

Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting
February 14, 2017

Rocky Ripple Town Board Chair Carla Gaff Clark called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. Town board member Mandy Redmond, Jill Morris were in attendance as well as clerk-treasurer Kandy Kendall.

Carla asked for a motion to suspend the rules to move new business/veterans' donation followed by old business/flood protection issues to the top of the agenda. Mandy made a motion to move new business/veterans' donation followed by old business/flood protection issues to the top of the agenda. Jill seconded it and all were in favor

New Business

Veterans' Donation

Ely Hinkle of the 11th district auxiliary of the American Legion, in recognition of the work the Rocky Ripple Veterans Association has done in Peace Park presented a plaque in recognition of keeping and maintaining Peace Park. The 11th District presented a donation of \$500 for future maintenance and upkeep of Peace Park to the Veterans Association. Patrick Wright, treasurer of the Rocky Ripple Veterans Association accepted the plaque and donation.

Old Business

Flood Control

Carla asked for 6-10 minutes to present where the board currently is concerning flood control for Rocky Ripple and then said the Board will take questions from the residents and asked that the questions be limited to 2-3 minutes. Carla reminded everyone that the Rocky Ripple E-News and Town's website (www.rockyripple.com) have the current AECOM report as well as the town council's updates. Carol Morotti offered to deliver to homes without internet connection the E-News.

The Town Boards Flood Control Plan is three prongs:

1. Stabilization – not flood control but riverbank stabilization. This focuses on right now and physical labor. The first part of this project has been completed and involved removing dead and dying trees on the levee north of Sunset Boulevard. The City paid for this \$40,000.00 project. The next riverbank stabilization will start in March.

2. Funding – trying to set up a storm-water district for Rocky Ripple. This will need to be long-term and will likely involve county and state legal assistance, DPW and legislators working with Rocky Ripple. The Board met with House Speaker Bosma as well as the chair of the committee that Ed DeLaney's bill is coming through. The Board will need to work with Joe Simpson, City County Councilman, to establish a storm water district because this could be the fund used to maintain upkeep on the levee.

3. Levee Improvement – today a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City, DPW, Butler University and the Town of Rocky Ripple was given to the Board. (attached to these minutes) The MOU pledges \$10,000,000.00 to Rocky

Ripple for levee improvement. Butler is considering adding another \$5,000,000.00 to this if we choose a 100-year option plus three because they own land here. Currently, AECOM has outlined four options. Carla encouraged everyone to go to the Town's website and review the options.

Mandy spoke of the four options of AECOM:

Level 1: 300yr FEMA cert – most invasive and effects large number of homes along river

Level 2: two 100 yr FEMA cert plans - each affects approximately 30 homes along the river and 1 not certified

and one not certified – residents will still need flood insurance.

City says it can do less than this which would be refurbishing the existing levee; which doesn't touch any homes and you will still need flood insurance.

Mandy reminded everyone that the MOU is a draft and the Board et. al. will be going back and forth until a final MOU is adopted.

The floor was opened for questions.

Patricia Wildhack: If homes are eminent domained, will we be paid? Yes and that will be part of money of the MOU.

Scott Westphal: Where will the wall be? It depends on the soil borings – may have to take old levee out but currently sited for the center of the current levee.

Patrick Wright: What made city and ACE go outside Rocky Ripple? The vote of 1996.

Patricia: If we do a Rocky Ripple wall, will the Westfield alignment project still go forward? Yes.

Bart Herriman: The Westfield alignment project will destroy our town and anyone coming into town will see us as being on the wrong side of the track. There is no reason to waste taxpayer dollars doing another project.

Carolyn Webster: The Board seems to have so much confidence. Do you have something binding? Carla stated we have a letter and Ed DeLaney has a letter saying we have \$10 million to get started once we sign off on the MOU.

Carolyn presented to the Board a petition with 217 signatures asking the Board to litigate the Westfield alignment. The petitioning group contacted 186 homes. The petition committee will give the signatures to the City Council. (attached to these minutes) Mandy asked the audience where they thought the money would come from for litigation because the Town does not have money for this sort of litigation.

With no further questions, the Board returned to the agenda.

Treasurer Report

Kandy reported that we had extra expenditures of \$235 for the treasurer's bond as well as \$1200 for shirts and vest for the marshal. She also stated the audit is still on going. Kandy presented a letter from the IRS verifying that our EIN is 62-1773121 and not the 35- number that was also floating out there. Jill moved the treasurer report be accepted and Mandy seconded it. All were in favor.

Secretary Report

Kandy stated she is working on updating the adopted nepotism policy and will present this at the March meeting for acceptance with changes.

Mandy had a correction to the minutes. Jill had a motion to accept the secretary's report with corrections and Mandy seconded it. All were in favor.

Old Business

Hohlt Park Stage

The core committee met February 9th and John Bleakley presented three drawings of the proposed stage. The center beam was removed after public comments so John will now use tresses. Materials are still expected to cost \$20,000.00 with the Hohlt's pledge of \$10,000.00 and the RRCA agreeing to earmark the profits from the 2015 & 2015 Festival to the building of the stage. The committee laid out the site plan on Sunday and asked the Board to send out in the E-News for residents to look at it and then come to a designated town board meeting to discuss. The committee will also hand deliver letters concerning the stage to the neighbors surrounding the park perimeter. John hopes to have permits in place to start building in May.

Mandy reminded the committee that the Board has not given its approval and that there needs to be a formal plan submitted with details as to who, what, when the stage will be used as well as cost, security etc. Kandy had the minutes from the previous stage committee meetings that addressed some of these issues and gave them to Mandy. Kandy will organize the committee's thoughts on these issues and present it to the Board at the March meeting.

INDOT Grant

Nothing to report – just waiting on the paving company to start the work this spring.

RREM

Angie reported that RREM would be presenting a CPR class on March 25th. They currently have 12-13 people signed up and can take a maximum of 25. This class will fulfill the requirements of a three-year certification.

Angie also inquired that at one time, there was a line item in the Town's budget of \$500 for RREM. RREM would like money to replace bandages etc in the emergency kit. Kandy noted that this line no longer exist. Jill made a motion to move \$500 to RREM from the general fund. Mandy seconded it and all were in favor.

DIRT Committee

Scott reported that John Stoler has dirt to dump for fill in levee holes but the issue is how to get the dirt to the needed spots.

Angie said that J F New has a great seed mixture for slopes. Angie will email the contact information to Jill.

Jill reported that DPW would continue to help us with erosion control north of her home on the levee due to the undercut.

RRCA

Angie reported the directories are here and will be handed out soon.

Jill reported that when you go to RRCA webpage and click on Rocky Ripple it says it is not a secure site. Mandy said it is your browser and go anyway.

With no further business, Carla called for a motion to close the meeting. Jill moved the meeting be adjourned and Mandy seconded it. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 9:09.

Respectfully Submitted

Kandy Kendall

Clerk Treasurer