

PORTER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

February 8, 2005

PORTER TOWN HALL

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of President William Sexton, Vice president Sandi Snyder called the meeting to order at 7:46 p.m. leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

In addition to Snyder, those in attendance were: Councilpersons Sandy Boothe and Paul Childress, Jennifer Granat, Attorney Dave Hollenbeck, Police Chief Jamie Spanier Fire Chief Lewie Craig, Building Commissioner Bill Lewis, and Tommy Troy of the Street Department.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Granat made a motion to accept the minutes of January 25, 2005 meeting. Boothe seconded. The vote was unanimous.

CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS:

Claims – Childress made a motion accept and Boothe seconded. Childress noted that there was approximately \$81,000 left in the General Fund and Department Heads need to keep spending to a minimum. Vote was 4-0.

Payroll- January 31, 2005 -Boothe made the motion to accept. Granat seconded. Vote was 4-0.

PETITIONS & COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None

CLERK TREASURER

Pomeroy presented the minutes for the previous Executive meeting for the Council to sign. Pomeroy said she would like to put purchase/lease on a new color/black and white copier on the next meeting's agenda.

ATTORNEY

Hollenbeck said he had nothing to report.

POLICE

Chief Spanier said he had spoken with Al Raffin of the Building Fund Committee who said he would be glad to have a meeting of the committee to consider the purchase of a new generator for the Police Department. By consensus of the Council, he was told to proceed.

He also said the department has Safe Child Gun Locks. Previously they could be given to Porter residents only. He said with the number he has left, anyone in the County is welcome to stop by the station and pick up as many as are needed.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

No report.

Public Hearing was called to order on proposed additional appropriation of the \$555.00 grant to the Fire

Department. There were no proponent and no opponent comments, so the meeting was closed.

Childress made a motion to add appropriations for Fire Equipment. Boothe seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC WORKS

Tommy Troy represented the Street Department. There was no report.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Supt. Lewis said that thirty-four new contractors had furnished necessary papers for approval bringing the total to 195 for the year 2005. Childress made a motion to accept with Boothe seconding. Motion carried 4-0.

Lewis also asked for an ordinance concerning silt fencing, as he would like the authority to start enforcing one. Hollenbeck said it would be covered in the Soil Erosion Ordinance that is to be presented under new business. MS4 is federal but it is IDEM mandating the passage. Granat said that she felt there should be a monetary fine for violators. Lewis suggested a \$50.00 fee. The matter was put on hold.

From the audience Karen Pisowicz and Linda Hodges both remembered a previous council speaking about and perhaps passing such an ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS

WATER EXPANSION - Childress said there was a meeting between Haas & Assoc., Indiana Water and himself last week concerning the extension of water lines at Porter Beach. There had been \$113,000.00 from last year and approximately \$114,000.00 budgeted for this year. It was decided that the extensions would be on platted roads only and not on private roads or drives. The project will probably be completed this summer. Next they will move to Dunes Forest, which will be partially done. How much and where will be decided by the amount of money left.

SNOW BAN PARKING ORDINANCE –Boothe presented her version of the ordinance that she had been working on. Because of several questions presented by the Council and Hollenbeck, Snyder recommended that the ordinance be tabled until the next meeting. Boothe said she wanted to include these regulations in the Parking ordinance still on the table for the Plan commission. Boothe also asked about snow ban signs being posted during the winter. Hollenbeck offered to confer with Boothe and she will revisit the issue at the next meeting.

HYDRANT FEE ORDINANCE- Hollenbeck said he had drawn up a proposed ordinance 2005-1 to be considered to abandon the charge to the residents under the previous ordinance adopted on May 27, 2003 and titled 2003-03. The ordinance nullifies and rescinds the previous ordinance in its entirety. He had talked to Indiana American during the day and if adopted it would begin the first day of the first month following a full billing cycle. Childress made a motion to number and read the ordinance. Granat seconded. Vote was 4-0. Hollenbeck read the ordinance. Granat made a motion to waive the rules and have second and third reading by title only. Childress seconded.

Granat made the motion to adopt the ordinance. Boothe seconded. Vote was 4-0. Hollenbeck will forward a copy of passed ordinance to Indiana American Water.

DELINQUENT SEWER BILL POLICY – Hollenbeck is working on the written procedure where the delinquent accounts can result in cutoffs. Indiana Water will forward their documents relating to the cutoffs. He will have a report at next meeting.

ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE – Granat reported she had received a revised copy of the contract for Animal Shelter Service. The revised contract pro-rates the town's fees for \$4,000. for 2005 and deleted item 5 from the prior proposed contract as discussed at the January 25th council meeting. Hollenbeck said if it were

approved tonight, he would take it to the Commissioners. Granat made a motion to accept the contract with County for Animal Shelter Service. Boothe seconded. No discussion. Vote was 3-1 with Childress opposing.

NEW BUSINESS

MS4 BUDGET AND PROJECT PLAN- After attending the Storm Water Management meeting prior to the Council meeting Childress feels that the commission is not ready. The deadline is March 1 but Hollenbeck said an extension would be possible. Childress said he would work with Storm Water Management so that all details would be available for the next meeting.

ILLCIT DISCHARGE ORDINANCE – tabled until next meeting

EROSION CONTROL ORDINANCE - tabled until next meeting

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL-

Boothe asked the Council pleasure to have Tommy Troy working approximately five hours a week to keep up with paper work until a new Director of Public Works. By consensus, the Council agreed.

Childress asked when the deadline for applicants for the position is posted. Pomeroy said February 11, 2005. After discussion, it was decided that Childress and Boothe would interview the candidates. They are to make a recommendation at the February 22, 2005. Boothe said previous applicants would be considered. Pomeroy said there have been many applications received so far.

Childress asked the Council to set a special meeting on February 21, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. addressing the billing from Chesterton Utilities. The Council concurred. Pomeroy warned that if the bill is not paid by February 22, 2005 there is a delinquency.

Granat asked about information received in her mailbox Tuesday noting a company that re-codifies at \$19.00 per page. Snyder said she had not yet gathered more information but would have her recommendations by the next meeting.

Boothe expressed her thanks to Tommy and the rest of the Street Department for the job well done during the recent snow as well as running without a director for the past two weeks.

Granat made a motion to adjourn with Childress making the second. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Vice President Sandi Snyder

Sandy Boothe

Paul Childress

Jennifer Granat

ATTESTED BY _____
Carol Pomeroy, Clerk-Treasurer

This _____ **of** _____ **2005**