

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

NOVEMBER 14, 2006

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Granat asked for a motion to approve the October 24, 2006 minutes, Wickberg made the motion and Sexton made the second. Vote 4-0

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Sexton made a motion to approve the claims of \$101,644.37 & \$65,533.22 as presented, Wickberg made the second. Vote 4-0

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

Barbara Suarez, 381 Lake Vista, stated that she called Town Hall on October 10th about the property at 381 Lake Vista, Lot #55 in Woodlake Springs that abuts wetlands and was told by an employee that Porter ordinances supersede the Federal law. She also stated that the builder was cutting trees down today and that the property runs down hill and would cause erosion and her property would flood. She also stated that she had talked to the Army Corp of Engineers several times and that the permit has expired and the builder needs to renew it before he starts filling in the wetlands. Brueckheimer was told to check into this matter and report back.

Earl Graves of 1230 Sunset St commended the Police Dept. and Fire Dept. about doing a fine job, also stated that he wants water on Sunset. Bauer said that he has been in contact with In. Am. Water Co. about this issue.

Michael O’Conner of Saugatuck, Mi told the Council that he is in the process of buying land at Porter Beach and asked the Council for guidance on how to proceed with legalizing parking on Dearborn St. since it is posted as no parking of the entire street. Sexton advised O’Conner that he could ask the Council to ban parking on 50 to 60 feet of Dearborn. Attorney Lyp suggested that he request it in writing for the ban and Lyp also cautioned him that that another Council could reinstate the parking ban and anyone would be able to park there, that he would not have any vested rights.

CLERK TREASURER:

Pomeroy asked the Council when she should pay the Boards and Commissions and was advised by consensus to pay them the first pay in December.

Pomeroy also stated that her office is getting requests to discontinue trash billings for residents when they are on extended vacations. The Council, by consensus, advised her not to discontinue billings because the Town still gets billed whether they are on vacation or not.

Pomeroy asked the Council if they wanted to have Christmas Party or gift certificates for the employees this year. Sexton said he has received an anonymous donation in the amount of \$1,000 to use for a Christmas party. The Council agreed by consensus and set the party for December 15th. Pomeroy is to check with Stephanie Miller to see if that date is available.

Pomeroy also asked the Council if there would be the annual Christmas decorating contest this year. The Council agreed that there would be and to pay the winners the same as last year (\$75 for first, \$50. for second and \$25 for third place. Karen Pisowicz and Linda Hodges agreed to be judges. They will judge the last week in December and announce the winners at the first meeting in January.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Attorney Lyp said he would make the necessary changes to the **Abandon Vehicle Ordinance** and forward to the Police Commission for their recommendation.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Spanier asked the Attorney if the wording for the 4-2 schedule was ok (Lyp approved) and advised the Council that he had talked to IACT and they advised him to either attach the 4-2 schedule to the handbook or to the salary ordinance.

Spanier also asked again for the “Public” to report events as they are happening rather than wait until the next day to call the police department. Sexton asked Spanier to have the police patrol Waverly Road more because of speeding.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Craig said he had nothing to report except that Weldon “Peanut” Coslet was retiring with 36 years of service for the Fire Department. The Fire Department was hosting a party on December 17th from 4:00pm to 6:00pm at the Community Center and the public was welcome to come.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

- Bauer stated that they are cleaning the Public Works building and are still doing leaf pick-up.
- Auction: Bauer has set up an auction of Town equipment for December 2nd at 10:00am. He has sent a memo to all department heads asking if they have anything for the auction. Bauer was advised that he should advertise 10 days ahead of auction only once, by the Attorney. He will post a list of auction items at the Town Hall.
- Bauer asked Lyp if he has advertised for bids for buying a pay loader? Lyp replied no but that he has the “specs” and will do that.
- Cell phones. Bauer has contacted Tri Corp and can get a better deal for cell phones for the Town. He advised the Council that the Town is spending approximately \$700 for cell phones and by going to a new agreement it would cost the Town \$375.00. With the new agreement the Town would get 6,000 minutes for the whole Town, rather than x amount of minutes for each employee, with free incoming calls, unlimited nights and weekends, detailed billing and would not be penalized for changing plans which are already in place. The Council told him to proceed.

Snyder asked Bauer if the “fiber optics” has been added to the Town Standards. Bauer will check with Shem of Haas & Associates.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER:

Brueckheimer reported 4 new contractors for a total of 359. Sexton made the motion to approve and Snyder made the second. Vote 4-0

Sexton asked if she has received complaints for **Regional Industries** for garbage pickup. Bauer stated that he has received complaints. Sexton said he has had numerous complaints that they have ignored residents as they are putting out their cans and have been passed by, foul language and inconsistent times for picking up. Lyp was told by the Council to write a letter to RI and express their displeasure of their service. Craig said that RI has been fined because their trucks are leaking hydraulic fluid on the streets and to call his office if it is still happening because this is against the law.

OLD BUSINESS:

PCCRVC TIME CAPSULE: Grant wrote and read a letter about the Town’s history of the brickyards to be placed in the “Time Capsule”. Granat stated that this capsule will be opened in 30 years. The Council agreed to place this letter and a brick from the “Old Town Hall” which was built in 1913 and demolished in 2003. The Council thanked Granat for writing this letter.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ✓ **FIRE ALARM ORDINANCE #2006-19:** Sexton made a motion to number and have 1st reading; Snyder made the second, Vote 4-0. Lyp questioned Section 5 about if “single-family” dwellings and “lease/rental units” both have to file a yearly certification of compliance. Lyp will review and email the corrected version to the Clerk Treasurer for next meeting.
- ✓ **2007 SALARY ORDINANCE #2006-20:** Sexton made a motion to number, read by title only and to include the 4-2 schedule to the salary ordinance and Wickberg made the second, Vote 4-0. Pomeroy advised the Council that she spoke with Charley Pride of IACT and since there are ranges on the salary ordinance that the Salary Ordinance needs to list each employee as to their individual salary. Granat stated that the August 22 Council minutes state that the all employees and department heads will receive a 3% raise. Department liaisons were advised to meet with their department head and make a salary recommendation for them at next meeting.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: None

Wickberg made a motion to adjourn and Sexton made the second. Vote 4-0

Dated this _____ day of November, 2006.

Jennifer Granat, Vice-President

Lorri Wickberg

William F. Sexton

Sandi Snyder

ATTEST: _____
Carol Pomeroy, Clerk Treasurer