

PORTER TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

MARCH 11, 2008

President William F. Sexton called the meeting to order by leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council members present were Vice President Jon Granat, Michele Bollinger, David Babcock and Michael Genger. Also present were Clerk Treasurer Carol Pomeroy, Attorney Patrick Lyp, Fire Chief Lewie Craig, Police Chief James Spanier, Building Commissioner Art Elwood, Public Works Director Brenda Brueckheimer and Park Superintendent James Miller.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FEBRUARY 26, 2008

Babcock made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Bollinger made the second. Vote 5-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Genger made the motion to accept claims as presented and Babcock made the second. Vote 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

Sherrill Newman asked the Council permission to use to erect banners on the street lights for the Sesquicentennial celebrations this summer, by consensus the Council agreed.

CLERK TREASURER REPORT

Pomeroy asked the Council for permission to delete a check #7504 in the amount of \$53.89 to Siemens, Inc. dated April 27, 2005 since it is over 2 years old. Genger made the motion and Granat made the second. Vote 5-0.

Pomeroy asked the Council for permission to pay all Boards and Commissions yearly. The auditors said that they must be paid as employees. It was also noted that the Police Commission must be paid monthly since it is a Metropolitan Commission. Attorney Lyp stated that he would check into paying the Boards and Commission as employees. Granat made the motion to pay all Boards and Commissions yearly upon Lyp's approval on how to pay them and Bollinger made the second. Vote 5-0.

Pomeroy also asked the council for permission to hold off on the codification since there are some errors in the rough draft. Pomeroy stated that the cutoff date was in August of 2007 and since then the Council has approved about 15 ordinances that would correct these errors. She wants to have these ordinances entered into the codification which would add an additional cost and delay for a month or two. Council asked how much more is this going to cost and Pomeroy said that Municipal Code could not give an estimate since they do not know what it involves to make the changes. Pomeroy did note that each additional page costs \$19.00. By consensus the Council agreed to spend the extra CEDIT money to have the codification complete as possible and instructed Pomeroy to send the additional ordinances.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Spanier stated that the Town Hall is still having problems with the phones since switching to Comcast. Hopefully this will be taken care of by next week.

Spanier also noted that he would like to submit a proposal for buying new police cars in the near future.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Craig had nothing to report

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Brueckheimer asked the Council to review the report to purchase of new meters which they took under advisement. She also noted that she hired a new employee that started on February 26, 2008.

PARK DEPARTMENT REPORT

Miller said that the Park Board has issued a survey seeking residents input for the Park’s 5 year Plan.

Miller also noted that the Easter Egg hunt is March 15th at 10:00 at Hawthorne Park.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT

Elwood asked the Council to approve 5 new contractors. Babcock made a motion to approve and Granat made the second. Vote 5-0. Sexton thanked Elwood for doing a great job.

OLD BUSINESS

WBEZ COMMITMENTS ATTACHED TO ORDINANCE 2008-

Babcock made a motion to accept the commitments for WBEZ and Bollinger made the second. Vote 5-0.

UTILITY BOARD

After much discussion about forming a Utility Board or a Technical Advisory Committee it was agreed by consensus to adopt an Advisory Board and Lyp would draft a resolution to form this committee. Lyp noted that the Advisory Board would serve at the pleasure of the Town Council and would not have any bonding power. Bollinger stated that she is looking into whether anyone would be interested in buying the sewer system because of the poor condition of the system which will cost between \$4 to \$10 million to repair. Genger noted that they need to entertain every option before taking on this debt. Sexton said that economically selling the system needs to be looked at and to explore all the ways of funding. He also stated that getting rid of the system will not be that easy with all the repairs that need to be done.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 2008-07 AMENDING 2004-04 BEACH PERMITS

This ordinance clarifies that in order for Porter residents to receive a beach permit for \$5.00 their driver’s license and car registration must state the Town of Porter.

Genger made a motion to number and read by title only with Bollinger making the second. Vote 5-0.

Bollinger made a motion to suspend the rules and Genger made the second. Vote 5-0.

Granat made a motion to have final reading and adoption and Bollinger made the second. Vote 5-0.

ORDINANCE 2008-08 AMENDING 2007-16 SALARY ORDINANCE

Granat made a motion to number and read by title only with Genger making the second. Vote 5-0

Genger made a motion to suspend the rules and Bollinger made the second. Vote 5-0

Granat made a motion to have final reading and adoption and Genger made the second. Vote 5-0

ODINANCE 2008-09 TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Granat made a motion to number and read by title only with Genger making the second. Vote 5-0.

Bollinger made a motion to suspend the rules and Genger made the second. Vote 5-0.

Granat made a motion to have final reading and adoption and Genger made the second. Vote 5-0.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Sexton stated that there will be an executive session on March 18th at 7:00pm for pending litigation.

Sexton also asked the Department Heads if the Technical Advisory Committee takes minutes at their informal meetings and if an agenda is issued prior to the meeting. He noted that minutes need to be taken and an agenda needs to be posted. He also stated that the minutes could be very brief as to who attends and their recommendations also need to be noted.

Sexton also said that there is a "If I were Mayor" contest for 6th graders to enter. There will be 8 Regional winners.

Dated this _____ day of March, 2008.

William F. Sexton, President

Jon Granat, Vice President

Michele Bollinger

Micheal Genger

David Babcock

ATTEST: _____
Carol Pomeroy, Clerk Treasurer