

Approved Minutes for the Town of Rocky Ripple Board Meeting, Nov. 13, 2012

Attending: Robert Tomey, Carla Gaff-Clark, Brad Barcom, Cathy Hurt
The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Treasurer's Report

As of October 31, we had \$69,050.16 total in checking and savings. Expenses were \$6,186.72 and income was \$3,437.19. It should be noted that there is \$3,834.85 in outstanding checks as of October 31.

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, Brad seconded.

Cathy asked the board to approve the transfer of \$5,580.01 from the LRS fund to the general fund. This amount is the amount that remains unspent from 2009 LRS money. Robert made a motion to do so, Brad seconded.

Meeting minutes

The minutes from the October 23 Budget meeting were read. Robert made a motion to accept the minutes with no changes, Brad seconded.

The minutes from the October meeting were read. Robert made a motion to accept the minutes with no changes, Brad seconded.

Cathy has a conflict for the December meeting. Brad does too. Robert and Carla will hold the December meeting with a substitute clerk.

Old Business

Jon Elrod gave an update regarding the canal wall. The city of Indianapolis has met with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in Louisville and stated that it does not support the Westfield alignment for the canal wall. The city will send a letter stating that. The USACE has stated that including Rocky Ripple in a floodwall alignment is not economically feasible. It is likely that they will push for the 56th St. alignment for the floodwall.

The USACE would like to move ahead with the current phase of construction. They are planning to do the planned construction up to the Riviera Club regardless of which alignment is chosen for the rest of the project. They would like our support for this.

It will be very difficult to persuade the USACE to reconsider Rocky Ripple. Also, a lot of flood protection funding will be directed toward areas hit by hurricane Sandy. Rocky Ripple will need dedicated legal help to push the USACE.

It was noted that money for federal projects is given each year, and if there is no project there is no money set aside for it. So if you are told that there is no money for a prospective project that doesn't mean much.

It was noted that the EPA had some findings that showed the wall was detrimental to the canal. We can use this information if we can find it.

It was noted that finishing the current floodwall project will include removing all the trees from the levee in Wharfleigh, and that Wharfleigh residents might object to this.

Carla asked Mr. Elrod if he thought that the USACE would extend the wall to the Riviera club and stop. Mr. Elrod responded that if that would allow them to call it a finished project, he thought it was very possible.

Our best bet would be to fight on the environmental angle. The USACE has already deemed that a wall around Rocky Ripple is not feasible. It will be hard to change that.

We have been working with the USACE, but not the city. It was asked whether we should work with the city more. The city doesn't really have any power- they are just the local sponsor of the USACE project. Even if they withdraw their support, that doesn't guarantee that the USACE will stop the project.

How does one legally challenge the USACE? It's not like a lawsuit. You can object to environmental issues and force the USACE to make changes and compromises. You need someone who knows federal law. It is a "war of attrition", like the situation with I-69.

It was noted that if the cost of the project increases the city will have to pay more money, since they have to pay a proportion.

The Butler Tarkington Neighborhood Association (BTNA) dislikes the 56th St. alignment for the wall even more than the Westfield alignment. They will speak out against it.

One proposed idea in the meetings with the USACE was to go from the Riviera Club "to the hill" on the Rocky Ripple side of the canal.

The city has been giving us mixed signals. They have said that they wouldn't work with an independent community, but they have also said that they would "do right" by Rocky Ripple regarding flood protection. They are facing a lot of budget cuts, however, so money doesn't look likely.

It was suggested that we have Mr. Elrod draft a letter to the city and ask them for help in the matter of flood protection.

If we hire lawyers will it make the city less willing to help us? We don't want to burn any bridges. Mr. Elrod said he didn't think it would be a problem.

Could we talk to the USACE about a smaller project that won't go as far as Katrina standards? They are not willing to do this, because it is tied to saving money for FEMA.

Mr. Elrod is looking into finding lawyers that have the expertise we need, since he does not have experience with federal law. Money will be an issue. Other neighborhood associations may help us. Butler may help too. It's to their advantage.

New Business/ Resident Concerns

The truck is having fuel system issues. Robert would like to have it towed to Wabash Ford and fixed. It will probably be about \$2,000. Also, he would like to buy a small salt spreader so we can salt Canal Blvd. and some intersections. This will probably cost about \$3,000. He would like to get a carbon fiber or plastic one, so it won't rust. It would be small enough for one person to handle.

Brad made a motion to do so, Carla seconded.

Robert made a motion that starting January 1, the board would change duties. Brad would be president, police commissioner, and in charge of information. Robert would oversee park and street maintenance and Carla would stay as chairperson. Carla seconded.

The streets look better- thanks to Jon Stohler for patching them!

Marshal's report

Marshal Kiefer would like to send out some holiday safety tips. Would it be ok to post them to the website? Yes.

Robert stated that he would like to have code enforcement sit in on one of our meetings. They are a free resource, and we should make use of them. Marshal Kiefer agreed that that would be a good idea.

It was asked whether it is legal to drive all-terrain vehicles in the street. No.

It was stated that people are driving up and down Riverview Dr. on a 4-wheeler, and they are going too fast and it is not safe. It was asked that the Marshal keep an eye out for them. He said that he would do so.

Brad made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:43pm. Robert seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Hurt

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

Rocky Ripple Financial Summary									
Oct. 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:		\$ 68,478.54	\$ 21,886.82	\$ 12,027.64	\$ 34,050.38	\$ 13,250.00	\$ 1,898.35	\$ (66.21)	\$ (1,313.00)
expenses	Routine expenses								
	Utilities, except street lights:	\$ 352.86	\$ 352.86						
	IP&L park pavillion	\$ 13.57							
	IP&L town hall	\$ 36.92							
	IP&L vet's monument	\$ 15.52							
	AT&T, phone & internet	\$ 98.13							
	Citizens Gas, town hall	\$ 84.00							
	Water, town hall	\$ 12.27							
	Water, park	\$ 14.45						\$ 14.45	
	park toilet rental	\$ 78.00							\$ 78.00
	Payroll	\$ 4,280.82							
	Marshal wages	\$ 1,515.39	\$ 1,515.39						
	Street commish wages	\$ 2,420.04		\$ 2,420.04					
	Trustee wages	\$ -	\$ -						
	Clerk-Treasurer wages	\$ -	\$ -						
	Federal payroll taxes	\$ 340.26	\$ 340.26						
	Workforce Development	\$ 5.13	\$ 5.13						
	Other	\$ 1,081.56							
	Bank fees	\$ 20.27	\$ 20.27						
	Street lights	\$ 736.29		\$ 736.29					
	Police car gas	\$ 250.00		\$ 250.00					
	Legal services	\$ -	\$ -						
	Cleaning service	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00						
	Mowing service	\$ -	\$ -						
	Non-routine Expenses	\$ 471.48							
	Office supplies	\$ 66.33	\$ 66.33						
	Police supplies (info sys fee, ammo for training)	\$ 104.75	\$ 104.75						
	Police training	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00				\$ 100.00		
	Legal ads	\$ 147.80	\$ 147.80						
	Insurance	\$ -	\$ -						
	Town hall repair & maint. (mowing supplies)	\$ -	\$ -						
	Pavilion repair & maintenance	\$ -	\$ -						
	Certified mailing costs	\$ 12.10	\$ 12.10						
	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	\$ 40.50	\$ 40.50		\$ -					
	Total Expenses:	\$ 6,186.72	\$ 2,780.39	\$ 3,406.33	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 14.45	\$ 78.00
Income	Income from State:	\$ 2,571.85							
	LRS	\$ 1,067.74			\$ 1,067.74				
	MVH	\$ 1,169.59		\$ 1,169.59					
	Accelerated MVH1	\$ -		\$ -					
	Accelerated MVH2	\$ -		\$ -					
	Cigarette tax	\$ -	\$ -						
	ABC Gallonage	\$ 334.52	\$ 334.52						
	Income from County:	\$ 556.63							
	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	\$ -	\$ -						
	property dist.	\$ -	\$ -						
	excise dist.	\$ -	\$ -						
	Other:	\$ 308.71							
	Donations	\$ -	\$ -					\$ -	
	Repayment, A Jansen	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00						
	Town hall use	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00						
	Pavilion use	\$ -	\$ -						\$ -
	Ordinance violations	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -		
	Gun permits	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00					\$ 50.00	
	Interest	\$ 8.71	\$ 8.71						
Refunds	\$ -	\$ -							
	Total Income:	\$ 3,437.19	\$ 1,199.86	\$ 1,169.59	\$ 1,067.74	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ -
	Outstanding checks paid	\$ 325.00				Total of positive balance funds:			\$ 15,017.69
	Current outstanding checks	\$ 3,834.85				Unrestricted in General Fund:			\$ 5,288.60
	Old outstanding checks	\$ 188.70							
	Ending bank balance:	\$ 69,050.16	\$ 20,306.29	\$ 9,790.90	\$ 35,118.12	\$ 13,250.00	\$ 1,848.35	\$ (80.66)	\$ (1,391.00)