

**TOWN OF ROCKY RIPPLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF 19-AUG-2015**

Town Council Members/Support personnel in attendance were:

Carla Gaff-Clark
Mandy Redmond
Mike Kiefer

Carla called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. Meeting agenda was distributed.

Carla requested that the financial report be read. Mandy stated that she did not have the report with her, but that all bills/payments for the town are now current, with all payments processed this month being just routine monthly bills. Mike Kiefer is now paid via auto-deposit through Paychex and this seems to be working well. The 2014 financial report for required per the state auditor board of accounts is very close to completion (it was due in Feb of 2015), but Mandy is working on this in conjunction with completing the 2016 planned budget, which is due to the state on September 1st. Reconstructing the 2014 expenses has been a long and tedious process as there are no written records for most of 2014, with the exception of November/December. All monies spent are accounted for; there are a few deposits that are unidentified as to where they originated. Mandy stated that 2016 budget will be presented at next board meeting for comment and that the state does not require that notification be published. It will be available for public review online.

Mandy made a motion to change the marshal's salary to monthly payments rather than bi-weekly, as this will save us 24 payments of \$51 per period in a year. Carla asked Mike Kiefer if he was agreeable to this. He stated he was as long as he got paid regularly. Carla seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The town has a very old Chase bank account with monthly fees are \$17 to \$20 per month. Mandy has researched this with Chase and we are now switched over to Total checking account, where the account is free if we maintain a minimum balance.

Carla called for the last town board meeting minutes to be read. Minutes from July 2014 were read by Mandy. 2014 tax statements was corrected to be disbursement statements in the minutes by Mandy. Mandy made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Carla seconded.

Mandy asked whether we had received any updates from state with regard to reinstating our sales tax exemption; Carla stated that no updates have been received.

Carla distributed the agenda for the meeting.

Old Business

Highland Project: Carla had contacted the Highland Country Club and contact Paul from there stated that they need 70% member of the club to vote positive on the proposed new construction. They have received only 62%. They are now going to make changes and then go back to the voters, as there was not enough info presented and this was why a majority did not vote for it. They expect to do this in Nov/Dec of this year. They had a member that bought property from the club to put in condos and housing and give money to the club to update the facility and grounds. This would benefit them both. It will include two new pools. Highland officials understand that Rocky Ripple residents are interested in their plans and stated they will keep up posted. Rocky Ripple residents want details on landscaping and how visible the new construction houses will be from our side of the river.

Levee/Floodwall Update: What are they doing with Rivi? There have been no firm updates. Mandy states she thinks all options are still on the table. Mike Massonne stated feasibility will be available in September.

She said.

As stated at the last board meeting, Ben Hunter at Butler suggested they be a conduit for discussions on floodwall/levee discussions; the first meeting is set for September 1st and we will get an update at that time. Carla and Mandy will both attend. Butler has plans to utilize their 75 acres of property along the river. That is why they have a vested interest in what happens in terms of the floodwall and levee repair.

Roads: Mike Kiefer provided an update on what has been done. One load of patch was placed on 53rd street. Town should consider purchasing its own hot box for processing our own hot asphalt. Cost estimate is \$6000. We should consider doing this because Jon Stohler is not charging the town for what he is doing. We have trouble getting a company to come out and do this small patchwork. Resident noted request to patch Canal Blvd. Mandy stated this is on our To Do list. A discussion ensued that this should be moved up on the list, as could be a problem for runners/walkers and bicyclists. Town Marshal will take care of the particularly bad spot. Carla noted that residents may not understand that road work is not a job "for someone else." They need to take initiative to help do it or help pay for it, as the town's budget is very tight. If you don't want big government, you have to take care of things ourselves. Mandy stated that we should do some long term planning for roads that includes more than patching. This could be done in conjunction with when sewers are installed in the neighborhood. Carla suggested we consider "chip and seal."

NEW BUSINESS:

GOP Town Council Appointment: GOP has decided that the open Republican town council position needs to be filled. Resident Jill Morris has applied for slot as an independent; GOP agreed to accept the independent in the position. We are awaiting official results from the election board to certify her appointment.

Add heading:

2016 Budget

2015 Elections: We have a full election slate for November's election. We will need a special meeting called for the 2016 budget presentation. This will be done immediately before the next town board meeting in September. It was noted that we received more property tax revenue this year than last so this will help us with next year's budget.

Levee Repair/ Improvement: Carla has been following up with Rachel Wilson from DPW to ask their assistance with levee repair. Carla and the dirt team have provided DPW with photos of bad spots. Trees need to be removed; a crane will be required so there is no damage to the levee itself. Will not need permit if going over levee without going on it. Carla to schedule walk through with DPW. Dick Lowe has been talking to FEMA and FEMA told him we should speak with Alan Sparks the flood plan manager for city of Indianapolis to tie in the flood plain map to the City's plans. FEMA has raised our levels, this is why our rates have increased.

Storm Water Fees: Mandy stated that there is an informational meeting for interested parties on September 10th at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Be aware that our rates for impermeable surfaces now include gravel driveways. A map of what property owners are being charged for is available online at the city site.

Rocky Ripple Festival: will be held Sept. 26th. 65-70 artists participating. Volunteers still needed to help; will have food vendors. RRCA will sell soft drinks and snacks. Raffle will be held and Emma Loveland is sourcing raffle prizes (thanks, Emma!). Mandy noted that RRCA applied for gaming permit for the raffle. Full band line-up with HyRyder featured again.

Other Park Issues: Playground looks bad; Mandy has contacted a company to replace swings; this will be paid by RRCA. Mandy has obtained quotes for playground equipment to replace aged bouncer in park. We will need to raise money for this – will cost \$8-15K. Mandy will put together plan for this. RRCA has quote for remulching park by Gardens of Growth, but long-term we may want to consider going with rubber mulch, which is 3 times the cost, but lasts forever. A plan will be presented for approval when available. Mandy brought up that RRCA discussed installation of motion detection lights around the pavilion and behind the pavilion. Mike Bose said he would present a proposal on this for RRCA/Town Board. Carla explained that we do not have lights because of residents around the parks were concerned. We will have to be sensitive to their concerns. Mandy made motion to support placement of lights in park; seconded by Carla. Unanimously approved.

Marshal's Report: Mike Bose replaced grounding wire in Hohlt Park. Marshal Mike and town councilors thanked him for doing so; cost for materials was \$42. Mike is working to get town truck started so it will be ready for winter. Noted that there was leaking transmission fluid that needs to be repaired. Mandy mentioned upping the repair budget for the truck for the 2016 budget; is currently \$1500 – needs to be double that. Carla mentioned that we need to plan for replacing the truck. It was suggested that there may be state surplus vehicle available that should be checked into.

Marshal gave notice that he will be contacting residents that have trees/bushes hanging over the street to tell them they need to trim. If they do not comply, they will be cited. Resident responsible for portable dumpster on Clarendon that hasn't been moved for months was notified he needs to move it by Marshal Mike.

Carla thanked residents present for attending. Motion made by Mandy to end meeting at 8:46 pm; seconded by Carla. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by

Mandy Redmond

Mandy Redmond

*approved with changes noted
08-SEP-2015*