

## **GRIFFITH PARKS and RECREATION BOARD**

### **Minutes for the November 10, 2014 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 Hoeser    -George Thiel    -Al Markut  
-Pat Schaadt, Town Council Liaison    -Rich Muha, School Board Liaison

Brent Torrenge, Town Attorney, was also in attendance.

Gina Smith made a motion to accept the October 13, 2014 minutes. Sue Hoeser seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Claims in the amount of \$5000.53 (five thousand dollars and fifty-three cents) were presented. Susan Hoeser made a motion to accept the claims as presented. George Thiel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Rob Bubala announced that the December 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 reminded residents to call the police non-emergency number at 219-924-3141 if any graffiti, damage or questionable behavior is seen in any of the Town parks.

Lastly he stated that there will be a Veteran's Day ceremony at Central Park at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 with members of the VFW and American Legion.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

### **REPORTS:**

Treasurer: Susan Hoeser reported that the funds are okay.

Park Superintendent: Al Markut said that he and his crew are in the process of shutting down for winter; the fields are all done and water is off. He anticipates getting the ice rink ready. Also, the trees have been planted in Tot Park.

School Board: No report

GSEC – Gina Smith announced that the Halloween party had been cancelled due to the weather. GSEC is now on hiatus until March.

Senior Center – Pat Schaadt remarked that all is going well at the Center. There will be a Christmas party and Joelle has a group going to Purdue for its Christmas concert. Tickets are still available for anyone else wanting to go. Pat also stated that the parking lot has been striped and thanked Public Works for removal of trees and the other repair work which was done.

Central Market – Pat Schaadt informed all present that everything has ended and they are waiting on May to start up again. She added that Rick Ryfa was not sure yet of the beginning and ending dates for 2015.

Bike Trail Connection – As announced previously this project is still on the list for 2015; nothing new to report.

Central Park Bathroom Rehab Proposal Project – This project is now in motion; the Town Council has received some documentation from the vendors. We hope to get further information on this prior to the December meeting at which point we will announce the work which will or will not take place.

South Park – Work is still being done on the South Park playground replacement project.

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

Rob Bubala went over the items of unfinished business:

1. Tot Park Basketball Hoops – Rob Bubala has not queried the police this past month with the weather being so cold out and will not do so now until spring 2015.
2. New Mower and hydraulic deck- The Park Board is now working with our lawyer, Brent Torrenga, on this project.
3. The Bike Rack will be a 2015 project; we hope to get quotes next year.
4. Roofing project for Tot Park – Al Markut has called the roofer and has asked where he was on this project and was told he would get to it as soon as possible depending on the weather conditions.
5. The DNR trees have been planted despite some confusion, and they were smaller than expected. Cheryl Satkus, 330 Indiana, stated that she is working on getting a picture in the newspaper about the tree planting. She also added that Al Markut did a great job getting the trees in the ground. Rob Bubala commented that if Ms. Satkus hears of this project again in 2015 we would again be interested. Rob Bubala then invited Ms. Satkus to the December meeting so that she can be given recognition for her part in this program.
6. Sue Hoese reported that a proposal was submitted to three individuals for the tree lighting but only one responded. The Town would like to have 18 trees lit up and Central Park decorated with the Panther Park decorations that Valerie Watkun found and which her husband repaired. Hopefully Hubinger will be able to start on this project next week; they were hired because of the heights of the trees. Total cost incurred will be approximately \$4000.00 which will include both putting up and taking down of the lights. Gina Smith and Sue Hoese will make sure someone is available at the time this work is being done and will coordinate with Valerie also.

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

1. The Bike Trail and associated parking lots will be a 2015 project and we will petition for an engineering review of those properties next year.
2. In regard to the ice rink, Al Markut felt that the ground is neither level nor deep enough and so wants to take out about four inches of sand to make the pit deeper. The rink will not be available by Thanksgiving.

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

Cheryl Satkus mentioned that Tot Park is looking good with the painting that has been done there; it has been quiet at this park. Rob Bubala asked Ms. Satkus how Tot Park has been the last four months. She replied that it was busy but no noticeable drug activity had been noticed. Sue Hoese asked if the additional police presence had helped. Ms. Satkus replied that she hadn't seen the police that much more; she thought that perhaps the rowdy element had moved on. She also did notice more kids had been playing ball there when the hoops were down at Broad Street. Pat Schaadt commented that there are mothers walking their children and tots riding their bikes on the basketball court area when the big kids aren't there.

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

Mr. Chris Linders, 132 N. Elgin, of Griffith Girls' Softball presented the Board with an updated invoice from the repair of the softball fields. He then stated that everything was gearing down; everything has been cleaned up and the water has been turned off. They are holding some camps here in town. Susan Hoese reminded Mr. Linders that the fields cannot be sub-leased without first coming to the Park Board.

The meeting was adjourned by President Rob Bubala at 7:18 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Diane Kujawa