

Approved Minutes for the Town of Rocky Ripple Board Meeting, July 9, 2013

Attending: Brad Barcom, Carla Gaff-Clark, Robert Tomey, Cathy Hurt
The meeting was called to order at 7:29pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Special Presentation

Ben Hunter, Chief of Staff and Executive Director of Public Safety for Butler University gave a presentation regarding master planning for Butler's parking strategy.

Mr. Hunter noted the negative impact of parking during large events at Butler. He had seen the concerns that Rocky Ripple had expressed in our March meeting about people parking on the 52nd Street bridge. He stated that people should feel free to call him with their concerns about parking.

One of the issues that Butler has is that many of the students only use their cars to go home, and therefore their cars tend to sit in parking lots for long periods of time without being used. Butler is planning to install a parking lot in Butler Bottoms for long term parking. In addition, they are going to try to decrease the number of long term parked cars.

Planning for the long term parking lot will be included in a master plan for Butler Bottoms- the university has not had a long term plan for this space in the past. Currently, plans include continuing to develop the campus farm, adding water service for field irrigation, widening Lester Street and adding pedestrian pathways, adding lighting (this would be dark sky compliant for neighbors and the Holcomb Observatory), and adding parking for the Central Canal Towpath. Pavement will be permeable so as to not interfere with watershed.

It was asked if Butler had considered building a parking garage. Yes, and the idea is not completely off the table, but it is a large structure and would be very disruptive to campus to build. Also, it would be very expensive and may not be the best use of that money.

Carla asked whether traffic issues in Rocky Ripple had been considered with the long term parking lot. Also, there is the security issue of students sitting in cars doing whatever. Will Butler be taking care of these situations? Will long term parking always be long term?

Butler is trying to decrease the overall number of cars on campus. The measures they are considering include increasing permit fees, barring cars for freshmen, and increasing shuttle service. A campus shuttle would be put into place for the long term parking lot. This shuttle would also go from campus to Broad Ripple, Glendale, and downtown. It would connect to IndyGo routes 17, 18, 19, 26 and 28.

It was asked whether Rocky Ripple residents would be able to use the shuttle. Yes.

Mr. Hunter emphasized the fact that all this planning is very preliminary, and that the information he presented is only an early draft of the plan.

In addition to the plans mentioned above, Butler is planning to remove invasive plants from along the canal and do some work on the levee. The latter is very long term, but will be necessary for long term development of Butler Bottoms.

Carla asked why Butler doesn't build a bridge over the canal instead of routing traffic through Rocky Ripple. Mr. Hunter answered that they had considered that, but the property along the canal is an easement only. It could happen in the distant future, but it is also an expensive option.

Regarding traffic in Rocky Ripple, Butler will help the town with infrastructure and maintenance on Lester and 52nd Street. They will also help with salting the bridge, trimming invasive growth, signage, and speed control.

Speaking of signs, Mr. Hunter had read in our meeting minutes that we were pricing some signs. He suggested that we co-op with Butler. Butler orders signs in large quantities and can get them much cheaper.

It was stated that we see lots of lost cars in Rocky Ripple looking for the field. The current signs are not very effective. Will Butler address this issue? Mr. Hunter replied that the university is aware that the current signs are not adequate. They would like to install better ones. They will need written permission from Rocky Ripple to do so.

Robert stated that he would like to be the town liaison to Butler if there were no objections. No objections were raised.

Marshal Kiefer noted that in a lot of the written directions to the fields that he had seen, people were directed to turn on Clarendon. He requested that Butler change that to Lester Street, since Clarendon Road is in bad shape.

Brad asked whether Butler had considered how to get students to and from the airport. Yes. Some ideas are taxi vouchers or a shuttle that connects to an IndyGo route.

Brad asked whether parking for the Central Canal towpath would be open to the public. Yes. Butler would like to encourage the public to use the canal path and walk in the fields. They will put in an automatic gate that opens at dawn and closes at dusk and increase security, including adding security cameras.

Regarding security, campus security is a much bigger deal now than it was in the past. There are far more federal guidelines and restrictions. Rocky Ripple is within Butler's primary jurisdiction (the primary jurisdiction is bordered by 42nd Street, Rocky Ripple, Illinois Street and Michigan Avenue), but there is a lot of red tape involved if/ when they back up Marshal Kiefer. For example, if a Butler shuttle was at Glendale and a reportable incident happened, Butler would be obligated to report. This is complicating things.

Robert asked if a Butler representative could come to Rocky Ripple town meetings on a regular basis. Yes. Mr. Hunter suggested that every other meeting would probably be often enough, but said they were willing to come every month if the town preferred. Mr. Hunter also stated that he has a daily log that is available to the public by email. If you are interested, contact him at BDHunter@Butler.edu.

Julie Bleakley stated that people parking or stopping to text along 53rd Street are a problem. She would like to get out the word that this is not ok. Brad stated that he has not seen a lot of this. Carla suggested that maybe these people were lost. Mr. Hunter stated that people can call him. He also said that Rocky Ripple would need to give Butler permission to enforce the local ordinance. Marshal Kiefer stated that our ordinance states that any officer with state power can enforce it.

Meeting minutes

The board members had read the June unapproved meeting minutes and did not request any changes. Robert made a motion to approve the minutes and Brad seconded.

Treasurer's Report

As of June 30, we had \$66,097.77 total in checking and savings. Expenses were \$6,193.57 and income was \$18,153.16. Notable income was \$13,130.32 in property tax revenue. We will probably get a similar amount in December.

For the first half of the year, our expenses were \$43,132.49 and our income was \$35,421.37. Expenses include \$7,163.00 for insurance that covers the whole year.

Carla noted however that we are consistently spending about \$2,000 more than we are bringing in. She suggested that we consider raising fees and/ or taxes or asking the Community Association to take over more of the park maintenance.

Brad suggested that another option would be to ask the city of Indianapolis to take over the town. We can't afford to pave all our streets if we use every penny we have.

Robert made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Brad seconded. Copies of the financial summaries that were handed out to board members are attached to this report.

We need to start thinking about the 2014 budget. We need to advertise it before the September meeting, so we will need to come up with a solid first draft at the August meeting. Cathy handed out a summary of the 2013 budget and our spending so far, which is also attached to this report.

Brad asked whether Cathy had researched how to do an additional appropriation. Yes. We need to advertise it once at least 10 days before we meet to adopt it, and then send it to the Department of Local Government Finance for approval. We will have to show that we have this money to spend. It is possible that it will not be approved.

Robert made a motion to move forward to advertise an additional appropriation of \$10,000 to spend for an environmental lawyer to represent the town in the matter of the levee. Brad seconded.

Carla asked for further discussion. How do we set aside the money? We do it by creating a legal fund. Do we have the money? Just barely. Currently we have \$11,957.18 available in the general fund. (We have \$28,280.53 in the general fund, but \$14,475.00 is in the police car fund, \$1,848.35 is in the police training fund, and \$127.53 is in the park water fund. There was some question as to whether we had initially set aside \$5,000 or \$10,000 for the police car fund. The amount was \$10,000, as recorded in the Feb. 2011 minutes.)

Larry Landis asked what is the plan for the \$10,000? It won't buy much legal help. Have any attorneys told the board that there is legal cause of action?

Robert stated that we need better legal counsel than Mr. Elrod can give us regarding our options to challenge the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE, or Corps) floodwall plan. Mr. Elrod has stated himself that he is not qualified to guide us in this matter.

Marilynn Hunter asked if we are setting the money in a fund where other people can contribute. She also asked whether the board would approve any spending from the fund. Yes. The board would have a special session if necessary.

Carla stated that she would like to set aside a token amount. Robert stated that \$10,000 is a token amount.

Ron McNew, who lives on Kenwood, stated that the Butler Tarkington Neighborhood Association (BTNA) is interested in helping, but cautious. They do not have a history of activism.

Carla suggested that the Rocky Ripple Riverfront Committee be re-activated to help find a lawyer. Brad stated that it was a conflict of interest to have people living on the river, many with structures built into the levee, helping to choose a lawyer. Several residents complained that his statement was unwarranted and rude. Brad further stated that he would like any business of this nature to take place at town meetings for the sake of transparency.

A resident stated that \$10,000 was a lot of money to throw away.

It was suggested that we look into partnering with the Hoosier Environmental Council.

Robert stated that timeframes matter here- we need a lawyer now. The comment period for the current USACE plan is over in 60 days. We need advice now.

At the last community meeting at Butler, they talked about getting Mayor Ballard involved. Is there any news on that? Citizens have written him, but gotten no response. Robert and Brad plan to attend the Mayor's Night Out, which is scheduled July 16, 6pm, at the Jewish Community Center on Hoover Rd.

Julie Bleakley asked whether the board had written an official letter to Mayor Ballard. No.

The motion was made that we start the process for an additional appropriation of \$10,000 to have available and in position to spend on an environmental lawyer if needed. The motion was unanimously approved.

Carla made a motion to set up the fund so that others can donate. Brad stated that we need to clearly define the fund and its objective. Robert stated that the fund would be used to challenge the USACE and/ or the city of Indianapolis on the floodwall plan presented in the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement released June 10, 2013. Carla approved this, Brad seconded, and Robert made it unanimous.

It was stated that in his presentation, Mr. Hunter had mentioned that Butler will eventually be doing work on their levee. Would that just protect Butler Bottoms? Brad stated that this puts them in a good position to partner with us.

We need to pressure the city not to sponsor the USACE project. Brad will send out an email with information and talking points so that residents can write the city. Legislators count letters.

Carla made a motion stating that the town will let the city on Rocky Ripple property for the purposes of a levee survey. Brad seconded this motion, and Robert made it unanimous.

Old Business

Carla has not heard back from Mr. Elrod regarding speed humps. She did get information on specifications from the city. She will forward the information to board members.

Regarding the property at the 4900 end of Riverview, Mr. Elrod suggested that the best way to proceed was to have Jon Stohler file a quit claim deed. This would bring the issue before a judge and force a resolution. Odds are that a judge would go with our last agreement. Carla requested that the board give Jon time to do this before acting on this matter.

New Business/ Resident Concerns

Carla has been moving forward with levee survey permission slips from residents on the river side of Riverview. She forwarded information from John Oakley of the Indianapolis Department of Public Works to these residents. If anyone has other questions, please let her know.

Regarding patching of streets, Jon Stohler has been busy, but still intends to do the work.

Molly Scanlon and Matt Sogar are getting married in Hohlt Park and would like permission to serve alcohol without a licensed caterer. They would use a professional server with a liquor license, and their homeowner's insurance covers up to \$1,000,000 in liability for an off-site party hosted by them. They know that quiet hours start at 10pm and will respect that. Marshal Kiefer has stated that he does not have any issues with this if it is ok with the board. The board asked Cathy to check the town's insurance policy to make sure there would be no other issues, but approved the variance otherwise.

Marshal Kiefer asked the board to approve parking in the park for the wedding, similar to what we do for the festival. He also asked for approval for cars to stay overnight if needed. Permission was granted, again assuming that the town's insurance policy does not contradict the variance.

Marshal's report

Marshal Kiefer asked to modify the town ordinance as follows:

Article 3-2-1.2: Regarding alcohol in the park, Marshal Kiefer would like to add a \$50 fine per violation, in line with the Marion County ordinance.

Article 3-2-1.6: This section currently prohibits mopeds, motorcycles, and ATVs from operating in the park. Marshal Kiefer would like to expand the definition to any motorized vehicle, with the exception of vehicles in designated parking areas. He would like to add a \$100 fine per violation.

Both changes were approved unanimously by the board.

Marshal Kiefer asked Carla whether there were any grants coming available. He needs a new laptop and radar gun. Carla asked him to send her the specifications for both items. She will look for grants.

Mandy Redmond asked for input regarding someone who contacted the Community Association to do some community service work. Could they trim brush at the 52nd Street bridge?

Brad asked about potential liability. Marshal Kiefer stated that that is not town property, so we do not have the authority to clear it. Carla said that she has called the Mayor's Action Line about the overgrowth.

Carla suggested that the person could clear brush and straighten signs in town. Mandy said that someone needs to be available to supervise, and that the work needed to be done by the end of the month. Marshal Kiefer said that he would

supervise, and asked that the person needing to do the work contact him. If anyone has ideas for work that needs to be done, please contact him also.

Mandy said that the work would be done under the Community Association, but that she needed permission from the town board. Permission was granted.

Ely Hinkle is not driving a truck for the time being, so he will no longer be driving a semi through town.

It was asked whether the pavilion needs any repairs. No.

Robert made a motion adjourn the meeting at 9:40pm. Carla seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Hurt

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

Rocky Ripple Financial Summary									
June 2013									
		Checking + Savings	General Fund	Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	Local Roads & Streets Fund	Funds under General fund			
						Police car	Police Training	Park water	Park toilet
Starting balance:		\$ 55,146.66	\$ 9,527.02	\$ 7,839.37	\$ 35,218.91	\$ 13,875.00	\$ 1,848.35	\$ 119.29	\$ (1,453.50)
Expenses	Routine expenses								
	Utilities, except street lights:	\$ 358.55	\$ 358.55						
	IP&L park pavillion	\$ 11.38							
	IP&L town hall	\$ 30.20							
	IP&L vet's monument	\$ 15.92							
	phone & internet	\$ 211.29							
	Gas & water, town hall								
	Water, park	\$ 11.76						\$ 11.76	
	park toilet rental	\$ 78.00							\$ 78.00
	Payroll	\$ 3,898.26							
	Marshal/ Street Comm. wages	\$ 2,796.00		\$ 2,796.00					
	Trustee wages	\$ 600.00	\$ 554.10						
	Clerk-Treasurer wages	\$ 350.00	\$ 323.23						
	Federal payroll taxes	\$ 141.23	\$ 141.23	\$ 72.67					
	Workforce Development	\$ 11.03	\$ 11.03						
	Other	\$ 1,462.62							
	Bank fees	\$ 16.33	\$ 16.33						
	Street lights	\$ 736.29		\$ 736.29					
	Police car gas	\$ 250.00		\$ 250.00					
	Legal services		\$ -						
	Cleaning service	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00						
	Mowing service	\$ 385.00	\$ 385.00						
	Non-routine Expenses	\$ 474.14							
	Office supplies	\$ 62.89	\$ 62.89						
	Police supplies	\$ 74.78	\$ 74.78						
	Town hall supplies	\$ 21.58	\$ 21.58						
	Information services	\$ 34.89	\$ 34.89						
	Police training	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -		
	Legal ads	\$ -	\$ -						
	Insurance (Workers comp)	\$ -	\$ -						
	Town hall repair & maint.	\$ -	\$ -						
	Pavilion repair & maintenance	\$ -	\$ -						
	Flyer printing	\$ -	\$ -						
	clerk-treasurer school/ ILMCT dues	\$ 280.00	\$ 280.00						
	snow plowing			\$ -					
snow plow gas			\$ -						
snow plow repair				\$ -					
vehicle repair				\$ -					
street repair materials				\$ -					
Road salt service				\$ -					
Road salt				\$ -					
Refunds- park/ town hall use		\$ -							
Stormwater Fees		\$ -							
Total Expenses:		\$ 6,193.57	\$ 2,338.61	\$ 3,854.96	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11.76	\$ 78.00
Income	Income from State:	\$ 2,410.59							
	LRS	\$ 1,005.89			\$ 1,005.89				
	MVH	\$ 1,193.68		\$ 1,193.68					
	Accelerated MVH1			\$ -					
	Accelerated MVH2			\$ -					
	Cigarette tax	\$ 211.02	\$ 211.02						
	ABC Gallonage		\$ -						
	Income from County:	\$ 14,786.68							
	LOIT	\$ 192.94	\$ 192.94						
	Public Safety dist.	\$ 380.21	\$ 380.21						
	water PILOT								
	river boat								
	property dist.	\$ 13,130.32	\$ 10,529.13	\$ 2,601.19					
	excise dist.	\$ 1,083.21	\$ 892.01	\$ 191.20					
	property tax dist: sold properties								
	Other:	\$ 955.89							
	Donations	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00					\$ 20.00	
	Repayment, A Jansen	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00						
	Town hall use	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00						
	Pavilion use	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00						\$ 150.00
	Ordinance violations	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00			\$ 600.00			
	Gun permits		\$ -				\$ -		
	Interest	\$ 5.89	\$ 5.89						
	Refunds		\$ -						
	Total Income:		\$ 18,153.16	\$ 13,161.20	\$ 3,986.07	\$ 1,005.89	\$ 600.00	\$ -	\$ 20.00
Transfer:		\$ -	\$ 7,930.92	\$ -	\$ (7,930.92)				
Outstanding checks paid		\$ 2,561.36				Total of positive balance funds: \$16,323.35			
Current outstanding checks		\$ 1,552.88				Unrestricted in General Fund: \$11,957.18			
Old outstanding checks									
Ending bank balance:		\$ 66,097.77	\$ 28,280.53	\$ 7,970.48	\$ 28,293.88	\$ 14,475.00	\$ 1,848.35	\$ 127.53	\$ (1,381.50)

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

Rocky Ripple Financial Summary									
Q1-2 2013		Checking + Savings	General Fund	Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	Local Roads & Streets Fund	Funds under General fund			
						Police car	Police Training	Park water	Park toilet
Starting balance:		\$ 74,126.97	\$ 29,730.02	\$ 12,451.08	\$ 30,074.91	\$ 13,450.00	\$ 1,848.35	\$ 84.19	\$ (1,547.00)
Expenses	Routine expenses								
	Utilities, except street lights:	\$ 1,720.84	\$ 1,720.84						
	IP&L park pavilion	\$ 68.28							
	IP&L town hall	\$ 398.46							
	IP&L vet's monument	\$ 101.93							
	phone & internet	\$ 650.85							
	Gas & water, town hall	\$ 250.16							
	Water, park	\$ 16.66						\$ 16.66	
	park toilet rental	\$ 234.50							\$ 234.50
	Payroll	\$ 21,614.35							
	Marshal/ Street Comm. wages	\$ 18,174.00	\$ 12,509.33	\$ 5,664.67					
	Trustee wages	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00						
	Clerk-Treasurer wages	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00						
	Federal payroll taxes	\$ 1,474.23	\$ 1,474.23						
	Workforce Development	\$ 66.12	\$ 66.12						
	Other	\$ 8,364.94							
	Bank fees	\$ 97.20	\$ 97.20						
	Street lights	\$ 4,417.74		\$ 4,417.74					
	Police car gas	\$ 1,750.00		\$ 1,750.00					
	Legal services	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00						
	Cleaning service	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00						
	Mowing service	\$ 850.00	\$ 850.00						
	Non-routine Expenses	\$ 11,432.36							
	Office supplies	\$ 128.83	\$ 128.83						
	Police supplies	\$ 74.78	\$ 74.78						
	Town hall supplies	\$ 21.58	\$ 21.58						
	Information services	\$ 174.45	\$ 174.45						
	Police training	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -		
	Legal ads	\$ 43.84	\$ 43.84						
	Insurance (Workers comp)	\$ 7,163.00	\$ 7,163.00						
	Town hall repair & maint.	\$ -	\$ -						
	Pavilion repair & maintenance	\$ -	\$ -						
	Flyer printing	\$ -	\$ -						
	clerk-treasurer school/ ILMCT dues	\$ 330.00	\$ 330.00						
	snow plowing	\$ 360.00		\$ 360.00					
snow plow gas	\$ 509.90		\$ 509.90						
snow plow repair	\$ -		\$ -						
vehicle repair	\$ 854.80		\$ 854.80						
street repair materials	\$ -		\$ -						
Road salt service	\$ 1,265.00		\$ 1,265.00						
Road salt	\$ 385.68		\$ 385.68						
Refunds- park/ town hall use	\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00							
Stormwater Fees	\$ 40.50	\$ 40.50							
	Total Expenses:	\$ 43,132.49	\$ 27,924.70	\$ 15,207.79	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16.66	\$ 234.50
Income	Income from State:	\$ 14,874.34							
	LRS	\$ 6,149.89			\$ 6,149.89				
	MVH	\$ 7,934.80		\$ 7,934.80					
	Accelerated MVH1	\$ -		\$ -					
	Accelerated MVH2	\$ -		\$ -					
	Cigarette tax	\$ 211.02	\$ 211.02						
	ABC Gallonage	\$ 578.63	\$ 578.63						
	Income from County:	\$ 17,665.99							
	LOIT	\$ 974.33	\$ 974.33						
	Public Safety dist.	\$ 2,478.13	\$ 2,478.13						
	water PILOT	\$ -							
	river boat	\$ -							
	property dist.	\$ 13,130.32	\$ 10,529.13	\$ 2,601.19					
	excise dist.	\$ 1,083.21	\$ 892.01	\$ 191.20					
	property tax dist: sold properties	\$ -							
	Other:	\$ 2,881.04							
	Donations	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00					\$ 60.00	
	Repayment, A Jansen	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00						
	Town hall use	\$ 425.00	\$ 425.00						
	Pavilion use	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00						\$ 400.00
	Ordinance violations	\$ 1,025.00	\$ 1,025.00			\$ 1,025.00			
	Gun permits	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -		
Interest	\$ 44.11	\$ 44.11							
Refunds	\$ 26.93	\$ 26.93							
	Total Income:	\$ 35,421.37	\$ 18,544.29	\$ 10,727.19	\$ 6,149.89	\$ 1,025.00	\$ -	\$ 60.00	\$ 400.00
	Transfer:		\$ 7,930.92		\$ (7,930.92)				
	Income + starting balance		\$ 56,205.23	\$ 23,178.27	\$ 36,224.80				
	Outstanding checks paid	\$ 1,870.96				Total of positive balance funds: \$16,323.35			
	Current outstanding checks	\$ 1,552.88				Unrestricted in General Fund: \$11,957.18			
	Old outstanding checks								
	Ending bank balance:	\$ 66,097.77	\$ 28,280.53	\$ 7,970.48	\$ 28,293.88	\$ 14,475.00	\$ 1,848.35	\$ 127.53	\$ (1,381.50)

