a curfew law so basically the police can not do anything but to encourage them to go home.

CLERK TREASURER

- Pomeroy brought up special rates for summer sewer billing because at the last meeting the Council changed the billing cycle from June 15 – September 15 to add the month of May to that cycle. Pomeroy said that couldn't be done because that would be in the middle of the cycle. Following a lengthy discussion Granat then made the motion to keep the same billing cycle (June 15 to September 15) and Boothe seconded. Vote 2-3 with Childress and Sexton voting no and Granat, Snyder and Boothe voting yes. Granat will investigate the financial impact of going to the 6 month reduced rates.

- Pomeroy stated that she talked to Keystone about new software and has brought the price to approximately \$9,500. Sexton wants more information.
- The Town also received Riverboat monies for \$31,352.15.
- Pomeroy asked for new quotes for codification and would provide them to the Council when available.

ATTORNEY

No report.

POLICE CHIEF

No report

FIRE CHIEF

No report

PUBLIC WORKS

- Bauer said the 2 sheds from Porter Beach, that were on the Town's easement, have been removed by the Street Dept. The Town also took the contents that were in the sheds. One owner has picked his belongings but the other has not. Bauer asked Attorney Hollenbeck to write a letter to the owner and have the contents picked up with in 30 days. Hollenbeck agreed to do that.
- IDEM has issued a permit for LEL to begin construction on the wastewater collection system for Munson Place.
- Triangle Lift Station number 2 pump was short cycling. Pump is fixed and working correctly.
- Chesterton and R.V. Sutton are waiting for Town of Porter to sign contract for joint Woodlawn Project. Childress made the motion for Sexton to sign contract and Boothe made the second. Vote 5-0.
- Leaf pickup will start in October.
- The drain on Ballard was repaired and will pave the area next week.
- Repaired broken sewer line on Francis Street.
- The Girl Scouts will be cleaning Porter Beach on September 17 from 9am til noon. The Public Works will be there to pick-up garbage bags.
- Bauer also requested moving monies from one account to another account. Childress said that would be done at the end of the year when the Council will move other department monies if needed.

PARK DEPARTMENT

- Miller stated that the Park Board received 6 bids for remodeling the Community Center. The lowest bidder was Taylor & Bartholomew with \$56,163.00.
- Miller also requested that Hageman & Ackerman be included for the next round of paving. He said that before this can happen there are drainage issues that need to be looked at. Bauer said he would check on that.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER

- Lewis said that 2 new contractors have applied for licenses. Snyder made the motion to accept them with Boothe seconding. Vote 5-0.
- He also stated that the demolition of a house on 6 Box Lane was done but still needed some clean-up.
- Lewis said that IDEM has issued a permit for Munson Place and they are waiting for INDOT to approve it.

OLD BUSINESS

- Animal Control Ordinance 2005-07. After Hollenbeck did 2nd and 3rd reading, Boothe made the motion to accept and Granat seconded. After much discussion the vote was 1-4. Boothe voting yes and Childress, Granat, Snyder and Sexton voting no. The Council wants more clarification on page 16 section 24.
- Accident Review Committee. By consensus Sexton was authorized to develop a formal proposal to create an accident review committee of peer employees who will review accidents involving town vehicles to lower insurance cost.
- Waste Disposal Contract. Hollenbeck is to draw up a proposal for a new contract for bidding. The contract with Able Disposal runs out September 31, 2005. Jim Smith of Able Disposal asked the Council if they would like an extension to December 31, 2005 with the same terms and conditions now in place. Granat made the motion to extend the present contract to December 31, 2005 with Childress seconding. Vote 5-0.
- Auto Insurance. Anton Insurance Agency told Sexton that the law has changed for municipality's under-insured and uninsured motorist coverage. Town's no longer have to carry this coverage. Anton suggested not to eliminate this coverage. After discussion they advised Hollenbeck to check into this. He will report at next meeting.
- Sewer Collections. Hollenbeck said he did not receive a response to his letter to Indiana American Water Company. He will contact them and report at next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- Lyle Munn and Mary Klein of 2808 Glacier Trail requested an easement for water and sewer lines to cross a platted but unbuilt alley north of Roskin between Glacier Trail and Market Street at Porter Beach. Granat made the motion to approve the easement contingent on the applicants providing the exact location and a legal description after County approves and Bauer approves crossing the alley, Boothe made the second. Vote 5-0

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Granat said the Building Corporation has approved a new generator for the Police Department. Granat also said that Donna Beckman has resigned from the Building Corp. and who appoints to the seat? Council will check into.
- Sexton asked if the council should add to the Employee’s Handbook that if any employee loses keys to a town building if they should pay for replacing new keys and locks? By consensus the Council agreed 5-0. Sexton will check with Patrick Lyp and put on next agenda.
- Sexton congratulated Craig Stevens of Porter for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. Stevens is a member of Chesterton Troop #929. Craig’s project was helping organize and renovate the Methodist Activity Center in Chesterton.
- Sexton received an email from Jamie Hogan of Porter Beach saying that Frank Maxwell was appointed President of their association and was very willing to work with the zoning overlay.
- Sexton asked a Council member to go to a meeting October 7, 2005 at 9:00am to 10:30am with the Westchester Duneland Chamber. Granat will see if she can attend.
- Trauma Intervention Program was assigned to the next meeting.

Snyder made the motion to adjourn at 9:05 pm. and Childress seconded.

William F. Sexton, President

Jennifer Granat

Sandi Snyder, Vice President

Sandy Boothe

Paul Childress

ATTEST:

Carol Pomeroy, Clerk Treasurer

Dated this _____ day of September, 2005

