

Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting
June 14, 2016

Carla Gaff Clark called the meeting to order at 7:35p.m. Also in attendance was Mandy Redmond, Jill Morris and clerk-treasurer, Kandy Kendall.

Secretary Report

Kandy is working on the INDOT Community Crossings Matching Grant. Marshal Mike has designated 5 areas in the town that need street improvement:

Riverview between 52nd & 53rd

Annette Street between 52nd & 53rd

Sunset from 53rd Street to 5325 Sunset

West 53rd Street between Lester & 835 W 53rd

Crown between 52nd & 53rd where the street has deteriorated and needs rebuilding on the west side.

Carla has been in discussion with Greg Porter, State Representative, and Joe Simpson, City County Council to try and have Marion County release a portion of the LOIT money Rocky Ripple instead of all going to Marion County. Due to Rocky Ripple being an including town within Marion County, we are not receiving any of the LOIT money directly. This is detrimental to Rocky Ripple because this money could be used towards our portion of the matching INDOT Grant. The Town's only other funding then will be from our Rainy Day Fund as required by law. Kandy stated that when she attended the INDOT workshop on the grant that she specifically asked how long money needed to be in the Rainy Day Fund and was told there was no time frame. Therefore, Kandy suggested we move the money from our Local Roads and Streets Fund into a newly established Rainy Day Fund to comply with State law. Mandy moved we establish a Rainy Day Fund and move the current amount from our Local Roads and Streets Fund into the Rainy Day Fund. Jill seconded it. All in favor.

Mandy led a discussion to address if we wished to move money from the general fund into the Rainy Day Fund to give us more towards a matching grant. After discussion, Mandy moved that we move \$15,000.00 from the general fund into the Rainy Day Fund. Jill seconded it. All in favor

Marilyn Hunter spoke indicating that she would like to solicit funds from Rocky Ripple residents to add to the Rainy Day Fund for street repairs. Carla thanked her for this and it was agreed she would solicit funds from Town residents.

Mandy made a motion that the minutes be approved with corrections. Jill seconded.

Treasurer Report

Kandy noted that there was nothing out of the ordinary during the billing cycle. The IURC had made adjustments to the price charged by IPL for streetlights and that the street lights had decreased by \$70 per month. However, the single pole lights price per usage was increased resulting in Hohlt Park and Peace Park now being a monthly minimum fee of \$30. Kandy asked if the Town will continue to pay to light the flag at Peace Park. Mandy stated she had talked to some of the vets who were

considering replacing the pole light with sun sensor lights. Therefore, for the time being, we will continue to pay for the light in Peace Park.

Town Hall Rental

Jill reported that Julie Todd rented the Town Hall on June 4th

She was very upset about the uncleanliness of the building as well as the fact it was pouring down rain that day and water was overflowing from the gutters as well as coming into the front door of the hall. Ms. Todd was asking for her deposit to be refunded as well as \$60 she paid her brother-in-law to clean. Jill explained to her that the majority of the Town maintenance is voluntary. Ms. Todd agreed to split the cleaning cost. Jill made a motion to refund Ms. Todd \$50 in deposit as well as \$30 for cleaning. Mandy seconded. All in favor.

Mandy also noted that there is no town board name/contact for Town rentals and was reminded that Cathy Hurt continues to do this.

Old Business

Flood Control Update

The residents on Canal Boulevard received a letter indicating there would be a meeting July 6th at the College & 43rd St library concerning the canal floodwall project. DPW had been asked to review the historical context of Martin Truesdale's house, the canal itself, Butler's Holcolm Gardens and the carriage house on Westville Boulevard. The thought was that this might stop the project but DPW said the project would not be stopped and this was just a formality. DPW said they have already done mitigating concerns and if citizens want to make their views known, they need to fill out a form and attend the meeting at the library. It was noted that someone from Rocky Ripple's board will go.

Flood control and riverbank stabilization: The Board and the DIRT committee are working on this. DPW will be helping us with this. Mike & Carla walked with DPW on June 10th and choose a few trees that needed to be removed based on the fact the tree was leaning, bug infested, dead and/or if the root ball was coming out. These trees will need to be brought down. Homeowners will be notified and asked to sign a consent form.

There also is a meeting set up with KIB to look at removing honeysuckle on the riverbank. The question was asked what will be planted in its place and Carla said more research was needed.

Carla indicated Greg Taylor, Ed Delaney, & Greg Porter all want to help us with ACE project and look into funding for a long term maintenance and upkeep since we don't have levee fee etc. These State Representatives want to be in front of the flood control project with us.

Highland

The Board sent the letter that was discussed at last month's meeting to Joe Simpson, who forwarded it to Highland County Club lawyers. They would like to meet with us about our concerns. They did have some answers to our concerns and Mandy handed out a copy of their letter. Mandy will set up a meeting between the lawyers and Rocky Ripple residents. Carol Morotti asked if anybody from the Board would

be there to read our letter and, if not, she would like to read it. The Board will not be able to attend due to the Flood Project meeting the same time. Mandy said Joe Simpson told her he supported us and was against the project because of our concerns as well as others.

Town Attorney

Carla will meet with Felicia Locke, who wants to be our attorney, on Friday to interview her for the Town's attorney position.

Marshal Contract

The contract was given to Mike to sign.

Ben Hunter – Butler University

Michael Cortimight and Courtney White also were in attendance with Ben Hunter. Mr. Hunter again gave the housing update about Schwitzer Hall. He indicated Butler had filed for official permits with the City. Ben again indicated that Schwitzer is not ADA compliant and the building cannot be retrofitted. Therefore the Butler Board of Trustees had accessibility decided to decommission the building. This will be a 641-bed dorm with a common space within the building for classrooms. Ben was here to get Rocky Ripple's support. They had gotten BTA's support and would like ours as well.

Street Scape: Transportation is an issue for Butler as well as for Rocky Ripple since Butler accesses is long term student parking thru our Town. Carla said Mike will be in charge of transportation issues and that he is the liaison for Rocky Ripple. Parking seems to be the issue with BTA.

Butler continues to march forward to have students not bring cars to campus.

Flood wall: Butler met with DPW and Butler still hopes for a local option that would not go thru Holcomb Gardens but still provide flood protection for Rocky Ripple. He will go to the meeting on July 6 and question the cost analysis. Butler believes the cost analysis needs to be sent to a firm and there needs to be more than a spread sheet.

Carla asked for a motion from the Board to support Schwitzer Hall rebuilding. Jill made a motion that Rocky Ripple supports Butler's rebuilding of Schwitzer Hall and Mandy seconded it. All in favor.

New Business

Community Association

Diane Householder was elected president and Megan Wright was elected sergeant at arms.

RREM

Jill reported that Angela Hermann wants to coordinate an email account that is all-inclusive. Mandy said Angela had asked to do this quite sometime ago. Jill said Angela is writing a proposal to present to the Board. Andy is going to start a Facebook page for RREM.

The State police want to offer classes on child and cyber crime to Rocky Ripple. Jill said they will look further into this before deciding to bring in a class.

Marshal Report

Mike will be taking LTAP training next week to become certified so that he can do the asset management plan for our Town's streets that needs to be done in order to apply for the INDOT Community Crossings Matching Grant.

Mike also pulled the trashcan at Hohlt Park after someone dumped a sofa and TV in the pavilion.

Building Maintenance: The a/c drip pan has rusted out and now drips down into the electronics so we need to get someone in to replace it. The Board gave their approval to bring in a HVAC person. Also the water heater has been replaced due to a leak. Mandy gave the receipts to Kandy for reimbursement.

24 Hour of Bootie: This bicycle ride to benefit cancer research will be taking place June 24th and the route affects Rocky Ripple residents entering and leaving the town. A letter had been sent to all residents with a rearview mirror hanging ticket. Mandy will put an email on this to remind everyone to allow extra time when traveling in and out of Town.

Community Concerns

Garbage Can: Citizens were concerned about not having a trash can in the pavilion and wondered why & what will happen with the trash. Margaret Brabant offered to buy the required trash can for \$65 and it was suggested that we could ask a neighbor to pull it out weekly to the street. The idea was tabled with no further discussion.

Port O Let: Megan asked if the port o let could be moved since it is so close to the street and not very attractive to look at from your front yard. Carla asked Kandy if she would call and have it moved closer to the pine trees.

With no further business Mandy moved that the meeting be adjourned and Jill seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 8:57.