

## **GRIFFITH PARKS and RECREATION BOARD**

### **Minutes for the October 12, 2015 meeting:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. at the Town Hall, 111 N. Broad Street in Griffith, Indiana by President, Rob Bubala. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

The meeting was attended by the following members:

-Rob Bubala      -Gina Smith              -Susan Hoese      George Thiel              -Al Markut, Park Supervisor  
-Leah Dumezich, School Board Liaison      Pat Schaadt, Town Council Liaison

George Thiel made a motion to approve the minutes of Sept. 14, 2015. Gina Smith seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

Claims in the amount of \$13,461.22 (Thirteen thousand four hundred sixty-one dollars and twenty-two cents) were presented. However, one claim for a total of \$4,603.00 (four thousand six hundred and three dollars) was going to be redirected to the Town Council. Sue Hoese made a motion to approve the claims in the amount of \$8,858.22 (Eight thousand eight hundred fifty-eight dollars and twenty-two cents). George Thiel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Rob Bubala announced that the November, 2015 Park Board pre-meeting will occur at 6 P.M., and a follow-up meeting will take place after the regularly scheduled meeting if needed.

He also urged residents to call the police at 911 if anyone sees any graffiti, damage or questionable behavior in any of the town parks during the day or evening. The change in the phone number is due to the E911 consolidation; the old number is for administrative questions only.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

### **REPORTS:**

Treasurer's report: Susan Hoese reported that being in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, we are doing well.

Park Superintendent: Al Markut reported that his crew is getting ready to recondition Central Park by reseeding and filling in the low spots after the heavy usage of the Park this summer. They will also be trimming a couple limbs in South Park off of Avenue D. He also stated that some tires have been replaced on a couple of the park's trucks and that all the lights have been connected for the Pop Warner field. There had been two cuts on wires, but they have since been taken care of. Al added that Clerk-Treasurer, George Jerome, had informed him that some of the walkway lights were not on in Central Park. He will check into this matter. Lastly, he and his crew are trying to finish the fall work before the weather breaks.

School Board: Leah Dumezich remarked that during the Oktoberfest at Central Park, students from the National Honor Society helped by judging the kids costumes and also helped with the pumpkin decorations. She was happy to see them participate in this activity.

GSEC – Gina Smith stated that there will be a Halloween party in Central Park on October 31, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. Al Markut asked if the sound system would be needed and Gina replied that the committee would be meeting next week and would let Al know.

Senior Center – Pat Schaadt reported that the Senior Center is doing fine. The trip to Nashville left this morning and was fully booked. Evening art classes are being contemplated and a donation for the use of the center will be made if it is used.

Central Market –Closed for the season

Bike Trail Connection Project – Rob Bubala stated that the engineering for this project will be done in 2016.

Girl Scout Troop Project - Per Rob Bubala we will keep this item on the agenda even though we haven't heard anything new.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:**

Rob Bubala went over the items of unfinished business:

1. Basketball hoops –There has not been any information received from the police and there will probably not be any issues because of the cooler weather.
2. Cheever Park Cell Tower Flag and Lighting – Al Markut has gotten in touch with the company and will be contacted when the gentleman comes down. Al did notice that one of the glasses is broken on the light and that a bulb might be burned out. Pat Schaadt added that if the light needs to be changed it should be changed. Al Markut has recommended a cone lite.
3. Park Security Cameras – Rob Bubala will check with Chief Mance about the cameras in South Park.
4. Paving Projects
  - a. South Park- Sue Hoese reported that the concrete curbs should be started in the next day or two
  - b. Central Park – This paving is scheduled to begin in the near future.
5. 2016 Field Leases-Revisions are still in discussion.

#### **NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:**

1. Central Park Ice Rink – Rob Bubala stated that we will order the new liner closer to the date we want to install it.
2. Park curfew signage – Per Al Markut, the signs should be in this week; as soon as they are they will be posted.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:**

Aaron Pollock, 127 N. Rensselaer, needs a copy of the contract for the league using Cheever Park.

Rick Ryfa, President of Town Council, extended his thanks to the park employees for all their help during Oktoberfest.

#### **NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:**

Howard Strych, 449 S. Griffith Boulevard, appeared before the Board to voice his opinion on the location of the playground, stating that it was only 110 feet from his home. He feels it is unsafe because it is at a T in the road. He then added that as a result his house has been hit, there has been chaos and debris, unbearable noise and kids have been trying to break the playground equipment. Mr. Strych also stated that when the Pop

Warner League plays, there are more cars than the capacity of the available parking and the stop sign there has been disregarded. Rob Bubala answered that the playground had to be put there because of the location of the pipeline and that all safety requirements have been met. Al Markut added that there has to be a 12' easement on each side of the pipes.

Sue Hoese, 541 Canterbury Road, asked Mr. Strych when his house was hit and he replied that it was before the new playground was installed.

Leah Dumezich interjected that playgrounds improve the quality of life for everyone.

Rob Bubala then asked Mr. Strych to call the police when he sees violations and that he can inform Chief Mance of the speeders and illicit behavior. He will also talk to Mr. Markut, Town Council and Chief Mance regarding the possibility of putting some sort of bulwark on the T in the road.

Meeting was adjourned by President, Rob Bubala at 7:26 pm.

Diane Kujawa, Recording Secretary