

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 25, 2007

President William F. Sexton called the meeting to order by leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Also present were Council members Sandi Snyder, Jennifer Granat and Paul Childress, Clerk Treasurer Carol Pomeroy, Attorney Patrick Lyp, Police Chief James Spanier, Public Works Director Brenda Brueckheimer and Park Superintendent James Miller. Absent were Vice President Lorri Wickberg and Fire Chief Lewis Craig. Chief Craig was called out on a fire alarm.

MINUTES: September 11, 2007

Granat made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Childress made the second. Vote 4-0.

CLAIMS:

Granat made a motion to accept the claims as presented in the amounts of \$317,545.70 and \$297,821.88 with Childress making the second. Vote 4-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

Earl Graves of 1230 Sunset, wanted to thank the Town Council, Clerk Treasurer and all Department Heads for doing a great job since they have been in office.

CLERK TREASURER:

Pomeroy reported that there were 3 new contractors for a total of 307.

Pomeroy asked the Council to amend the minutes of June 26, 2007 for the 2007 Paving Project.

Granat made a motion to amend the minutes of June 26, 2007 regarding the 2007 paving project to read that \$100,000 should be taken out of Major Moves Fund and \$49,500 from LR&S to pay the current bill due to Reith & Riley, not a loan as stated in the June 26 minutes, Snyder made the second. Vote 4-0. The remainder of the paving project will be paid from LR&S Fund.

ATTORNEY:

Lyp said he will report on the Fire contract later in the meeting.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

None

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Craig was on a call.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Brueckheimer reported no overflows this month. They have had to pull the 23rd St. pump 3 times this month because it was clogged. Also reported was:

- Cleaning all lift stations
- Replaced a manhole at 151 Waverly Road and has asked for quotes for filling a sink hole.

- “No outlet” signs have been posted at Mineral Springs Rd and Old Porter Rd.
- Street light pole has been fixed at Highway St.
- Had a verbal request to have street light pole moved back 6 feet from Earl Graves. She said this request will not be honored because trucks should not be going down this road.
- Replaced the speed limit sign on Old Porter Road.
- Stop sign replaced at Lincoln & Wagner Roads,
- They are still picking up brush.
- Leaf Vacuum is being repaired.
- Brueckheimer is getting estimates for plow repair.
- Brueckheimer also asked residents to put grass in bags and put along side the road not in ditches or curbs.

Oak Hill Lift Station:

Childress made a motion to pay LGS Plumbing prior to being on the claim docket in the amount of \$29,883.87 and Snyder made the second. Vote 4-0. Snyder said they have left Oak Hill Road and Waverly in very poor shape and wants it corrected. Shem of Haas & Associates said he would send them a letter to fix this problem immediately and if not done the Town could fix it and deduct the price from the total of the bill. Childress questioned why LGS Plumbing is asking for payment when road is in such bad shape. Shem stated that the entire project is to be completed by October 25th and if not would face a \$500 a day penalty.

2007 PAVING PROJECT:

Brueckheimer asked the Council to cancel the rest of the paving project for replacing the “loop” and paving at Tremont Road and Hwy. 20 until next year, by consensus the Council agreed.

PARK DEPARTMENT

Miller said he used PACT workers to paint the concession stand getting ready for the sesquicentennial celebration.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

No report. Sexton and Childress will do interviews for a new Building Commissioner.

OLD BUSINESS:

FIRE CONTRACT:

Attorney Lyp, Childress and Craig met prior to tonight’s meeting to iron out concerns and they came to an agreement and Lyp will have contract for next meeting. Some of the concerns were the number of volunteer firefighters; Lyp said the number is not a concern but equipment costs and insurance is. Another problem was when the volunteer firefighters would be paid; Lyp said the Town needs to pay by December 31st.

NEW BUSINESS:

ANIMAL CONTRACT:

Granat made a motion to pay Porter County animal contract in the amount of \$4,371.00 and Snyder made the second. Vote 3-1 with Sexton, Granat and Snyder voting yes and Childress voting no. Childress said that this fee is included in our taxes and why are we double paying this includes all Towns in Porter County.

NIRPC:

Consultants of JJR of Chicago were on hand to ask the Council for their input on a unified vision for the Lake Michigan shoreline being developed as the Marquette Plan Phase 2 from Portage to the Michigan state line. Sexton asked if the input of smaller towns like Porter that have lakeshore property lines will be weighed against larger towns like Chesterton that does not have lakeshore property lines. They noted that there has been no discussion concerning this but are looking what each communities needs are. The Marquette Plan will address such topics as economic development and jobs being created. At that point Sexton stated that the Council wasn't ready to provide any input at this time.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Granat asked the Council if they are aware of the threat of consolidation of Public Libraries and possibly losing Hageman Library in Porter. She feels very strongly about keeping Hageman open. She reminded the Council that there is a meeting on October 3rd. Granat will get more information and bring back to the Council.

Brueckheimer stated that the Park Board has approved setting aside the days of July 3rd thru July 6th for our sesquicentennial celebration.

Dated this _____ day of October, 2007.

William F. Sexton, President

Sandi Snyder

Jennifer Granat

Paul Childress

ATTEST: _____
Carol Pomeroy, Clerk Treasurer