

TOWN OF PORTER
Redevelopment Commission Meeting
303 Franklin Street
September 22, 2009

Vice-President Al Raffin called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Jon Granat, Al Raffin, Bruce Snyder, Trevin Fowler

Absent: Mike Genger, Ron Stone

Also present: Attorney Patrick Lyp, Director of Engineering Matt Keiser, and Secretary Karen Spanier.

Consideration of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion to approve minutes of the August 25, 2009 meeting as presented was made by Bruce Snyder; second by Jon Granat.

Motion passed 4-0

Consideration of Claim Docket

Bruce Snyder made the motion to approve the September claim docket in the amount of \$14,238.25, with Trevin Fowler making the second. Motion passed 4-0.

Audience Participation

None

Reports

Keiser asked the commission's permission to attend and fund the Mid American Conference in Kalamazoo MI. This is a major Trails conference with twelve states and NIRPC attending. The registration fee is \$150.00 and \$109.00 for the hotel.

Motion to approve expenditure for conference, contingent on Council approval, was made by Bruce Snyder with Trevin Fowler making the second.

Motion passed 4-0

The Brickyard Trail is being reviewed; Mr. Keiser stated they are working on plan changes to include a bridge crossing over U.S. 20, which would be more cost effective rather than a tunnel.

Mr. Keiser announced the Orchard Pedestrian Way has run into a stumbling block, with several residents opposing the Trail and possible problems relating to land acquisition he recommended looking into amending the CMAQ Grant. Keiser stated shortening the Trail would reduce cost considerably, terminating at Orchard Apartments rather than at U.S. 20. The Commission could then ask, if approved, to use the unallocated funds for other uses.

Motion to research CMAQ Funding and study shortening the original plans for the Orchard Pedestrian Way was made by Mr. Snyder, with Mr. Fowler making the second.

Motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Keiser also affirmed this year's deadline to purchase additional sewer capacity has passed, but the Town Council and/or Commission will have other chances in 2010 and 2011. Mr. Raffin stated that the Commission will have a year to study and prepare figures to get a better idea on how to proceed.

Old Business

None

New Business

Clerk-Treasurer Carol Pomeroy came before the Commission asking for a \$445,000.00 loan to cover the Town's operating expenses. Money is still owed to the Town for the 2008 distributions and with Porter County's inability getting the 2009 tax bills out on time it is doubtful we will receive any more money from County this year. Town Council President, Michele Bollinger told the Commission coming to you is not the first resort it is the last... the Town is being fiscally responsible on their spending and has cut back wherever it can. Mr. Snyder questioned how quick the money would be needed and Mr. Raffin stated the Commission would need some time to move money from the Certificate of Deposit. Pomeroy stated the money would not be needed until November and the Town would repay the Redevelopment loan first.

Mr. Snyder made the motion to loan the Town \$445,000.00, payable in increments, the first of which would be \$200,000.00. Jon Granat made the second.

Motion passed 4-0

Attorney Lyp noted all inter-fund loans would have to be paid back by December 31, 2009 unless an emergency is declared.

Motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Snyder, with Trevin Fowler making the second.
Meeting Adjourn. 6:55 p.m.

Albert Raffin, Vice-President

Bruce Snyder

Jon Granat

Trevin Fowler

Attest: Karen Spanier
Karen Spanier, Secretary