

Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting
November 14, 2017

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

Secretary Report

Jill presented the corrected minutes from October meeting. Mandy made a motion to accept the minutes with the correct spelling of John Byrne's last name. Carla seconded. All were in favor.

Town Hall Cleaning: Kandy asked if someone could be hired to clean the town hall on a monthly basis. A discussion was held and it was decided a deep cleaning (meaning the floors stripped and waxed) is all that is needed. Kandy will seek quotes on this.

Town Hall Leaves: Michael Vance contacted Kandy and asked if the Board would like him to pick up the leaves from the town hall property. He would charge \$125.00 for this service. Jill made a motion to have Vance pick up the leaves. Carla seconded it. Mandy abstained. Kandy will call Michael to have the leaves picked up from the town hall.

Salary Ordinance: It was brought to the Board's attention they need to discuss salaries for the coming year given the salary ordinance needs to be signed at the December board meeting. Kandy noted that as of this date the town has a plus \$3,798.33 in its accounts and that approximately \$13,000. in property tax will likely becoming in yet this year.

Envelopes: Two bids were given to the board to buy envelopes. Carla made a motion to buy 250 envelopes from Printing Partners at a cost of \$125.00. Mandy seconded it and all were in favor.

Treasurer Report

Audit: Kandy discussed with the State Board of Accounts the \$2616.00 audit fee the town was charged. The fee was for the years 2011-1015. After discussion, the bill was reduced to \$1974 since auditors were changed during the audit.

IRS Refund: The town received from IN IRS a refund of \$1466.48 for over paid taxes in 2014/2015.

Peace Park: The town is no longer receiving donations from the Vets to keep the flag illuminated and this fund is now in the red. Mandy will talk to the Vets before Marshal Mike removes the flag.

Pavilion Rental: Kandy noted that the pavilion rental/deposit goes into the park toilet fund but that the deposit comes out of the undesignated general fund. Kandy will change this so that the deposit return also comes out of the park toilet fund starting in 2018.

Vest: Kandy asked Mike if he had heard anything back from the DOJ about the department's grant application of \$400 towards a new vest. Mike will look into this.

There were no outstanding expenses this month. With no further discussion, Carla moved the treasurer report be accepted. Jill seconded it. All were in favor.

New Business

Department of Public Works

Dan Parker & Mike Massonne from Indianapolis Department of Public Works (DPW) gave a presentation on the floodwall project. Massonne indicated the borings are done and last week an AECOM structural engineer & field engineer were in Rocky Ripple. They walked the levee with Marshal Mike to see what the current situation is. Currently they are

running an H&H analysis with the goal being to minimize the destruction of homes. The completion date will be first or second week of February. DPW is prepared to come back and look at current trees along the levee that need to come down. DPW is working with Dan Vernon of Green Arbor on the tree removal.

Dan Parker, director of DPW spoke next about funding the floodwall project in Rocky Ripple. The work up to this point has been funded thru DPW storm water fund. The City's commitment is built into a four-year capital improvement plan that runs thru 2021.

Parker discussed ways to finance Rocky Ripple's project once an agreement is decided between the City, Rocky Ripple and Butler.

He said, currently there are 2800 properties in the flood plain. Of these, 2500 properties come out of the flood plain when the Westfield Alignment Project is finished. DPW is proposing a tax increment financing (TIF) district in all areas in the blue and red zone of the attached map, which will be called the flood improvement district to capture any assessed value growth that comes from home improvements. This TIF money will be used only for flood control projects/maintenance. Currently the homes in this area pay \$6 million in flood insurance. Once a home is removed from the flood plain, their market value will go up. Homeowners will no longer pay flood insurance and they can improve their property. Legislation will allow the City to capture market value growth & this value can be used to purchase bonds without State involvement.

It is projected that by 2019 the TIF district will be established, if Legislators agree. At that time, the Marion County Auditor will set home base level values before the project is done so they can capture the increased value revenue to bond off of.

This TIF will only be used for flood control – no roads, no sidewalks etc. As soon as the bonds are paid off, the TIF goes away.

Finally, Mike Massonne indicated that Rocky Ripple is at the top of the 2018 list to get sewers.

Carla asked what DPW needs from the Board and Dan said “your support that this is an idea worth pursuing in the legislation.”

DPW will be meeting at 4:00 on Monday to talk to Butler Tarkington Association as well as Broad Ripple Village Association and Warfleigh Neighborhood Association about the proposed TIF district.

Open House

Mandy reported there were small numbers at the open house for residents to view the current DPW renderings of what a flood protection project would look like in Rocky Ripple, but those that came had good questions. Mandy said the Board could continue with these meetings but it would be a good idea to wait until after AECOM report comes out as more specific information will be available at that time.

Survey

Mandy has received 102 completed surveys to date. In comparing the number of surveys received against the number of Rocky Ripple households (319), this is a response rate of approximately 30%. Of the surveys received, the majority of respondents selected FEMA accredited protection as their number one choice for flood protection. Some respondents stated in their comments that they supported flood protection initiatives, but that they needed more specifics before rendering a final opinion. Specifically, 59 respondents

indicated they want FEMA accredited protection; 20 want restoration and structural improvement (non-accredited), 14 responded with Other, 6 respondents indicated they want nothing done to the existing levee and 3 survey respondents did not answer the question. Again, it was decided that until we have firm plans instead of renderings that there is no reason to solicit further responses.

Pot Holes

Mike has talked to Globe Paving and it looks like cost will be \$2500 to patch holes. Globe will do a run thru and mark spots. Temperature is not a problem since this is patching and it can be done anytime.

New Business

Trees on Town Land

Carla said the Board is aware of the tree on the levee behind John Byrne's home. Carla asked if there are other bothersome trees that residents know about, to let them know. Whit said he would like to join DPW and the Board when they do the next walk.

Festival

The plaque honoring Mabel & Rick Hohlt will be mortared into the pavilion.

Committee Reports

RREM

Marshal Mike reported RREM is finalizing the placement of where they will be located in the event of an evacuation. Butler or the Rivi are possibilities.

RRCA

The Community Association made about \$7000 from the Art Festival.

Vets

Mandy suggested that maybe the RRCA could do a combo with the Vets to pay for the lights at Peace Park.

Whit asked how he is to go about getting a brick for Bob Johnston at Peace Park. Mandy told him to check with the Vets, as they coordinated this.

Marshal Report

Snowplow truck is cleaned and the plow is on. The town currently has salt left from last year and depending on what winter is like, this may be enough. Ely and Art are ready to plow.

Community Concerns

The Do Not Enter sign on Canal Boulevard and 54th Street is faded and unable to be read. Mike will talk to Mike Massonne to see if DPW can help with signs. Mandy made a motion to earmark \$500 for new street signs. Jill seconded. All were in favor.

With no further business, Jill moved the meeting be adjourned and Mandy seconded it. Carla called the meeting adjourned at 8:57.

Respectfully submitted,

Kandy Kendall
Clerk Treasurer