

Unapproved Minutes for the Town of Rocky Ripple Board Meeting, August 13, 2013

Attending: Brad Barcom, Carla Gaff-Clark, Robert Tomey, Cathy Hurt
The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Meeting minutes

The board members and Ben Hunter had read the July unapproved meeting minutes and did not request any changes. Cathy made a change to the June and Q1-2 financial summaries- town hall supplies had been incorrectly listed as town hall maintenance. Robert made a motion to accept the minutes with the change, and Brad seconded.

Treasurer's Report

As of July 31, we had \$63,775.70 total in checking and savings. Expenses were \$4,925.25 and income was \$3,646.36. The amount for July for gas and water for the town hall is unusually high because it includes two bills and because we are at the end of a cycle for the budget plan, and we were underpaid for the year.

Cathy presented a budget for consideration. We have to turn our budget in for non-binding review to the county by September 3, which will be before the next meeting, so we have to decide what we will submit at this meeting. We can always decrease the amounts, but we won't be able to increase them. The budget that Cathy submitted is the same basic budget that we have always had, but the amount for street paving was increased to \$12,000 and the budget for legal counsel was increased to \$3,000.

It was asked how much we usually bring in for the year with ordinance violation fines. Around \$2000.

Carla asked how often we are having the town hall cleaned. Once a month. The service is limited to sweeping, mopping and cleaning the bathrooms.

Brad made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Robert seconded.

Old Business

Ben Hunter, Chief of Staff and Executive Director of Public Safety for Butler University, was present to follow up regarding the new long term parking lot in Butler Bottoms. There is a lot of truck traffic on Lester and 51st right now. Once the lot is built, Butler will mill and resurface those streets. It will cost around \$180,000 and is scheduled for the week of Aug. 26. Butler would like written permission to do this. They are fine with the changes that Mr. Elrod made to the initial document that they sent.

They will also help with road signs. They are already ordering about 500 signs- adding a few for Rocky Ripple will not make much difference. This will also benefit Butler in that they will have consistent signage.

They will also clear underbrush and invasive plantings along Lester and 51st, with permission from the town. Permission was granted- the town is grateful to Butler for the help.

Lastly, Butler will take care of snow plowing and salting for those streets, on the same schedule used at Butler.

Robert went door to door talking to residents on Lester and 51st. They have indicated that they want two speedhumps with chevron striping on Lester. They would also like to make the streets one way.

The town would like to gather input and make a decision at the next meeting. The meeting will give residents an opportunity to state their opinions.

Butler wants to be a good neighbor to Rocky Ripple. They will not dictate the street repair. They will do what residents want with those streets.

Butler will also be increasing patrols on Lester, 51st, and around the new parking lot. Because of federal limitations, they will need written permission from the town to do this.

There are opportunities in the future for Butler to partner with the town. The floodwall issue will be important to Butler's future.

Robert thanked Mr. Hunter and Butler for their transparency and cooperation during the current construction. Mr. Hunter mentioned that the construction traffic was heavier than what you would expect for a typical parking lot because this lot will have a permeable surface, which requires more prep work.

Robert made a motion to approve the street repair by Butler (thank you, Butler!!) as long as homeowners are notified of the schedule. (It will be the week of Aug. 26, weather permitting.) Mr. Hunter will coordinate with Marshal Kiefer to notify homeowners and let them know where they can park their cars so they won't be blocked in.

It was asked if Clarendon will be re-paved as well. Not at this time.

It was asked whether Butler will monitor the long term parking lot. Yes. It will be on card key access, and they will flag people who use it too frequently. Students are getting a discount on parking in exchange for agreeing not to use their cars very often, so Butler has a vested interest in tracking the traffic in this lot. Mr. Hunter emphasized that Rocky Ripple residents should feel free to call him with any issues regarding this.

Robert restated the motion to accept resurfacing by Butler of Lester and 51st, and to accept repairs by Butler to 52nd Street. We will decide at the September meeting whether to make those streets one way. Brad seconded and Carla made it unanimous.

Bart Herriman asked whether Butler would oppose both USACE floodwall alignments. They have not decided whether to comment on the 56th Street alignment, as it does not directly impact Butler property. They will discuss it further at their board meeting tomorrow evening. The Beranek plan would be favorable to Butler. (This plan was discussed at the Mayor's night out meeting, but not included in the US Army Corps of Engineers study)

Regarding the permission slips for the levee survey, Carla has received most of them. She is working on getting the rest.

New Business/ Resident Concerns

Brad and Robert attended the Mayor's night out. The mayor and Lori Miser of the Department of Public Works (DPW) both indicated that there is no money for a Rocky Ripple floodwall. They said that the \$6.5 million that had been talked about was only available for the Westfield alignment. The DPW is running at a deficit- there is no money there.

Brad presented an email that he would like to send to Lori Miser, as follows:

[text of email will be added]

Robert said that he agreed with the email 100%. We are asking for answers to reasonable questions.

Carla asked why the email discussed gabion walls and 50 year protection. These things are not relevant to the USACE project. Brad answered that his goal is to start a dialog.

Robert made a motion to send the email as written. Brad seconded and Carla made it unanimous. Cathy will post the email to the town website.

In the Q&A sent with the levee survey permission slips, there is talk about a "clear zone". Does that mean that they can clear your yard? No. They will only survey, they will not do any clearing.

Brad was asked to speak at the Midtown Indy meeting. They are coming up with a formal stance regarding the USACE proposal. Bill Beranek, an engineer, presented an alignment that would raise the west side of the canal slightly. This proposal got a lot of support.

Brad has talked to Stephen Smith, an environmental lawyer from the firm Goldberg Simpson, in Louisville. Mr. Smith used to work for the USACE, so he knows this subject matter well. He is willing to consult with Rocky Ripple.

Robert made a motion to retain Mr. Smith as legal counsel in the matter of the floodwall. Carla asked for a financial maximum. Brad stated that Mr. Smith will advise us as to whether it is worth pursuing after an initial consultation, so the only funds we are committing now would be for the initial session. Carla stated that she still would like a financial maximum. Robert set the maximum at \$10,000. Bart Herriman asked whether it would be a good idea to increase the amount for legal counsel in the 2014 budget. It was agreed to increase that item to \$5000.

Brad seconded the motion to retain Mr. Smith as legal counsel in the matter of the floodwall. Carla made it unanimous.

It was asked how to donate money to the legal fund. First we need to establish the fund. If it looks like we have a good case after the initial consultation, we will set up the fund.

Brad stated that since Butler is already doing street repair in the neighborhood, maybe they can help us with speedhumps at the corner by the town hall. He asked Marshal Kiefer to initiate the conversation with Butler.

Marshal Kiefer stated that Butler is going to start their street work before the next meeting, and we need to give permission for any work they do. Can we allocate a dollar amount and approve it now?

We have allocated \$9000 for street work in the 2013 budget.

Robert got a letter asking if the town would be willing to go for mediation regarding the property vacation at the 4900 end of Riverview. Robert is open to mediation, but this particular mediator would charge \$475 an hour, to be split among the parties. We are not willing to pay this amount. Cathy will forward the letter to Mr. Elrod.

Also, the town received a tort claim notice in the matter of the 4900 Riverview vacation. Cathy will contact our insurance company.

There are three upcoming meetings with the USACE, August 20th from 5-7 pm, August 22 from 1-3 pm, and August 24th from 10 am-12 pm. These meetings will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 6050 North Meridian, in the Lilly Room. It was suggested that we pick a night for a Rocky Ripple presence. The Aug. 20 meeting was chosen. It was also suggested that we have a consistent message. Brad will send out an email with talking points.

The Rocky Ripple festival is Saturday Sept. 28, from 11 am to 6pm. In preparation for the festival, a group of volunteers would like to clear brush from the park. Is this ok? Yes. Please leave a privacy perimeter by Kathy Cancilla's house.

Robert offered to stay in the park overnight the night before the festival to keep an eye on things if people want to set up early. He would set up his camper by the garden. He would make sure not to block entrance to the park for vendors.

A big thank you to Jon Stohler for patching potholes! Please remember to turn in your receipts for materials, Jon.

The notice of the additional appropriation of \$10,000 for legal fees from the general fund was published on July 31 in the Indianapolis Star. The board unanimously resolved to appropriate this money, which will come from carry over cash that is not encumbered. Cathy will submit the paperwork to the State Board of Accounts.

Marshal Kiefer asked if someone is going to type up a letter to give to residents on Lester and 51st street notifying them that we will be making a decision on making those streets one way. Brad suggested that maybe we wait on this. Construction traffic is heavy right now, but people might regret the decision to go one way after the construction is done and the traffic lessens. Robert stated that the residents he talked to had asked for the change to one way, but that he was ok with waiting to make this change after the next meeting.

Cathy has accepted a job as Field Examiner with the State Board of accounts. This is a direct conflict with her position as Rocky Ripple Clerk Treasurer, and she must resign. She expressed her regret that she is leaving the town so suddenly and before the end of her term. She will be available and willing to assist the next Clerk Treasurer.

The music stage for the festival has two sponsors this year- John Hill at the Broad Ripple Brew Pub and Scott Westphal at the Great Frame Up. Be sure to thank them for the sponsorship, especially by patronizing their businesses!

Brad made a motion adjourn the meeting at 9:15pm. Robert seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Hurt

Town of Rocky Ripple, 930 West 54th Street, Rocky Ripple, Indiana

Rocky Ripple Financial Summary									
July 2013									
		Checking + Savings	General Fund	Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	Local Roads & Streets Fund	Funds under General fund			
						Police car	Police Training	Park water	Park toilet
Starting balance:		\$ 66,097.77	\$ 28,280.53	\$ 7,970.48	\$ 28,293.88	\$ 14,475.00	\$ 1,848.35	\$ 127.53	\$ (1,381.50)
Expenses	Routine expenses								
	Utilities, except street lights:	\$ 455.68	\$ 455.68						
	IP&L park pavilion	\$ 12.50							
	IP&L town hall	\$ 32.43							
	IP&L vet's monument	\$ 15.79							
	phone & internet	\$ 48.66							
	Gas & water, town hall	\$ 219.92							
	Water, park	\$ 48.38						\$ 48.38	
	park toilet rental	\$ 78.00							\$ 78.00
	Payroll	\$ 3,155.25							
	Marshal/ Street Comm. wages	\$ 2,796.00	\$ 2,796.00						
	Trustee wages								
	Clerk-Treasurer wages								
	Federal payroll taxes	\$ 359.25	\$ 359.25						
	Workforce Development		\$ -						
	Other	\$ 1,081.09							
	Bank fees	\$ 19.80	\$ 19.80						
	Street lights	\$ 736.29		\$ 736.29					
	Police car gas	\$ 250.00		\$ 250.00					
	Legal services		\$ -						
	Cleaning service	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00						
	Mowing service		\$ -						
	Non-routine Expenses	\$ 233.23							
	Office supplies	\$ 18.40	\$ 18.40						
	Police supplies		\$ -						
	Town hall supplies	\$ 14.96	\$ 14.96						
	Information services	\$ 34.89	\$ 34.89						
	Police training		\$ -				\$ -		
	Legal ads		\$ -						
	Insurance (Workers comp)		\$ -						
	Town hall repair & maint.		\$ -						
	Pavilion repair & maintenance		\$ -						
	Flyer printing	\$ 50.56	\$ 50.56						
	clerk-treasurer school/ ILMCT dues		\$ -						
	snow plowing			\$ -					
snow plow gas			\$ -						
snow plow repair				\$ -					
Police car maintenance	\$ 114.42		\$ 114.42						
street repair materials			\$ -						
Road salt service			\$ -						
Road salt			\$ -						
Refunds- park/ town hall use		\$ -							
Stormwater Fees		\$ -							
	Total Expenses:	\$ 4,925.25	\$ 3,824.54	\$ 1,100.71	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 48.38	\$ 78.00
Income	Income from State:	\$ 2,569.87							
	LRS	\$ 1,047.90			\$ 1,047.90				
	MVH	\$ 1,231.18		\$ 1,231.18					
	Accelerated MVH1			\$ -					
	Accelerated MVH2			\$ -					
	Cigarette tax		\$ -						
	ABC Gallonage	\$ 290.79	\$ 290.79						
	Income from County:	\$ 573.15							
	LOIT	\$ 192.94	\$ 192.94						
	Public Safety dist.	\$ 380.21	\$ 380.21						
	water PILOT								
	river boat								
	property dist.								
	excise dist.								
	property tax dist: sold properties								
	Other:	\$ 503.34							
	Donations	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00					\$ 20.00	
	Repayment, A Jansen	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00						
	Town hall use		\$ -						
	Pavilion use	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00						\$ 25.00
	Ordinance violations	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00			\$ 300.00			
	Gun permits		\$ -				\$ -		
Interest	\$ 8.34	\$ 8.34							
Refunds		\$ -							
	Total Income:	\$ 3,646.36	\$ 1,367.28	\$ 1,231.18	\$ 1,047.90	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00
	Outstanding checks paid	\$ 1,368.18				Total of positive balance funds: \$ 16,623.35			
	Current outstanding checks	\$ 509.70				Unrestricted in General Fund: \$ 9,199.92			
	Old outstanding checks	\$ 184.70							
	Ending bank balance:	\$ 63,775.70	\$ 25,823.27	\$ 8,100.95	\$ 29,341.78	\$ 14,775.00	\$ 1,848.35	\$ 99.15	\$ (1,434.50)

