

Minutes for the Town of Rocky Ripple Board Meeting, Mar 10, 2009

Attendees: Robert Tomey, Carla Gaff-Clark, Cathy Hurt

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Treasurer's Report

As of Feb. 28, there was \$2912.48 in checking and \$15,068.67 in savings. There were no unusual expenses in February. Copies of the ledgers for the checking and savings accounts, Ledgers of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances and Ledgers of Appropriations, Encumbrances, Disbursements, and Balances were handed out to the board members. Robert made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Carla seconded.

Connolly Ford Leppert is in the process of marketing our insurance, and sent two applications to fill out.

Action: Robert will call the insurance company and make sure they have the information they need.

We need to adopt an ordinance according to IC 36-4-8-14 and IC 36-5-4-12 so that the water bill, which comes after board meetings and is due before the next board meeting, can be paid. Cathy recommended that the board allow up to \$40 per month, with the provision that the voucher be signed at the next meeting.

Action: Carla to talk to Mr. Elrod to draft the ordinance.

Marshal Kiefer asked to get a copy of the current ordinance from Mr. Elrod.

The minutes from the February meeting were read, and the following changes were made:

- Mr. Elrod did not drive the re-zoning of Rocky Ripple land to park property. He had been asked to review the situation, and it was found that not all the land had been re-zoned.
- Under new business, in the sentence "Robert also felt strongly that maintenance for the hoop house should include paying for water" the word "should" should be changed to "must". In addition, it was added that the garden group will have to work out how to split the payment with the volleyball group on their own.

Robert made a motion to accept the minutes with those changes. Carla seconded and the motion was approved.

Old Business

Cathy asked how to handle the water bill for the park, now that it will be paid by the garden group.

Action: Cathy to call Sam Carpenter and work it out.

Jeremy South had asked whether the town would be willing to trade pottery workshops, open to the public, for use of the town hall for a weekly gaming group. The board was not willing to do so.

The levee repair was done; the effort was led by John Stohler and Adam Garvey. Three dumptruck loads of dirt were used to fill the hole. Some honeysuckle was removed as well as two trees that were leaning dangerously.

The tree that caused the damage to the levee had reportedly been down since June 2008. **It is very important that property owners on the levee let the board know if something like this happens!!** The integrity of the levee affects everyone in town. The town will work with property owners to help with levee repairs if necessary, but they cannot help you if they don't know about the problem.

It was suggested that the Riverfront Advisory Committee be reactivated so that homeowners will have a resource for levee maintenance and repair. This will be discussed at the REM/CERT meeting on March 14.

New Business

The town board met with the State Board of Accounts for an exit interview regarding the stolen town money. The report was not final, and the board was advised not to discuss it until the final report was issued. Once the final report is issued it will be available to the public. One of the places it will be available is the SBOA website at www.In.gov/sboa.

Marshal's Report

There were 4 ordinance violations for failure to stop at stop signs and 3 parking violations.

The REM/CERT meeting will be held at the town hall on Saturday, March 14, 9:30am.

Ethan James Runnels disappeared in the White River in Rocky Ripple on Feb. 14 after his canoe overturned. He was not wearing a life jacket. Marshal Kiefer reminds everyone to **wear a life jacket** on the river, especially in cold weather and/or when the river is high.

Committee Updates

There were no committee updates.

Citizens Input

In a newspaper article in the Indianapolis Star North dated March 5, 2009, John Tuohy stated that Danny Orr is "acting as the board's liason with the prosecutor's office". The board was questioned as to whether he was an official liason and who gave this information to Mr. Tuohy.

Robert said that Danny is not an official liason, and the board was not contacted regarding the article. Carla stated that she had contacted the prosecutor and given him the contact information for the board, as well as that for Mr. Elrod, our attorney.

Danny said that he did not tell Mr. Tuohy he was an official liason. Sue Bowling said that she had called and asked why a town board member was not contacted for the article.

Sue Bowling stated that she had concerns about the treasurer's report. The treasurer should state how much is in each fund, and go over receipts and disbursements for each fund.

The last budget we have is from 2008; a 2009 budget was never submitted. The amount in the budget is about 4 times the amount of money that we actually have, so the actual amounts will not reconcile with the budgeted amounts. The General fund and the Motor Vehicle Highway fund use about 50% of the budget each, so the money we had as of Jan. 1, 2009 was allocated 50% to each fund. As money comes in it will be allocated to the proper fund. For future meetings, the treasurer's report will be more detailed.

Greg Goodrich stated that he will not be able to do any more mowing for the town due to his health. The town needs to set a rate and put out a bid for the mowing.

With no further business, Robert made a movement to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm. Carla seconded.

Respectfully submitted
Cathy Hurt