

Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting
August 9, 2016

Jill Morris called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Also in attendance was Mandy Redmond and clerk-treasurer, Kandy Kendall.

Treasurer Report

Report was given by Kandy. She also indicated she had received a past due bill from Gardens of Growth dated September, 2015 for mulch and other materials that were used at Hohlt Park prior to the art festival. Mandy said she had already dealt with this issue and was not happy with the work. She said the bill had been paid in full by the Rocky Ripple Community Association (RRCA). Mandy took the past due bill and said she would contact Gardens of Growth on behalf of the RRCA.

It was reported that INDOT's web page stated that we would know about the matching Community Grant for roads and streets by the end of August.

Kandy also inquired as to how Ms. Locke, town attorney, would be paid as she had not received any paperwork at this point. Mandy said Ms. Locke will invoice the Town quarterly and we will be paying her \$400 per quarter. Mandy made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Jill seconded. All were in favor.

Secretary Report

Report was given by Kandy and motion to approve with corrections was made by Mandy. Jill seconded. All were in favor.

Old Business

Flood Control

The Board had prepared their position paper concerning the Westfield Boulevard Alignment Floodwall project and riverbank stabilization for Rocky Ripple and copies were given to the audience. It is a three prong approach addressing river bank stabilization/repair on the existing river levee, development of a local option for a levee along the river that could take the place of, or be completed in addition to, the Westfield Boulevard Alignment, and the continued opposition to the Westfield Boulevard Alignment floodwall.

Citizens questions were asked and addressed as well as possible by the Board. Mark Carter, Mayor's Neighborhood Advocate, spoke and indicated he had spoken with Jeff Bennett today and that the mayor's study is still ongoing, that something had happened in 1996 and all this information is still being reviewed. Margaret Brabant said that at last month's meeting, Joe Simpson, City County Councilman said Mayor Ballard had signed off on the Westfield Boulevard Alignment and that the funds were allocated. Margaret's asked how much did the City allocate for their portion. Mr. Carter was not sure. Margaret said it appears that everyone is proceeding like it is a done deal.

Carolyn Webster said she felt it was not clear where the Board stands and that she feels there is no energy around opposing the wall. She feels that energy needs to be put towards improvements on the existing levee. Mandy responded that she thought the Board had voiced their opposition and reminded everyone of the letter of

opposition from the Board to the Mayor. Mr. Carter says it is well known to the City what Rocky Ripple's position is. Again, Carolyn stated she feels the Town needs to demonstrate some leadership on opposition to the Westfield alignment.

Mandy said the City, DPW and DNR are helping us in the short term with tree and undesirable undergrowth being removed from the levee while all this is being sorted out. Carolyn said her concern is that this is what we will be left with; a few trees being taken out and the existing levee.

Mandy pointed out that what has taken place over the past months is all written out in the position paper. Mandy said the Board is open to ideas but other than letter writing and being in touch with the City on a regular basis, she is not sure where the citizens want the Board to go.

Whit questioned what had happened to Josh Tafflinger and the people he organized for a letter writing campaign and signs in the yards. Whit said that this group of people needed to be at the town board meetings and stay involved in the process. Margaret guided everyone's attention to the section on the position paper, page 3, under *Updates – next steps (b) meeting with state legislation about needed legislation to create a funding levee or taxing unit*. She thought this might be something that would get people interested in coming to the meetings. Margaret said she would be happy to follow up with Bill Beranek on what this means.

Carolyn had one more comment and said that there should be a meeting of the communities involved and the City, who holds the final word on this, and that the communities need a say. Mandy said these meetings have been held over the past several years and this is how we evolved to the point at which we are now with regard to flood control initiatives. Mandy said the Board will wait to obtain the AE-COM engineering study commissioned by the City before scheduling further meetings with citizens, as there is no new news to share from the City on this topic at this point in time. Finally Mandy said that perhaps Jeff Bennett, Lori Miser and Joe Simpson could come to a future meeting and some questions could be addressed but again this should be after the AE-COM engineering study is released. Mr. Carter agreed with Mandy that after the study is complete, the Town could then call for a meeting.

KIB and Butler Clean Up

Dhyana said KIB and students from Butler will be at Hohlt Park on Saturday August 27th from noon to 2:00. There are 20 volunteers. KIB has provided some tools, gloves and water. Dhyana said there had been an inquiry about the stinging insects that are living in the volleyball court sand. The insects are only cicada killers and not interested in humans. In fact, prior to this meeting, Dhyana talked to the people on the court tonight and they also said the insects are not stinging them. It is hoped the insects will be gone by festival time.

Levee cleanup with the Eli Lily employees will be September 29th.

Mark Carter

Mr. Carter properly introduced himself as City of Indianapolis neighborhood liaison for northwest Indianapolis and said he holds office hours in the community and everyone is welcome to stop by. He is at the Starbucks at 56th and Illinois on

Wednesdays from 12:30-2:30 as well as the Nora library from 10-12:00 on Wednesdays. Mr. Carter also wanted to inform us that there is a job fair Wednesday the 10th at IVY Tech and on Saturday, there is a vet appreciation day being held at Garfield Park from 10:00 until 3:30.

RREM/CERT

Jill said that Andy has a new evacuation plan and the committee is working on the details. The plan is simple such as addressing moving cars out of the flood way. They have added a 4th color awareness which is purple to let us know the levee has been breached. The gage behind the town hall will be painted accordingly to correspond with the colors. RREM/CERT will have a table at the fair. Finally, they are planning to offer a CPR class to the public in October and the cost will be \$25 per person.

New Business

Mandy said there was no new business to discuss.

RRCA

Dhyana said the Central IN Land Trust would like to have booth space at the festival as a sponsor. It was decided they would be under the category of Community Sponsor. The Board indicated they are ok with this.

Kandy asked if the RRCA will be doing voter registration. Margaret said she will talk to Terry Jett, Butler University, about getting students to do a *Get Out the Vote* and be a part of the RRCA table.

Marshal Report

Marshal Kiefer reported that on July 15th a vehicle was stolen and recovered 7 hours later at the Safeway parking lot.

Mike also said that due to the Butler construction in the field adjacent to Town, Lester Street had been heavily damaged. In talks with Butler, it appears they will repair the street after construction is done. The heavy trucks that were hauling stone are done for the most part and they are now grating and adding sand.

Mandy asked why on Sunday police cars were racing the wrong way down Byram. Mike reported that it had to do with neighbors and emails to each other getting out of control which led to neighbors pounding on doors. The police were responding to 911 calls.

Community Concerns

Dhyana said that Ann Wickham passed. Mandy said she would like to do memorial tribute in the eNews to recognize Ann for all that she had done for our Town.

With no further business, Jill made a motion for the meeting to be adjourned at 8:30. Mandy seconded it.

Respectfully submitted,
Kandy Kendall,
Clerk Treasurer

