

# PORTER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

May 25, 2004

Porter Town Hall

With the absence of President Jennifer Granat, Vice –president Williams Sexton called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. Roll call showed those present: Paul Childress, Sandy Snyder, Sandi Boothe, Sexton, Clerk-Treasurer Carol Pomeroy, Police Chief John Lane, Public Works Superintendent Scott Guy, Fire Chief Louie Craig, Building Commissioner Dave Babcock. Attorney Dave Hollenbeck is attending a previous meeting at County level.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Childress pointed out one mistake – on page 4 – he was not a part of the motion proposed by Snyder. With that correction, Childress made a motion to accept the minutes of May 11, 2004. Snyder seconded. With no further discussion, motion carried 4-0.

Boothe made a motion to approve the May 18, 2004 minutes of the Health Ins. workshop. Snyder seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

## CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS:

Childress made the motion to accept the claims May 1-21, 2004. Boothe seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Childress made a motion to approved the Payroll claims ending May 15, 2004 totaling – \$43,130.88. Snyder seconded. Without discussion, the motion carried 4-0.

Booth motioned to accept the sewer claim, Snyder seconded. Childress voiced his opinion on how the computer for the sewer department was purchased. Vote was 3-1. Childress voting no.

## PETITION & COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

Linda Hodges, 470 E Oak Hill Rd asked about a previous meeting when the Taste of Porter was on the agenda and she wanted to know if and when it would be placed back. Sexton explained that it would only be put on when the organizers requested it. Snyder said tonight they would be looking at an ordinance that would cover the Taste of Porter among other gatherings.

## REPORTS FROM TOWN OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTS

### CLERK-TREASURER

Pomeroy had distributed to each department head their budget forms for 2005, asking for their return by June 7, 2004. After discussion, the workshop date was set for June 21, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Keystone has updated the sewer software and there have been glitches in the conversion by Indiana American. Therefore, sewer bills will be sent out May 28, 2004 and will not be due until June 18, 2004 to compensate. The sewer bills will now be posted in gallons instead of cubic feet. The water bills are already in gallons.

### ATTORNEY

In Atty. Hollenbeck's absence, Childress said he had forwarded a copy of his suggestions for a policy on delinquent sewer bills for his recommendation. Sexton said that he would furnish a copy of all items needing Hollenbeck's attention to him.

## POLICE

Chief Lane said the new Impala squad cars have been built and should be shipped within two weeks. One set of graphics has been completed. He also announced that there would be extra patrolmen out over Memorial Day weekend.

Childress asked about the reserve program. Lane said he had two documents ready to go to the Police Commission who would then make their recommendation to the Council. He hopes to have something ready within two weeks.

There was no report from the Animal Warden.

## FIRE

Chief Craig had nothing to add to his written report. When asked about his 1985 Dodge Brush truck breakdown, Craig said he was getting estimates on the repair but it was looking like it would cost around \$1100.00 for a transmission.

## PUBLIC WORKS

Supt. Guy made the Council aware that one of his workers; Carl Copollo had fallen off a ladder and dislocated his ankle while at home working. Copollo will be off at least two months.

He would like permission to hire a full time replacement already allowed for in his budget. The Council agreed by consensus.

He said due to the recent bad storms, they are continuing brush pick up. Residents may call the department. They were able to use their new Lift Truck that extends 41 feet to remove parts of a tree that had fallen and were causing a safety issue.

Guy would also like to look into hiring some summer help. He will have a proposal ready by the next meeting.

## BUILDING

Commissioner Babcock reported that ten new contractors had supplied all necessary credentials bringing the total to 226. Childress made a motion to accept and Boothe seconded. Vote was 4-0.

## OLD BUSINESS

None

## INSURANCE UPDATE

Sexton had previously discussed with Atty. Hollenbeck the proposals that were presented. He asked for a legal opinion on the second proposal (HSA) containing a pension plan. He said there may have to be a special meeting called for final approval of the plan.

Childress said he would like to make a motion that if all the legalities are in order, Sexton and Snyder could proceed with the plan. It could begin immediately saving the town of Porter money. He made the motion to give Sexton and Snyder the okay to proceed. Boothe seconded. Vote was 4-0. Sexton thanked the board for their confidence.

## PARADE ORDINANCE

Sexton said each Council member had been given a copy in advance of the proposed ordinance. Each member as well as the attorney had input in the final draft. Childress made a motion to read Ordinance 2004-05. Snyder seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Sexton presented the first reading of Ordinance 2004-05

From the floor: Steve Kneitzel of Franklin Food Mart had questions concerning the ordinance. The way he read the ordinance, the Council was taking the Police Chief's power. Sexton said yes, the Council reserves all right to allow or deny permits. Kneitzel also would like the term assemblage defined. Sexton said the Council would

define that. Sexton said they are looking for someone to come forward to chair the parade, apply for the permit and have bond (insurance) against damage. Kneitzel said he is interested in sponsoring the parade. Sexton told him the ordinance states that the parade or other gatherings cannot be held for profit.

Jennifer Klug, 302 Lincoln asked about the open cooler/open bottle law. Sexton said this is an issue of law enforcement. Beer Gardens and Bars cannot allow patrons to leave their establishments with open containers. Excise men have been asked to participate in the event to see that this does not happen.

The ordinance will be readdressed at the next Town Council meeting on June 8, 2004 with final passage. That will give organizers a month and will be in effect for future gatherings.

**PORTER TOWN SIGN PERMIT**

With the both Attorney's absent, the Council tabled the issue of the Town Sign on I-94 until the next meeting.

**COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL**

No comments from the Council

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business, Boothe made a motion to adjourn with Childress making a second. Meeting adjourned was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

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Vice President William Sexton

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Sandy Boothe

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Sandi Snyder

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Paul Childress

ATTESTED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Pomeroy, Clerk-Treasurer

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2004