

Approved Minutes for the Town of Rocky Ripple Board Meeting, Aug. 11, 2009

Attendees: Robert Tomey, Angela Herrmann, Carla Gaff-Clark, Cathy Hurt
The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Meeting minutes

The minutes from the July meeting were read. Carla said that regarding the police car grant, the grant uses stimulus money and covers the entire cost of the car so there would not be a need to seek money for matching funds. Danny Orr stated that he did not deserve recognition for the park mowing- the volunteers that did the work did. Angela made a motion to accept the minutes with the above changes. Robert seconded and the motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report

As of July 31, we had \$10,177.71 total in checking and savings. Expenses were \$5817.30 and income was \$10,421.27. Income included \$3120.00 for the last advance for the 2007 pay 2008 property taxes and \$2717.82 for public safety. A copy of the financial summary that was handed out to board members is attached to this report.

We got our \$15,000 settlement from the bond for Anne Jansen (the amount was not included in the July treasurer's report). It was deposited into our account by the State Board of Accounts. We still do not know if they are going to claim some of the money.

Action: Cathy to contact the SBOA and find out

Angela made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Robert seconded.

Citizen Concerns/ New Business

Cathy had a report of paper streamers left in the Hohlt Park pavilion after the last use & asked whether some of the security deposit should be withheld. It was mentioned that maybe the people intended to come back the next day to clean up.

The pavilion should be cleaned the day of use- it might be reserved by someone else the next day. Danny Orr volunteered to check out the pavilion after it is used & notify Cathy if it is not in acceptable condition. It was decided to give the full refund to the people in question.

Greg Goodrich mentioned that the pavilion is a mess right now- vines have been hung up in it and the picnic tables have been moved out.

It was asked what is wrong with the "Billy Goat" mower. It has a flat tire.

It was asked whether we have had a problem with chickens running loose. There has been one incident (see Marshal's report). Greg mentioned that he has seen a number of foxes around the neighborhood – loose chickens would not be safe.

Regarding the fish kill observed in the White River behind the town hall:

Angela thanked the people who live along the river who have raised attention to it.

Robert stated that he first started seeing dead fish on the night of July 16th. He contacted Kevin Hardie of Friends of the White River and Marilyn Hunter contacted the DNR on July 17th. In order to find out what killed the fish, a near dead or freshly dead fish must be dissected within hours of it being collected. The first fish sample was not taken until July 29th. Robert condemned the slow response.

The algae is a brown-yellow diatom (single cell) algae. One of the nutrients for it is sewage. Not far upriver from us (near the Riviera Club) is a combined sewage overflow. Levels of e.coli >100ppm in the water are considered dangerous- dangers include the risk of Hepatitis A and E. The last publicized test result was 109ppm on June 8.

Robert was also told that when the algae breaks down a “suspect” bacteria can follow. He was told by the State Board of Health not to have contact with the water, and that “everyone knows” this is the case.

We need to resume our water testing. River Watch can train people. The Butler Center for Urban Ecology may be able to help too.

It was asked how far north the fish kill went. It was intermittent, but started just below the combined overflow by the Riviera Club.

John Stohler said that there was a white oily froth on the water & that the water was “sizzling”. His personal watercraft left a path in the river that was still visible on his way back.

According to public notice for project CS-11-004, the Department of Public Works is moving forward to put in a 6 foot sewer interceptor by the Riviera Club to “remove discharge of CSO 205 from the White River to lift station 507”. There are other combined sewer overflows north of us however, so the problem is not going away soon.

It was suggested that we could take fish to a lab and pay for our own investigation.

Old Business

Carla still has not heard from Mr. Elrod on any of the issues we have asked him about. We cannot take civil action against Anne Jansen until the criminal case is settled.

Regarding the grant for the police car, most of the money was redistributed to the state. It has not been announced who will get the remaining money available to the county.

Robert suggested that we can pull the engine in the current car and rebuild it.

Marshal’s Report

Marshal Kiefer issued two ordinance violations for speeding, 4 for failure to stop at stop signs, and 2 for animals at large- one for a dog, one for chickens. There were 5 chickens, with possibly one rooster. (The proposed ordinance limits chickens to 4 hens.) Since there is no ordinance yet, the only thing he can enforce is if the chickens are running at large. He cannot do anything if the chickens are running loose on the owner’s property. The proposed ordinance states that the chicken coop should be at least 50 feet from any neighbor’s house, but does not specifically state that they cannot run loose. This should be spelled out in the final ordinance. (See April minutes for the proposed ordinance.)

Mike was asked to document any complaints or incidents, as documented complaints will be a determining factor in the decision whether to adopt the ordinance.

We need to address the condition of 51st Street between Lester and Clarendon- more gravel is needed.

Action: Robert to price a triaxel truckload of gravel.

With no further business, Robert made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm. Angela seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Hurt

Town of Rocky Ripple, 930 West 54th Street, Rocky Ripple, Indiana

Rocky Ripple Financial Summary

July 2009

	Checking + Savings	General Fund	Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	Local Roads & Streets Fund	Park water	Park toilet
Starting balance:	\$ 4,823.77	\$ 712.53	\$ 2,556.17	\$ -	\$ 14.86	\$ 75.00
Routine monthly expenses						
Utilities, except street lights:	\$ 295.54	\$ 295.54				
IP&L park pavillion	\$ 11.38					
IP&L town hall	\$ 32.74					
IP&L vet's monument	\$ 15.63					
AT&T, phone & internet	\$ 82.24					
Citizens Gas, town hall	\$ 129.00					
Water, town hall	\$ 9.21					
Water, park	\$ 15.34				\$ 15.34	
Street Lights:	\$ 736.29		\$ 736.29			
Town Marshal/ Street Commissiner:	\$ 2,491.55		\$ 2,491.55			
Wages	\$ 2,111.94					
Gas for police car	\$ 200.00					
State taxes	\$ 179.61					
Other:	\$ 188.88	\$ 188.88				
bank fees	\$ 15.88					
deposit return, park & town hall use	\$ 125.00					\$ 125.00
park toilet rental	\$ 48.00					\$ 48.00
Routine Quarterly expenses	\$ 2,105.04		\$ 2,105.04			
legal services (Q4 2008 & Q1 2009)						
wages, town board						
federal payroll taxes	\$ 2,105.04					
Non-routine Expenses	\$ -	\$ -				
		\$ -				
		\$ -				
Total Expenses:	\$ 5,817.30	\$ 484.42	\$ 5,332.88	\$ -	\$ 15.34	\$ 173.00
Income from State:	\$ 6,276.73					
LRS	\$ 1,080.72			\$ 1,080.72		
MVH	\$ 1,226.87		\$ 1,226.87			
Cigarette tax		\$ 355.16				
ABC gallonage	\$ 355.16	\$ 355.16				
advance dist.	\$ 3,120.00	\$ 3,120.00				
excise dist.	\$ 493.98	\$ 493.98				
Income from County:	\$ 3,489.02					
LOIT oper dist	\$ 169.17	\$ 169.17				
Public Safety dist.	\$ 2,717.82		\$ 2,717.82			
Court Costs to Municip	\$ 602.03	\$ 602.03				
Ordinance violations:	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00				
Gun permits:	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00				
Town Hall/ Park Pavilion Use:	\$ 115.00	\$ 115.00				
Town Hall	\$ 40.00					
Pavilion	\$ 75.00					\$ 75.00
Other:	\$ -					
Donations for park water		\$ -			\$ -	
		\$ -				
Interest:	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.52				
Total Income:	\$ 10,421.27	\$ 5,395.86	\$ 3,944.69	\$ 1,080.72	\$ -	\$ 75.00
Outstanding checks paid	\$ 1,555.07					
Current outstanding checks	\$ 2,305.04					
Ending balance:	\$ 10,177.71	\$ 5,623.97	\$ 1,167.98	\$ 1,080.72	\$ (0.48)	\$ (23.00)