

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

JULY 24, 2007

President William F. Sexton called the meeting to order by leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Present were Lorri Wickberg, Vice President; Council members Sandi Snyder, Jennifer Granat and Paul Childress. Also present were Carol Pomeroy, Clerk Treasurer; Attorney Patrick Lyp, Fire Chief Lewie Craig, Public Works Director Karl Bauer, Brenda Brueckheimer, Building Commissioner and Officer Todd Allen sitting in for Police Chief James Spanier who was on vacation. Also absent were James Miller Park Superintendent and Attorney Patrick Lyp.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: IN THE AMOUNTS OF POLICE \$5,840 AND LRS FOR \$40,000.

Sexton asked 3 times if there were any opponents. There were no comments.
Sexton asked 3 times if there were any proponents. There were no comments
Sexton then closed the public hearing.

Granat made a motion to have 1st reading by title only on Ordinance 2007-14 for the above additional appropriations, Childress made the 2nd. Vote 5-0

Childress made a motion to suspend the rules, Granat made the 2nd. Vote 5-0.

Granat made a motion to have 2nd and final reading and approve by title only, Childress made the 2nd. Vote 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ALLEY VACATION BY RAY CAHNMAN AT PORTER BEACH.

Sexton asked 3 times if there were any proponents. There were no comments.

Sexton asked if there were any opponents. The Council read 6 letters from opponents. The letters are attached to the minutes from: 1. Michael & Renee Shea 2937 Glenwood Beach Trail. 2. Jon Schmoll 2929 Glenwood Beach Trail. 3. Jamie Hogan 100 Duneland Drive. 4. Frank Maxwell, President of the Porter Beach Homeowners Association. 5. Elka Nelson 111 Duneland Drive. 6. Ruth Maxwell 2932 Glenwood Beach Trail. Attorney Robert Welsh of Harris, Lukman and Welsh, representing Ray Cahnman told the Council that the residents at Porter Beach have the wrong impression of what is being asked in this petition. Cahnman owns property on both sides of the alley and would like to swap Parcel "B" for the alley and move the alley to the west so that Cahnman's land would be contiguous so that he could build a garage. At this point Welsh asked for a continuance or postponement for a later date. Welsh said he would re-advertise after he has spoken to Porter Beach residents to explain what Cahnman would like to do. Snyder made a motion to postpone or continue until a later unspecified date, Wickberg made the 2nd. Vote 5-0. Public Hearing closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Granat made a motion to approve the July 10, 2007 minutes as written, Wickberg made the 2nd. Vote 5-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Wickberg made a motion to approve the claims in the amounts of \$257,841.01 and \$89,647.04 as presented, Granat made the 2nd, Vote 5-0. Granat reminded the Department Heads to check and make sure that if they are using contractors to do work in town to make sure that they are licensed.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Dan Geissler of 429 Franklin Street, reported to the Council that his daughter was bitten by a dog from the 400 block of Franklin Street. He told the Council that this dog has had 9 citations for being aggressive or running at large, and wanted to know why nothing has been done. Sexton stated that the Town Attorney Patrick Lyp has written a letter to the dog's owners telling them the consequences if this dog is not maintained in a safe manner.

CLERK TREASURER REPORT:

Pomeroy thanked the Redevelopment Commission for the loan of \$480,000 for all departments until they receive monies from County.

Pomeroy also asked the Council to schedule a Budget Workshop. The Council set up July 31, 2007 at 6:00pm for the workshop. Pomeroy noted that she would advertise.

With James Miller, Park Superintendent absent because of a funeral Pomeroy read his report.

1. The Art Fair will be held at Hawthorne Park on August 4th & 5th from 10:00am to 5:00pm.
2. He thanked Stan Potter and the Street Department for helping the Park Dept. with chipping some brush.
3. The summer Park program ended on July 20th. He thanked Jill Bucy and her staff for another successful year.

Sexton called on Steve Brady of the Heritage Group who handles the Town's health plan with United Health Care to comment on the renewal. Brady stated that the health insurance portion would increase 8% and the life insurance portion would increase by 7% for the renewal effective August 1, 2007. Snyder made a motion to accept the renewal and Wickberg made the 2nd, Vote 5-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT: NONE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Todd Allen representing the Police Dept. had nothing to report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Craig reported that the Village was sponsoring a Street Dance for the fire dept. on July 28th from 8:00pm to Midnight.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Bauer reported the following:

- Sewer Meter report. In June there were no high readings but in July on the 18th following 3.37 inches of rain the Porter Ave and Triangle lift stations had to be pumped and bypassed.
- Oak Hill Lift Station. Bauer stated that the work should begin in 6 weeks when the pumps arrive.
- 2007 Paving Project is scheduled to begin on August 6th and should take about 2 weeks to complete. The order in which they will be paved are as follows Bailleytown, Tremont Road, Marquette Road, Wood Street, Wagner Road and Lincoln Street. Bauer noted that at Lincoln and Wagner Roads a sewer collapsed and will cost \$5,543 for Reith & Riley to repair. This would bring the total a little over \$203,000 because the original bid was approximately \$197,000 for paving only which includes the alternates for paving. Childress suggested removing the alternates from the bid to remain around the \$200,000 projected costs. Granat made a motion to change the work order to include the \$5,543 for sewer repair for the collapsed sewer line and to take the \$5,543 from the sewer fund, Wickberg made the 2nd, Vote 4-1 with Childress voting no.
- Hunter's Glen. Sexton asked Bauer to take care of a sink hole from a collapsed 14" pipe that is busted.
- Dudley Street at Porter Beach. Granat stated that she has received a call from a resident that the berm is washing out at the curve of Dudley Drive. Bauer said that he has talked with Mike Wilson of Indiana American Water Co and they will have Hobart Paving fix the road.
- Bauer was asked to talk to the Park Dept about a dying tree at Franklin & Waverly Rd.
- Shem of Haas & Associates presented a bill to the Council from Delta Industrial for cleaning a sewer line from Woodlawn Ave towards the Chesterton Sanitary plant in the amount of \$5,034, the proposal was for \$6,500. He stated that the line is running well despite the heavy rainstorm last week.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Brueckheimer presented the Council with a list of 6 new contractors, Granat made a motion to accept and Snyder made the 2nd, vote 5-0. She also reminded the Council that the Risk Management Committee meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month.

OLD BUSINESS

- Ordinance 2007-13, No Parking on Oak Hill Road. Granat made a motion to have final reading by title only and adoption, Wickberg made the 2nd, Vote 5-0.
- Mineral Springs Villa's Bond Reduction. Shem of Haas & Associates recommended to the Council to reduce their bond to \$47,000 and stated that this amount is more than enough to finish the sidewalks, landscaping and also the sidewalk for the bike trail. Wickberg made a motion to reduce the Mineral Springs Villa's bond to \$47,000 and Snyder made the 2nd, Vote 5-0.
- Tree Replacement Policy. Granat will ask Attorney Lyp to write a mirror ordinance for tree removal and replacement. Granat will supply Lyp with the information.

NEW BUSINESS

4TH OF JULY PARADE AND CELEBRATION

Sexton suggested to the council that the Town should consider sponsoring the 4th of July parade and events for the 150th year celebration that are family oriented. Rita Newman of Franklin Street a member of the Friends of Porter reported that they are assisting Westchester Public Library to develop a program and the "Friends" will finish a walking tour brochure. Snyder stated that she feels the Town doesn't have the money and doesn't want the responsibility for sponsoring a "midnight parade" and feels that the new Council should make that decision. Childress agreed with Snyder and added if a not-for-profit group wants to sponsor the parade he is all for it. Granat said that the Town could maybe have a morning or midday parade or even fireworks at Porter Beach. William Cantrell of Waverly Road suggested contacting Porter businesses to help pay for the celebration. Brueckheimer said she remembers as a child that Porter celebrated all holidays and has fond memories of the annual firefighter's waterball contests. She said this is a good thing to make Porter fun again and volunteered to get everything in motion. Granat encouraged anyone who would like to help organize this celebration to contact the Town Hall.

VOLUNTEER FIRE CONTRACT FOR 2007

Sexton said that the contract needs to be spellchecked and will place on next agenda since the Attorney is not here tonight to advise. Childress said he has a problem adding 5 more volunteers to the Department.

Granat made a motion to adjourn and Wickberg made the 2nd.

Dated this _____ day of August, 2007.

William F. Sexton, President

Lorri Wickberg, Vice President

Sandi Snyder

Jennifer Granat

Paul Childress

ATTEST: _____
Carol Pomeroy, Clerk Treasurer