

PORTER TOWN COUNCIL

OCTOBER 10, 2006

President Paul Childress called the meeting to order by leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Present were Council members Lorri Wickberg, William F. Sexton, Sandi Snyder and Clerk Treasurer Carol Pomeroy. Vice President Jennifer Granat was absent. Also present were Attorney Patrick Lyp, Police Chief James Spanier, Fire Chief Lewis Craig, Building Inspector Brenda Brueckheimer and Public Works Director Karl Bauer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Childress asked approval of minutes for 9/26/06, Wickberg made the motion to approve minutes with a change of name of Bill to Sexton, Snyder made the second. Vote 3-0 with Childress voting present.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Sexton made a motion to approve claims as written in the amounts of \$73,118.11 and Sewer claims in the amount of \$66,434.07, Wickberg made the second. Vote 4-0

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Jennifer Klug of Lincoln Street stated that since the Sewer contract with Chesterton has been approved and Chesterton can require repairs and upgrades, the Town should use Major Moves monies to purchase capacity.

Earl Graves of Sunset Street asked about getting water for that area. Bauer said that he has made numerous phone calls and has not received a reply yet from Roberto Pena.

CLERK TREASURER REPORT

Pomeroy asked the Council to approve the CEDIT plan as written. Sexton made the motion to approve and Snyder made the second. Vote 4-0.

Pomeroy stated that the State Board of Accounts Auditors said that the outstanding checks from 1999 to 2003 in the total amount of \$11,950.91 be removed from records. Pomeroy said that the following amounts were put back in each Fund: Park \$906.62, MVH \$1,456.06, Town Hall \$3,295.10, Police \$6,026.62 and Fire \$266.51 by consensus the Council agreed.

Pomeroy also said that letters to residents regarding sewer billing were being mailed to explain the new payment dates for Indiana American Water Company billing.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Lyp said he has not received a response to his calls to Indiana American Water Co. for the damage that they did at Oak Hill Road & Waverly Roads. Bauer said that today Indiana Amer. Was fixing the repairs today and that they had put a swale in to help with the water in ditch.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Spanier stated that he had checked with Chesterton and Burns Harbor about what day they were having Halloween and both towns agreed on October 31st but had not set a time. By consensus the Council agreed to October 31st and set the time at 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Craig said that this was Fire Prevention week and told everyone to change the batteries in their smoke alarms.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

- Bauer said he received a call from Snyder about the fixing the drain at Hawthorn Park. He stated that R.V. Sutton stated that with all the rain he is about 3 weeks behind and would get to it as soon as possible.
- Bauer said that he had attended and completed a grant writing course and should have the certificate of completion in about 3 weeks.
- Next week the Street Department would start leaf pickup and asked the residents to put leaves on the curb not on the street.
- Bauer said that he had met with the Chesterton utility department and the following issues were discussed:
 - ✓ Calibration of meters: this needs to be done annually. The Town's meters were calibrated in August 2006 and the certificate was sent to Chesterton.
 - ✓ I & I study: Bauer must submit a written plan of action to Chesterton 15 months after the agreement was signed. The agreement was signed September 12, 2006 and a new report will be due December 12, 2007. Then every year the Town of Porter must send a report every September 12th as to the progress. Bauer is to let the Council know how much it will cost to finish the smoke testing.
 - ✓ Determining sufficient capacity prior to permits being issued. This can be done through the TAC meetings.
 - ✓ Report of Monthly use: The Public Works will read the meters at 5 lift stations daily and give a report to Chesterton by the 15th of the month.
 - ✓ Sampling at 5 metering wet wells. Severn Trent Lab will do the testing and send a copy of the report to Chesterton.
 - ✓ Porter agreed to provide Chesterton with an updated count for UNmetered area by January 5th of each year.
- Waverly & Oakhill drainage problems. Bauer and Shem have a plan to fix the drainage problem and will meet with the Storm Water Board to get their approval and let the Council know the cost .
- Sexton made a motion to appoint Bauer to attend Chesterton sewer meetings as a representative of Porter, Snyder made the second. Vote 4-0

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Brueckheimer had no report. Childress stated that the Council had agreed to hire Brueckheimer as a full time Building Commissioner and Plumbing Inspector starting next year but would like to revise that effective this year. Snyder agreed and made the motion to set the salary at \$32,000 a year which would include Plumbing Inspector and Code Enforcer effective October 11, 2006, Sexton made the second. Vote 4-0. Brueckheimer asked if she and Electrical Inspector, Bill Lewis would still receive the 20% commission split of 10% each for the quarterly inspections and the Council agreed by consensus. She was advised to notify the Plumbing Inspector.

OLD BUSINESS

- **EMPLOYEES HANDBOOK** Sexton made a motion to approve the handbook dated September 26, 2006 with the new modifications effective January 1, 2007, Wickberg made the second, Vote 3-1 with Snyder voting nay.
- **CAPITAL COST CONSTRUCTION ORDINANCE** Sexton made the motion to number and read by title only. The Ordinance was numbered **2006-17** and Wickberg made the second. Vote 4-0. Sexton made the motion to have a Public Hearing on October 24th at 7:30pm and Snyder made the second. Vote 4-0
- **INDIANA AMERICA WATER COMPANY BILLING.** Lyp said that their first bill would go out around October 23rd and would be due November 9th. Lyp will have the Disconnect Policy written for the next meeting on the 24th.
- **PCCRVC TIME CAPSULE.** Snyder said that since Granat is absent to wait until next meeting to discuss.
- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR.** Wickberg gave a report and stated that the Council needs to define exactly what they want and will make copies of report for everyone. Snyder feels that they need to hire someone to promote the Town of Porter to developers and to write grants. Sexton stated that it was his understanding that the salary could come from Major Moves monies since it is associated with NIRPC. Childress asked Snyder and Wickberg to come to next meeting with ideas and they agreed.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Sexton made a motion to appoint **Michael Genger** to the **Redevelopment Commission** as a citizen member, Wickberg made the second. Vote 3-1 with Childress voting nay.

Sexton made a motion to appoint **William Cantrell** to the **Stormwater Board**, Childress made the second. Vote 3-1 with Snyder voting nay.

Childress appointed Granat to put together a charity basket for the Memorial Opera House for a fund raiser. Sexton and Childress said that they would give a donation.

Wickberg asked to reschedule the Executive Session for department head review. The Council agreed to October 16th starting at 5:00pm. Craig at 5:00, Brueckheimer at 6:00, Spanier at 7:00 and Bauer at 8:00.

Sexton also give a report on Economic Development at the October 24th meeting.

Snyder made a motion to adjourn with Wickberg making the second. Vote 4-0.

Dated this _____ day of October, 2006.

Paul Childress, President

Lorri Wickberg

William F. Sexton

Sandi Snyder

ATTEST: _____
Carol Pomeroy, Clerk Treasurer