PORTER POLICE COMMISSION
MINUTES

January 17, 2006

The Porter Police Commission meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. In attendance were William Donley, President; Linda Hodges, Vice-President and Commissioners Brian Dahlin, Arthur Heredia and Karen Pisowicz. Also in attendance were Police Chief James Spanier and Town Council Liaison Jennifer Granat.

First order of business was the election of officers for 2006. Karen Pisowicz made a motion to elect Linda Hodges for president. William Donley seconded. Brian Dahlin nominated Arthur Heredia for president. Dahlin noted the reason he nominated Heredia was because Heredia's term expires at the end of 2006 and Linda Hodges has been appointed for another 3 years. Dahlin made a motion that the nominations be closed. Hodges became president with a 3-2 vote.

Brian Dahlin nominated Heredia for vice-president. Pisowicz nominated Donley for vice-president. Vote for Heredia was 2 for, 3 against. Vote for Donley was 5-0.

Donley then passed the gavel to Hodges to continue the meeting.

Regarding the December 20, 2005 minutes Hodges asked for clarification of statement regarding warrants be changed to clerks office also forwards warrants. Dahlin asked that it be noted that we are not in conflict with INDOT regarding the problem at Hwy 20 & Waverly Road. Dahlin made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Donley seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Chief Spanier presented the monthly reports. Some discussion was held regarding the recent robberies at the gas station on 20 and Waverly and Pat's Liquors on Waverly.

Heredia had some questions regarding how statistics are kept and had some suggestions to aid Spanier in how he allocates manpower. Heredia suggested publicity to make people aware to lock their cars & houses to reduce theft. Heredia had some suggestions regarding how the statistics are kept. Spanier noted that until the new software is in place the department will continue reporting as usual. Hodges suggested any changes be put on hold until the software is in place. Dahlin asked if the department is trained to use the new software and Spanier stated some training will have to be done.

Heredia also asked if reports could be submitted on letterhead.

Under Old Business, Granat noted changes in the Noise Ordinance. Donley made a motion to recommend this ordinance to the Town Council. Heredia seconded. Motion carried 5-0. A letter will be sent to the Council.

Regarding Dispatcher Rules, Spanier would like to have a meeting on Tuesday to discuss this with Dahlin and Heredia attending. Since Dahlin and Heredia are unable to attend at this time, a date will be set up later.

Heredia asked about disaster plans and that the town needs to have such plans if they wish to secure homeland security grants. Hodges suggested that Heredia get in touch with Chesterton and Burns Harbor to see if they have a disaster plan and asked Donley to speak to NIPSCO. Then a committee could be formed to bring a disaster plan to fruition.

Heredia asked Spanier how the new officers are working out and was told new officer Scott is doing a wonderful job.

Hodges asked about patrolmen at the beach and Spanier said money was taken from one fund to allow the department to pay a coded enforcement officer for less than a regular officer and they could ticket parking offenders.

Dahlin asked if Spanier had any plans to meet with National Lake Shore regarding the extra facilities now at the beach. Spanier stated the National Lake Shore has cooperated in the past. Dahlin is concerned that the town might have to spend more money when it should come from the National Park.

Heredia asked if there was any place for commissioners to work at the station but at present there is no place.

Dahlin asked that letters of commendation be put in John Lane's and Joe Torak's file for the work they helped regarding Waverly Road and Hwy 20 when Rep. Charlie Brown came out to view the traffic situation. Dahlin thanked Hodges for school bus information which was given to Charlie Brown. Brown will get back to Dahlin who will then relate to the other commissioners. Granat will take this to the council.

There were no public comments and no further comments from liaison Granat.

Donley thanked everyone for their cooperation during his tenure as president and thanked Granat for her work with the commissioners. Dahlin commended Donley for his leadership and Hodges thanked Donley & Granat for their good work. Hodges also thanked the rest of the commission and thanked everyone for showing up at the workshop

Meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Rita Newman

Rita Newman, secretary

Minutes approved this 21st day of February. 2006

Linda Hodges

Linda Hodges, President

William Donley

William Donley, Vice-President

Brian Dahlin

Brian Dahlin, Commissioner

Arthur N. Heredia

Arthur Heredia, Commissioner

Karen Pisowicz

Karen Pisowicz, Commissioner

Attest: Rita Newman

Rita Newman, secretary