

Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting
September 13, 2016

Carla Gaff Clark called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. Also in attendance was Mandy Redmond, Jill Morris and clerk-treasurer, Kandy Kendall.

Secretary Report

The secretary report was accepted with corrections. Jill moved the minutes be accepted with changes and Mandy seconded. All were in favor.

Treasurer Report

Kandy reported that there were no unexpected expenses in August and that the bank and spread sheets were in agreement. Kandy asked about the monetary pledges for street repairs and if these monies would be coming directly to the board since the Town is a not for profit entity. Carla and Mandy said the monies would go to the Rocky Ripple Community Association which will then write letters of thank you and a charitable tax donation to the donors. It was not clear when the monies will be coming to the Town's account for paving. At the current time, 20 people have pledged money. Mandy will post to the e-news letter that we did receive the grant and we will wait to see who comes forth with their pledged dollars. This will be followed up by a letter and/or call to the individuals who pledged; if their pledged dollars do not come in. Mike Mooney asked if everyone had been contacted about the street repairs and asking for pledges. Carla said Marilyn Hunter had originally asked only citizens she knew in the Town to donate. The Board hoped through word of mouth that others would become aware and give as well and the info that it was not too late for additional pledges would be part of the eNews article.

With no other comments, Mandy moved the treasurer's report be accepted and Jill seconded. All were in favor.

2017 Budget

Kandy said the 2017 budget has been proposed and is available on the bulletin board outside the Town Hall. We are asking for \$109,000. When Kandy met with Wayne Hudson, Department of Local Government Finance, it was explained to her that the most increase allowed by law would be 3.86%. Rocky Ripple could petition the State to ask for an increase in property taxes collected to come back to the Town.

RREM

Jill, a member of RREM, asked that the Board establish a new fund in the budget to collect money for CPR classes that will be held at the Town Hall in October. The money will not be used to pay the instructor, who will be donating his time to run the class, but that there is a material cost. RREM does not want to collect money from participants and therefore would like the money/checks to go to the Town's account. Mandy moved we set a line item for RREM and Carla seconded. All were in favor.

Old Business

ACE Meeting

Board members attended the latest Army Corp of Engineering (ACE) meeting on the floodwall project. Again, the meeting was about the structure itself and not about where it will be. The meeting focused on mitigating the damage to historical structures that will occur in front of the houses on Westfield Boulevard and the Canal Path, if the current Westfield alignment goes forward.

Fountain on Canal Path and 52nd Street

Carla and Marshal Mike went to this meeting to discuss a drinking fountain being placed at 52nd and the canal. Carla and Mike presented the fact that this is a very busy bridge crossing into our Town and having runners stopping for a drink of water would only increase the traffic in this area. Carla suggested the fountain be moved further down the path near Butler's parking lot area. However, it now appears that the idea of a fountain is going to be scrapped.

Flood Control Update on AECOM Study

Mandy reported that the AECOM study is an independent assessment of all the things done over the years concerning the White River levee. The City has hired an independent firm who is reviewing past proposals and concerns going back to 1996. AECOM is a New Jersey company that was chosen since they do not have a connection to Indianapolis. Mandy reported AECOM is still pouring over the data. The report was to be done the end of August but they have asked for an extension and the study will now be finished the end of October. At that time, there will then be a meeting for Rocky Ripple residents.

Mark Carter, Mayor's liaison, said today he spoke with Jeff Bennett, deputy mayor, and that indeed there will be meeting for Rocky Ripple residents. Margaret Brabant suggested we ask Rep. Ed Delaney to attend this meeting since he has shown an interest in helping Rocky Ripple with some sort of levee protection. Carla said that the board has been working with Rep DeLaney, Rep Porter, and Senator Greg Taylor on this issue for some time. She said because our Representative is Greg Porter, we need to work directly with Mr. Porter and then Mr. Delaney secondly.

Memorandum of Understanding

The Board has signed a contract with the City's DPW to help us with riverbank stabilization. Mike Massonne, Lori Miser and Carla have signed and we are now waiting on the City's attorneys to sign off. The work will cover the levee area property owned by the Town of Rocky Ripple. Phase 1 will include area between the public access at Sunset and go upstream to Jill Morris' house.

Carla said the Memorandum of Understanding, which is a legal contract, would be presented to the residents when signed. Kandy asked if the renters as well as the homeowners will be notified and Mandy said yes.

KIB Clean Up

KIB notified Carla that they do not have enough Lilly people to help Rocky Ripple's DIRT committee on September 29th as planned to remove honeysuckle on the levee.

Marshal Mike asked if KIB was going to still provide seed and a dumpster because the DIRT Committee can still do this work. Carla will check on this. Dhyana Raynor said she had been contacted by Kevin Hardy of Friends of the White River who has students from the University of Indianapolis available to work. The day Kevin had in mind was our festival, which doesn't work, and so Dhyana suggested someone contact Kevin and see if the students can come assist on September 29th instead. Marshal Mike said he would notify the DIRT Committee of cancelation by KIB.

Street Repair update Butler's trucks on Lester

Mike reported that he has been in contact with Butler who said they have one more push for the big trucks to come into Town with stone. This should be completed by the end of this month. After that, Butler and he will get together and discuss the repairs that are now needed on Lester due to the heavy trucks. Carla said she would be meeting with Kurt Graef, Richard Michal and Ben Hunter from Butler on Thursday the 15th.

New Business & Committee Reports

RREM

Jill said RREM is working on a river gauge behind the Town Hall and that they will paint a pcp pipe in the new colors that adhere to the Nora stream gauge. This will be easier for people to respond to color warnings and not to the actually height of the water in feet. RREM is also working on an evacuation plan.

Angie Hermann has been working on a new email account, which will include RREM as well as elected officials. Angie said having a Town directory that is current is an Important piece of communication structure for the Town. She has a form for residents to fill out and would like to give a paper form to each household as well as have it at the festival. Angie doesn't want to put the directory on line for privacy issues and therefore the form will not be on line to fill out. Mike offered to assist with getting the form out to the households. Sandy Kurker is helping as well with advertisement to offset the cost.

RRCA

Dhyana asked the Town Board for permission to close certain streets during the festival. Jill made a motion and Mandy seconded. All were in favor. Dhyana also would like the electricity in the pavilion to be turned on. Cathy Hurt will unlock it. Margaret said Butler would provide a pop up tent for the Butler student's Get Out the Vote registration table. This is a student-organized event but the University will provide a tent.

Rick Ritter needs pedal in the park volunteers to assist at the bike station.

Vandy Linder did the festival signs.

There is a new sound person who is also with the Max Allen band.

Mandy asked if the Brew Pub is coming because the RRCA has not received his alcohol permit/liability paperwork nor his money for the beer tent. Dhyana will get with him tomorrow.

The food vendors have signed their contracts noting that they are responsible to clean up the litter they produce.

Marshal Report

Mike said he has changed the oil in the town truck and charged the battery. The salt amount looks ok and if it does become short, we can run and get more.

Mike reported a DOA run was called into Marion County and that Dan Carr passed away in his home this morning.

Ordinances

Kandy said she had printed a copy of the Town's ordinances from the Town's website but noted the ordinances were not dated. Mike asked if she had the current copy. After reviewing what Kandy printed out, Mike said these are not the latest additions to the ordinances and that he will email an updated copy to everyone tomorrow with the updated ordinances.

Kandy also noted the date the Town was established was listed as 1928 on the web page and that this should be 1927. Angie said if someone sends her an email, she would change the date.

Dhyana had a beautiful poster designed by Ann Whitcomb's children asking everyone to come to Hohlt Park on October 1st for a celebration of life. Mandy wants to do a tribute in the e-news letter.

Kandy brought up that the Town Board needs to address the drainage problem in front of the town hall because when it rains the water drains into the town hall and is going into the front area and under the foundation. Mike will talk to Jon Stohler and get quotes and ideas of what we need to do to address the water problem.

Community Concerns

Dhyana said the trees on the canal need to be trimmed. Mike said he would again check the area and see what needs to be done.

Kandy said she would like to see an ordinance passed prohibiting citizens from blowing their grass clippings into the street, as this is a safety issue for bikers and bicycles. No resolution was offered.

Kandy reported Dan Axler wanted Mike to know that the park cleanup took place Sunday and that nothing was added to the Town's truck so Mike could empty it.

Kandy brought up petitioning the State to have an increase in property tax revenue returned to the Town and asked if Ms. Locke could do this. Carla said it is not the attorney's job. Kandy said she is not comfortable doing this either so Carla said the Board will look into it.

With no further business, Mandy moved the meeting be adjourned. Jill seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35.

Respectfully submitted

Kandy Kendall

Clerk Treasurer