

May 19, 2015 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the May 19, 2015 meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

James Marker
Larry Ballah
Rick Ryfa
Patricia Schaad
Stan Dobosz - Absent

ALSO ATTENDING:

George Jerome - Clerk Treasurer
Greg Mance – Chief of Police
Rick Konopasek – Public Works Director
Bob Schwerd – Attorney for the Town

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Council Member Pat Schaad moved to adopt the minutes of the May 4, 2015 meeting as presented, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

1. Claims No. 1349 – 1589 in the amount of \$912,527.15 (nine hundred twelve thousand, five hundred twenty-seven dollars and fifteen cents) were presented for payment. Council Member Pat Schaad moved to accept the claims as presented, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. There will be a council study session on Tuesday May 26th at 5:30 p.m.
2. The next council meeting will be Tuesday June 2nd 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.
3. Memorial Day Observance Ceremony will take place at 10:00 a.m. May 25th at the War Memorial. 1st District Congressman Pete Visclosky will be the keynote speaker.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Council Member Pat Schaad moved to approve a request from the Girls 8U All-Star Softball Team to have a car wash fundraiser at the Franklin Center near Door G from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. May 31st, rain date June 7th, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED
2. Council Member Pat Schaad moved to approve a request from the Griffith Historical Society to place banners at various locations in town to advertise their July Beer Garden, second by Council Member Jim Marker. MOTION CARRIED
3. Council Member Jim Marker moved to approve the recommendation of the Safety Board regarding the purchase of four fully uploaded patrol vehicles and one fully uploaded Police Truck, second by Council Member Pat Schaad. MOTION CARRIED
4. Council President Ryfa noted that there are or will soon be vacancies on the following boards or commissions: Safety Board, Plan Commission, BZA and Economic Development. He encourages interested individuals to apply.
5. Council Member Larry Ballah moved to accept a recommendation from the Redevelopment Commission to authorize the Council President to enter into agreements for the appraisal of properties at 207 W Main St (Andy's Body Shop), second by Council Member Pat Schaad. MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS:

1. NIRPC – No Report
2. Director of Public Works –No Report
 - a. Dan McClure of Walsh & Kelly provided a brief update on current road work.
3. Police – No Report
4. Fire – No Report
5. Economic Development – No Report

6. Pending Items

- a. Economic Development/Building Commissioner Position
 - i. There is a tentative start date of June 3rd for the new hire.
- b. FEMA related surveys will begin soon. There will be a public meeting sometime in June to provide residents with a detailed update

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. None

2. NEW BUSINESS

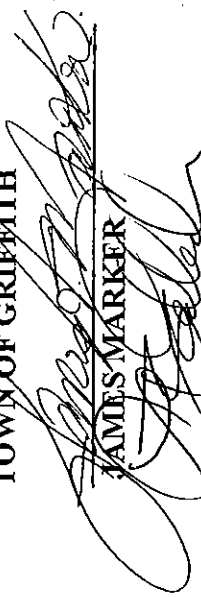
- a. Council President Rick Ryfa opened nominations for the vacant Vice President position. Council Member Pat Schaadt nominated Larry Ballah. There were no other nominations.
 - i. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to approve Council Member Ballah as Vice President, second by Council Member Jim Marker
- b. Council Member Larry Ballah moved to approve Resolution 2015-14: A Resolution Authorizing an Agreement with Lake County, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED
- c. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to authorize Council President Ryfa to sign a Cooperation Agreement with Lake County regarding Community Development Block Grant funding for 2016-2018, second by Council Member Jim Marker. MOTION CARRIED
- d. Council Member Jim Marker introduce on 1st reading Ordinance 2015-15: An Ordinance Regarding Chickens on Residential Property.
- e. Council member Pat Schaadt moved to approve a proposal by Russell's Tree Care, Inc to provide an assessment of trees on Town of Griffith right-of-way and identify trees in decline at a price not-to exceed \$10,000, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Rich Leber, 309 N Earnest reported on the success of Imagine Griffith's 1st Annual Griffith Pride Day. More than 90 volunteers participated and several areas were tended during the event.
- Joe Kras, 1215 Sawgrass humorously noted that the Cub Scouts opted to visit the Fire Station rather than sit through a Council meeting.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p. m.

**TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF GRIFFITH**


JAMES MARKER


LAWRENCE BALLAH


RICK RYFA


PATRICIA SCHAADT

ABSENT

STAN DOBOSZ


GEORGE N. JEROME
CLERK TREASURER