

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 25, 2008**

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Babcock made a motion to approve the minutes as presented with Bollinger making the second. Vote 4-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Genger made a motion to approve the claims as presented in the amounts of \$131,904.14 and Sewer claims in the amount of \$94,777.47 with Babcock making the second. Vote 4-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

Betty Samilson of Arrowhead Trail stated that she complained last year about the junk and garbage in front of her neighbor's house. She said he cleaned it up for about 2 weeks and now it is worse than ever. Brueckheimer stated that she had contacted Porter Health Dept. last year. Elwood stated that his hands are tied until the codification is completed. Attorney Lyp also stated the same.

CLERK TREASURER REPORT:

Pomeroy asked Council to approve a proposal from CBM Account Service to collect on delinquent sewer accounts. Pomeroy stated that she had advertised for a collection agency and they were the only one to reply. Their rates are 33% for normal collections, 40% if they are out of an area where they are not licensed and 45% if they go to court which includes them paying for court cost and filing fees. Lyp noted that these rates are normal for collections. CBM also said that they cannot take accounts that are 6 years or older. Pomeroy asked the Council to write off \$8,287.25, which is attached because they are older than 6 years old. Bollinger made a motion to write off these claims and Babcock made the second. Vote 4-0. Bollinger also made a motion to have CBM do our collections for sewer and Babcock made the second. Vote 4-0.

Pomeroy also asked the Council what amount the Performance Bond should be for Allied Waste that bought out Regional Industries. She noted that Regional had a \$90,000 cash bond. By consensus the Council agreed that Allied Waste should also have a \$90,000 Performance Bond.

Pomeroy also asked direction for a sewer account that is almost \$9,000 past due. She said she has put a certified lien against the property and in December had the water turned off. She sent Elwood to check and see if water has been turned on and he said no that they had huge amounts of water bottles in their foyer. Lyp advised the Council that the Council could foreclose but there could be judgments against the property and not worth their while. They advised Elwood to contact the Porter County Health Department.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Lyp asked the Council if he should write a letter to the owners of the Iris Festival that is usually held in May. Last year there were numerous complaints because of traffic congestion on Oak Hill Road. The Council agreed to be pro active on this issue.

POLICE REPORT:

Spanier stated that he has a request for a parade for the annual State Park Baseball League. He noted that everything is in order and that they have insurance. It will start on Woodlawn & 15th Street and go to State Park Lane on April 26th. Genger made a motion to approve and Bollinger made the second. Vote 4-0.

Spanier asked direction for a dog in the 300 block of Indiana that has bitten a mail carrier last year. The Council told the owner to have the dog removed from Town, which he did but the dog is back because the new owner could not handle him. Spanier said that the Police have issued a ticket for the dog running at large. The Council advised Spanier to have the dog removed from the home.

Spanier also reminded residents to lock their cars.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Brueckheimer asked permission to buy a meter for \$2,458 from JGI Innovations for the 23rd Street lift station, which the Council agreed by consensus.

There were no overflows for this month.

Brueckheimer also asked for cooperation for residents putting things in sewers. Last week all lift stations were cleaned and this week she had to remove diapers, a commercial mopheads and numerous other items.

Brueckheimer also asked permission to replace a street light at Lincoln and Waverly Roads. She noted that the pole is already there, by consensus the Council agreed

The Council also told Brueckheimer to advertise for summer help.

She also wants to have a yard sale for the 150th celebration which will be May 3rd & 4th at the Public Works Dept from 8:00 to 4:00.

PARK DEPARTMENT:

No report

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Elwood said there are 9 new contractors. Babcock made a motion to accept with Genger making the second. Vote 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

FLOCIS AGREEMENT. The Council approved Brueckheimer to purchase 12 flow meters for \$16,075 which includes software and training. Babcock made a motion to purchase with Genger making the second. Vote 4-0.

Warren Thiede of Haas & Associates stated that the Town has received its NPDES permit and has until April 1st to appeal the permit. After much discussion the Council agreed that this permit identifies Porter Ave and Triangle Trail left stations that the Town has already committed to upgrade these left stations.

Bollinger made a motion to adjourn with Genger making the second.

Dated this _____ day of April, 2008.

William F. Sexton, President

Michele Bollinger

Micheal Genger

David Babcock

ATTEST: _____
Carol Pomeroy, Clerk Treasurer