

November 17, 2015

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the November 17, 2015 meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Boy Scouts from Troop 518 led the attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

James Marker
Larry Ballah
Rick Ryfa
Patricia Schaadt
Stan Dobosz

ALSO ATTENDING:

George Jerome - Clerk Treasurer
Greg Mance – Police Chief
Roy Schoon – Fire Chief
Rick Konopasek – Director of Public Works
Ben Fryman – Attorney for the Town

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to adopt the minutes of the November 4, 2015 meeting as presented, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

1. Claims No. 4236–4471 in the amount of \$871,414.79 (eight hundred seventy-one thousand, four hundred fourteen dollars and seventy-nine cents) were presented for payment. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to accept the claims as presented, second by Council Member Jim Marker. MOTION CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. There will be a council study session Tuesday November 24th at 5:30 p.m.
2. The Clerk-Treasurer's office will be closed Wednesday December 30th and Thursday December 31st in order to close the books for 2015. It will reopen Monday January 4, 2016 at 8:30 a.m.
3. The next council meeting will be Tuesday December 1st at 7:00 p.m. A study session will be held at 6:30 p.m. before the meeting and one will follow if necessary

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Council Member Jim Marker read an update letter from Enbridge regarding Line 78 Pipeline Project
2. Director of Public Works Rick Konopasek reported that Russell's Tree Service provided an update to the Tree Assessment indicating that the assessment is 86% to 90% complete.
3. A proposal from Walsh & Kelly regarding 2016 pricing was continued

REPORTS:

1. NIRPC – No Report
2. Director of Public Works
 - a. The leaf season is drawing to a close
 - b. Road paving is as well and likely will end by December 1st
3. Police – No Report
4. Fire – No Report
5. Economic Development – No Report
6. Pending Items
 - a. The Indiana Supreme Court recently ruled in our favor regarding the litigation between Hammond Sanitary District and the customer communities
 - b. The Town of Griffith is still under a Mandate from the EPA that may require the town to build a \$20 million basin to hold diluted sewage.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING THE AGENDA:

1. None

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. A proposed Settlement and Agreement between the Town of Griffith and JFB LLC regarding title to certain parcels of real estate on the 100 block of S Broad Street was presented and Council Member Larry Ballah moved to authorize Council President to sign the document, second by Council Member Stan Dobosz. MOTION CARRIED

2. NEW BUSINESS

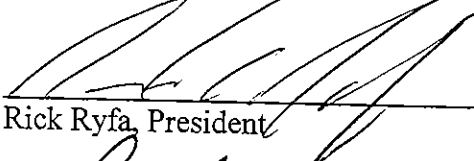
- a. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to affirm the BZA Findings of Fact to allow a duplex in an R2 Single Family Zoning District at 202 N Wiggs, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED
- b. Petitioner Clint Johnson, DBA Sud City Car Wash requested a Special Use Variance to allow an increase in the number of cars he can display for sale at 1637 W 45th Ave. a B4 use in a B3 Zoning District.
 - i. The BZA determined that the petitioner did not meet any of the five requirements for a special use variance and accordingly made no recommendation to the Town Council
 - ii. Council Member Larry Ballah moved to deny the petitioner's request, second by Council Member Jim Marker. MOTION CARRIED
- c. Council Member Larry Ballah moved to continue the matter of BZA Findings of Fact regarding a Special Use Variance to allow a funeral/cremation facility at 201 Ivanhoe Court, a Light Industrial Zoning District, second by Council Member Stan Dobosz. MOTION CARRIED
- d. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to approve Resolution 2015-39, a Resolution Transferring Appropriations within the General Fund, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED
- e. Council Member Jim Marker moved to approve Resolution 2015-40, a Resolution Transferring Appropriations, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED
- f. Council Member Larry Ballah introduced Ordinance 2015-41: An Ordinance Vacating a Portion of a 16 Foot Wide Public Alley Within the Town of Griffith
 - i. Council Member Ballah moved to suspend the rules to permit passage after 1st reading, second by Council Member Jim Marker. MOTION CARRIED
 1. A roll call vote was unanimously in favor of suspending the rules.
 - ii. Council Member Larry Ballah moved to approve Ordinance 2015-41, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED

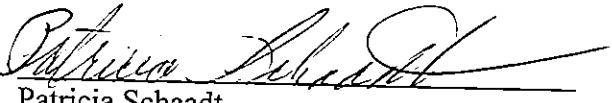
PUBLIC COMMENTS:

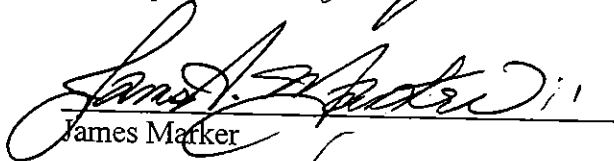
- Gene Mull, 206 N Wiggs had concerns regarding the Variance granted for the property at 202 N Wiggs – His concern was that work would not proceed in a timely manner.
- Tina Stillman, caregiver for Mary Gillis, 417 S Broad asked if any decisions had been made regarding the issue raised at the last council meeting – She provided Council Member Marker with photos of the area of concern.
- The Council remained after adjournment to answer any questions the Scouts had regarding municipal government

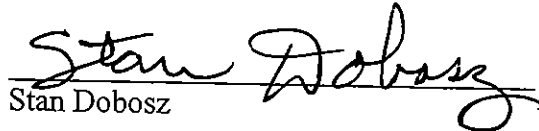
There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF GRIFFITH, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA


Rick Ryfa, President



Patricia Schaadt


James Marker


Stan Dobosz


Larry Ballah

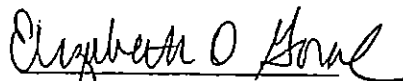
Attest:



George N Jerome
Clerk-Treasurer

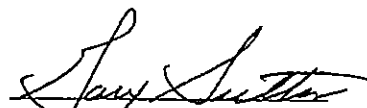
2015 Griffith Police Department Certified Hiring List – Patrol Officer –

Name

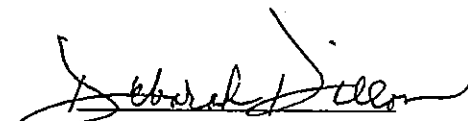
1. Joshua Huber
 2. Daniel Moynihan
 3. Leslie Malerich
 4. Timothy Young
 5. Myles Mayfield
 6. Eric Madry
 7. Sara Brines
 8. Vince Van Schouwen
 9. Joseph Osiecki
 10. Corey Hollowell
 11. Shaun Meyer
 12. Petar Krkobabic
 13. Dennis Gunter
 14. Gerardo Garza
 15. Emmanuel Melecio
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President – Elizabeth Goral


Vice President – John Volkmann


Board Member – Gary Sutton


Board Member – Roann Purgert


Board Member – Deborah Dillon