

TOWN OF ROCKY RIPPLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF 13-OCTOBER-2015

Town Council Members/Support personnel in attendance were:

Carla Gaff-Clark

Mandy Redmond

Jill Morris

Mike Kiefer

Carla called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Meeting agenda was distributed.

Carla welcomed everyone in attendance, passed out agenda and requested that the September 2015 minutes be read. Mandy read minutes with a change made to minutes replacing name Rachael to Mary Chalmers in relation to the road project and ROW.

Special Budget Meeting: Public Hearing Meeting: Carla requested the 2016 budget be read. Jill read the budget. There was a correction made in the written report to change the total from \$107,771 to \$107,077.

The budget was signed and approved by Town Council for 2016.

Carla requested financial report from Mandy. No report available for the month. Mandy stated she paid the warrants for the cleaning company of the Town Hall for an outstanding bill for last year. All other bills have been paid.

Mary Chalmers, the Mayors neighborhood liaison with the city of Indianapolis, stated that DPW will be picking up leaves curb side November 9 through December 4th 2015. Each household can put out 40 bags of leaves separate from regular trash pick-up during this time period. No specific type of bag required. Set aside from regular pickup. A different truck will pick them up.

The Town was invited to attend Neighbor Power, a group that inspires neighborhoods, addressing concerns and how the city can help. It will be held at Marion University October 17, 2015. A one-on-one workshop will be available. A presentation by Karen Erlinger of Two Chicks and a Hammer will be a speaker and 2 mayoral candidates will speak. Each candidate

has 5 minutes to speak and share vision of neighbors. 300 plus registered to date. Visit www.neighborhoodIndy.com

Dan Axler asked Mary if we could get a 96 gallon trash receptacle for the Town Hall. She thought perhaps since we were a government entity, they would not supply us one. We are currently borrowing from two of our local neighbors. A government is not either residential or commercial. Serial number attached to each residential trash receptacle. Mary stated that non-profits and commercial identities have to get their own and pay for it. Recycling and trash are different trash receptacles.

Carla thanked Mary for attending.

Old Business:

Carla reminded those in attendance that John Oakley from DPW and crew will be walking the Rocky Ripple levee with the town's dirt committee on Oct. 19th at 5:30pm. All are welcome. Meet at the Town Hall. We will be taking pictures and walking a few properties, returning to the Town Hall for conversation. Conversation with DPW will be conducted in the possibility that the city would take ownership of levee sections currently under the Towns control for maintenance purposes. Proper legal advice needed.

Mike Masson did not reply to Mandy request for updates regarding the Westbank Alignment feasibility study.

Park update: Sandy and Rick of the Hohlt family have donated \$5000 each to the Hohlt park endowment on behalf of their mother Mabel Hohlt. Discussion was made about honoring her name with a plaque on the pavilion. Carla mentioned checking the John Blakley because he was so instrumental in building the structure. Dan Axler suggested building a permanent performing stage in her honor. This would save money in future events. Dhyana Raynor suggested we name the band shelter after Mabel Hohlt. Concerns were made about maintenance and who would use the facility. Carla wanted to be sure to keep the funds separate so we don't use the money donated for a plaque that was from the community. Mandy suggested we plan a rededication of the park sometime in the spring. The Hohlt family needs to be in agreement on how money is spent.

Mandy reviewed the storm water assessment added to property taxes. It also counts gravel driveways as an impervious surface. Your property assessment can be viewed on the city's website. Jan Resberger is the finance assistant at DPW that can help with your review. Rates for gravel drives were initiated in 2012 and increase based on 2014 photographic view. Although we currently don't have city sewage hook ups, we are helping to pay for Indianapolis's infrastructure and the increase will be reflected on our November property tax bill.

New Business:

Carla stated that the Town Council signed a letter on behalf of the town of Rocky Ripple and Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association addressed to Mr. James Danko, president of Butler University, asking consideration to fund an independent study of a viable alternate alignment of the levee that provides comprehensive flood protection for both Butler-Tarkington, Rocky Ripple and a significant portion of the Butler University campus.

Committee up-dates: Dhyana Raynor said there was no post festival information available at this time as to how many people attended the festival or if the Community Association made any money. Mandy estimated proceeds were about \$6000. 70% of the returned evaluation sheets from exhibitors were positive. Stage situation and music volume was much better. Officer Mike Kiefer seemed to think it was the biggest attendance due to the amount of cars.

Some discussion ensued about delivery of tables to booth spaces and Jill suggested the possibility of a dog parade next year.

Officer Kiefer explained that RREM was working on an evacuation plan. Once complete they will submit to Town Hall for review.

Jill stated the RREM had made some good contacts at the festival for residents that were interested in learning more about RREM and CERT training. She questioned what to do with the information residents provided. Should it be shared with Community Association? Officer Kiefer reiterated how the form was worded that the information would only be used for emergency contact. Mandy stated that we could maintain a separate list. Mandy suggests we share contacts and see where we are.

Discussion was made on when we would be receiving Voters Ballot equipment. No notification at this time.

Mandy will be working with the Community Association to plan a "Meet the Candidates" evening. Date and time to be announced. Perhaps a week before election.

Other:

Mandy has been researching janitorial services for the Town Hall. The floors need to be stripped and waxed. Ceiling tiles and painting would also be considered. Mandy made a motion to allocate \$500.00 to strip and wax floors. The future cleaning contract could be perhaps on an as-needed basis. Motion passed to spend \$500 on floors.

A Rocky Ripple resident has requested permission to plant a lilac tree at Holt Park in memory of a sister. Town Board liked the concept but under consideration where to plant.

Mandy made a motion that we review and update Marshal Kiefer's current contract with the Town and consider increasing his wage and title. Mandy will forward a copy of his current contract for review and this will be decided upon at the upcoming meetings.

Carla and Jill made a motion that we pay Mandy \$500 for all her additional work on the Town books. She could pay herself this amount, but Mandy abstained from voting on this matter.

Community Concerns:

Dan Axler presented an invitation from Joe Tsanovich. His's mother passed away and donated money to go toward a granite bench in Hohlt Park. There was a discussion on location between Peace Park and Hohlt Park. He was more interested in Hohlt Park. Since the granite bench is heavy, what type of foundation will be required? Peace Park would be the most appropriate location due to esthetics. Various locations were discussed and will be determined per the desire of Joe. Motion made to accept bench but location to be determined.

Marshal's Report:

Officer Kiefer asked that the Town Board enter into the government ordinance that smoking be prohibited in the Park. The Festival is considered a private event even though it's on a government property. Adding to town's ordinance would give him some teeth to impose a \$25-50 fine to violators.

There have been some complaints about the number of campfires and late night activities at White Pine. It is a commercially zoned property, but the events are going late into the evening. Some town ordinances may be in violation.

Officer Kiefer found several young residents drinking at the Park. He called their parents and they were released into their custody. Officer Kiefer mentioned that his mode of patrolling the community has been upgraded to new procedures.

Motion made by Carla to end meeting at 8:40pm. Meeting adjourned.

Meeting minutes taken by Jill Morris. Approved by Town Board on 10-Nov-2015.