

Approved Minutes for the Town of Rocky Ripple Board Meeting, Oct. 9, 2012

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

Treasurer's Report

As of September 30, we had \$68,478.54 total in checking and savings. Expenses were \$5,871.61 and income was \$6,961.79. Notable income was \$3,589.90 from the State for riverboat sharing.

Cathy presented the budget for 2013. It is the same as that outlined in the September meeting. It will be posted on the town bulletin board and on RockyRipple.com. Residents have 7 days* to file a petition if they object to the budget. The budget will be adopted on Tuesday, October 23, 5:30pm, at the town hall.

*Note: In the meeting it was incorrectly stated that residents have 10 days to file.

A copy of the monthly financial summary that was handed out to board members is attached to this report. Robert made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Carla seconded.

Meeting minutes

The minutes from the September meeting were read. Two typos were corrected and in the last paragraph the phrase "might affect houses" was changed to "will affect houses".

Robert made a motion to accept the minutes with those changes, Brad seconded.

Old Business

Robert was able to get one quote for a 1 & ½ inch topcoat for Riverview Dr. between 52nd and 53rd, and parts of Sunset Ave. and Annette St. (360 feet, 92 x 3 feet, and 69 feet, respectively) for \$13,547. This is above the \$9,000 that was authorized. We might be able to get a lower price, but on the other hand, this price includes a volume discount.

We still need to get more quotes. We need three quotes for a job this size (>\$5,000).

One problem is that we have gotten too many quotes in the past and then not acted. Vendors are not willing to waste their time.

Robert will keep looking for vendors, and will see what we can get for \$9,000.

Thanks again to Jon Stohler, Scott Westphal, and Cody for the street repair that was done last month!

New Business/ Resident Concerns

It was noted that light-bulbs in the street lights are being changed in town. It looks like routine maintenance is being done, although Marshal Kiefer said that he has called in some lights that were out. It was also noted that AT&T has been doing work in town- they were the ones that dropped a load of metal in the 5100 block of Riverview Drive.

It was asked whether anyone is following up on the sewer issue. Carla is. She is also following up on what the cost will be to homeowners.

It was stated that the town should think about the cost of sewers for the town hall, including the cost of hooking up. We will need to budget for that. We should think about whether we want a hook-up for the park, also. A permanent bathroom and/or a water fountain would be nice.

We have looked into a water fountain in the past, and the main issue is the drain. The availability of sewers would allow a drain.

Some residents are willing to borrow town mowing equipment in order to do mowing around the town hall, including the levee. Is the town still not willing to allow this because of liability issues? If that is the case, could the town hire the volunteers and have the volunteers donate their pay back to the town?

We need to investigate the insurance issues.

Citizens Water has said that they will shore up the bank on Canal Blvd., but we will probably have to deal with snow removal on Canal this winter. The road salt service has been expensive. Robert would like to buy a small salt spreader attachment for the truck so we can salt roads ourselves. The one he has in mind is smaller than the one we had, and should be easier to use and maintain.

What is the status of the plan to close Canal to vehicle traffic? The plan was not popular with the residents on Canal. Hopefully, we can work with Citizens to deal with the issue of road safety.

It was suggested that we could block the portion of Canal where residents have alternate access with traffic cones in bad weather. This still leaves the problem of access for mail, and delivery and service traffic.

It was asked whether the town board intends to discharge Marshal Kiefer. Emphatically no! Marshal Kiefer's contract is ending in December and will need to be renegotiated. The board would like him to stay. We hope that we can give him an acceptable offer.

We did have a discussion at a recent meeting about varying Marshal Kiefer's hours and having the Marshall check in with the town board. He has been responsive to those requests.

Another resident agreed that we would like Marshal Kiefer to stay! He is a real asset to our community.

Julie Bleakley stated that several of her neighbors had trouble recently with downed tree limbs. Some of them were cited for the downed limbs, but didn't have the means to clear them. It would have been better if the town had offered help instead of issuing citations.

Brad responded that he is helping, and that he cut four truckloads of wood in the last week.

Julie asked that neighbors not be so quick to report people, and asked that they help their neighbors instead.

Mandy Redmond gave a report on the Rocky Ripple Festival. This was the best one yet- the weather was perfect and we cleared \$11,000. Thank you to everyone who helped! The Community Association has not decided how much money to put into the endowment this year, so now is a good time to think about what we need for the park. If anyone has any ideas they should bring them up to the Community Association. The Community Association is already working with the veterans' group regarding Veterans'/ Peace park.

There were a few parking issues with the festival this year. Marshal Kiefer stated that parking is an issue that needs to be addressed for next year.

Mandy also reminded everyone about the Chili Supper and Halloween Howl that will be held on Saturday, October 20.

Regarding improvements to the park, it was suggested that we set aside money for a bathroom or water fountains, as discussed above.

It was asked whether the Community Association had any ideas for park improvements. Not really.

It was suggested that we do a stake survey of the park, and install permanent markers. It was also suggested that we could do some tree trimming.

We still need to repair Kathy Cancilla's fence. It turned out that the posts for the fence were live osage orange trees and it was not possible to just stretch new fence. Ms. Cancilla got a quote for \$1,200, but it was not clear how much Rocky Ripple would be liable for. We do want to repair the damage we are liable for. We did promise a barrier between Ms. Cancilla's house and the park.

It was stated that a stake survey might help in this issue. It was asked how much a survey might cost. An estimate was \$4,000. It was suggested that we could find plat maps online that might suffice for the fence issue.

We still have a donor that would like to contribute to a visible project for the park. Decorative permanent markers for the stake survey might qualify. Mandy said that she would bring this idea up to the Community Association.

It was stated that it would be nice to have a newsletter like the one that Danny Orr used to send out. Robert stated that that was a volunteer effort, and took more time and money than the board has to give. It was asked about how the board intended to communicate to residents. We do have an email list (email BBarcom@gmail.com if you want to be added) and the RockyRipple.com website. Furthermore, Cathy has made a concerted effort to post the minutes on the town hall bulletin board in a timely manner for those people that do not have computer access.

Maureen Dobie invited everyone to play Euchre this Friday and the second Friday of every month at the Pinecone Center. She has applied for a permit for beer and wine for the center. A hearing was scheduled, but the process is more complicated than she initially thought. Some of the neighbors have remonstrated, and she will need a variance.

There are three options- a restaurant permit (you must serve food for this one), a catering type permit, and a private club permit. With the latter type, you are allowed to have up to 24 open days where you can serve the public. She is thinking that she will go for the private club permit.

The next hearing is December 3rd. Maureen is hoping that she can work with her neighbors to find an acceptable solution.

Marshal Kiefer's big concern is parking. Another concern is that we don't want people carrying out alcohol and drinking in the park.

The town board is neutral regarding a beer and wine permit at the Pinecone Center.

Marshal's report

Marshal Kiefer had a report in process regarding a stolen car in the 800 block of W 53rd Street. (The car was not in running condition and had been stored outside.) He had nothing else to report.

Marshal Kiefer asked Carla to talk to Mr. Elrod to update our ordinance. Firearms are now allowed in the park, per Indiana State law. Cathy mentioned that we also need to add the nepotism clause that was adopted in September.

Brad made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm. Robert seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Hurt

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

Rocky Ripple Financial Summary									
Sept. 2012									
		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:		\$ 66,949.66	\$ 18,920.28	\$ 14,678.01	\$ 33,276.37	\$ 13,250.00	\$ 1,898.35	\$ (78.45)	\$ (1,010.00)
expenses	Routine expenses								
	Utilities, except street lights:	\$ 603.08	\$ 603.08						
	IP&L park pavillion	\$ 12.73							
	IP&L town hall	\$ 36.18							
	IP&L vet's monument	\$ 14.98							
	AT&T, phone & internet	\$ 98.13							
	Citizens Gas, town hall								
	Water, town hall	\$ 10.30							
	Water, park	\$ 27.76						\$ 27.76	
	park toilet rental	\$ 403.00							\$ 403.00
	Payroll	\$ 3,906.23							
	Marshal wages	\$ -	\$ -						
	Street commish wages	\$ 2,796.00		\$ 2,796.00					
	Trustee wages	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00						
	Clerk-Treasurer wages	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00						
	Federal payroll taxes	\$ 160.23	\$ 160.23						
	Workforce Development	\$ -	\$ -						
	Other	\$ 1,327.41							
	Bank fees	\$ 16.12	\$ 16.12						
	Street lights	\$ 736.29		\$ 736.29					
	Police car gas	\$ 500.00		\$ 500.00					
	Legal services	\$ -	\$ -						
	Cleaning service	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00						
	Mowing service	\$ -	\$ -						
	Non-routine Expenses	\$ 34.89							
	Office supplies	\$ -	\$ -						
	Police supplies (info systems fee)	\$ 34.89	\$ 34.89						
	Police training	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -		
	Legal ads	\$ -	\$ -						
	Insurance	\$ -	\$ -						
Town hall repair & maint. (mowing supplies)	\$ -	\$ -							
Pavilion repair & maintenance	\$ -	\$ -							
Refunds for town hall use	\$ -	\$ -							
clerk-treasurer school/ ILMCT dues	\$ -	\$ -							
snow plowing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -						
snow plow gas	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -						
snow plow repair	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -					
vehicle maintenance (police car tires)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -						
street repair materials	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -						
Road salt service	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -						
Stormwater Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -						
Total Expenses:		\$ 5,871.61	\$ 1,839.32	\$ 4,032.29	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27.76	\$ 403.00
Income	Income from State:	\$ 2,155.93							
	LRS	\$ 774.01			\$ 774.01				
	MVH	\$ 1,032.43		\$ 1,032.43					
	Accelerated MVH1	\$ 261.64		\$ 261.64					
	Accelerated MVH2	\$ 87.85		\$ 87.85					
	Cigarette tax	\$ -	\$ -						
	ABC Gallonage	\$ -	\$ -						
	Income from County:	\$ 4,146.53							
	LOIT	\$ 220.05	\$ 220.05						
	2011 PST makeup	\$ -	\$ -						
	Public Safety dist.	\$ 336.58	\$ 336.58						
	Court Costs to Municip	\$ -	\$ -						
	advance dist.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -					
	water PILOT	\$ -	\$ -						
	river boat	\$ 3,589.90	\$ 3,589.90						
	property dist.	\$ -	\$ -						
	excise dist.	\$ -	\$ -						
	Other:	\$ 659.33							
	Donations	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00					\$ 40.00	
	Repayment, A Jansen	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00						
Town hall use	\$ 85.00	\$ 85.00							
Pavilion use	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00						\$ 100.00	
Ordinance violations	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -			
Gun permits	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -			
Interest	\$ 7.33	\$ 7.33							
Refunds	\$ 277.00	\$ 277.00							
Total Income:		\$ 6,961.79	\$ 4,805.86	\$ 1,381.92	\$ 774.01	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40.00	\$ 100.00
Outstanding checks paid		\$ 75.00				Total of positive balance funds: \$ 15,082.14			
Current outstanding checks		\$ 513.70				Unrestricted in General Fund: \$ 6,804.68			
Old outstanding checks									
Ending bank balance:		\$ 68,478.54	\$ 21,886.82	\$ 12,027.64	\$ 34,050.38	\$ 13,250.00	\$ 1,898.35	\$ (66.21)	\$ (1,313.00)