

April 7, 2015

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the April 7, 2015 meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Larry Ballah
Rick Ryfa
Pat Schaadt
Stan Dobosz

ALSO ATTENDING:

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

With regret, the death of Council Vice-President Glen Gaby was reported. Bud passed away at home shortly after midnight on Easter morning April 5, 2015. The heartfelt sympathy of the Council goes out to his wife Laura and son Michael, who were with him that morning as well as his extended family and many friends.

Police Chaplain Sergeant Marlene Starcevich offered a prayer in remembrance.

Pastor Stephen Sluder, Griffith Church of God offered the Opening Prayer which was followed by a Moment of Silence

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to adopt the minutes of the March 17, 2014 meeting as presented, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

1. Claims No. 0738 – 0933 in the amount of \$1,250,568.02 (one million, two hundred fifty thousand, five hundred sixty-eight dollars and two cents) were presented for payment. Council Member Pat Schaadt 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 April 14th at 5:30 p.m.
2. The next council meeting will be Tuesday April 21st 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. Griffith Historical Society requested permission to run the children's barrel train in Central Park during the Central Market as well as permission to have a Beer Garden at the Depot on July 17th and 18th. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to approve both requests, second by Council Member Stan Dobosz. MOTION PASSED
2. Griffith Youth Baseball requested permission to have an Opening Day Parade on Broad Street from the Franklin Center to Central Park. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to approve the request, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED
3. Council President Rick Ryfa read a letter from Enbridge regarding the planting of trees in temporary work easement areas adjacent to the 6B Pipeline. They will plant a total of 12 trees.

REPORTS:

1. NIRPC – No Report
2. Director of Public Works
 - a. Fire hydrant flushing continues south of 45th Ave
3. Police – No Report

4. Fire
 - a. The Auxiliary's Annual Chili Cook-off will take place this coming Saturday, April 11th
5. Economic Development – No Report
6. Pending Items
 - a. Building Commissioner – Second round interviews have been scheduled
 - b. Floodplain update
 - i. Eric Neagu, Weaver Boos provide an update of progress-to-date – Much is currently in FEMA's hands and while the representative working with the Town is helpful, at time the bureaucracy can block progress. Residents are encouraged to contact Congressman Visclosky's office to explain the financial impact if resolution is not forthcoming.
 - c. Road Project – Ron Wiedeman, Robinson Engineering provided an update for the 2015 road repair plans

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - a. None
2. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Fire Truck Bid Openings:
 - i. See Attached Bid Summary
 - ii. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to refer the bids to the Fire Department and Town Attorney for review and recommendation, second by Council Member Stan Dobosz. MOTION CARRIED
 - b. Elgin & Lindberg Street Reconstruction Bid Openings:
 - i. See Attached Bid Summary
 - ii. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to refer the bids to the Director of Public Works, Town Attorney and Robinson Engineering for review and recommendation, second by Council member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED
 - c. Council Member Larry Ballah presented the BZA Findings of Fact regarding 45th Street Studios' request for a variance to operate a tattoo shop and art gallery in a B-2 Zoning District. The BZA made a favorable recommendation with a 3-2 Vote.
 - i. Council Member Larry Ballah moved to affirm the BZA's Findings of Fact, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. With clarification by Council President Ryfa that a YES vote would affirm the BZA's recommendation to grant the variance while a NO vote would deny the variance. MOTION FAILED, thereby denying the requested variance.
 - ii. Town Attorney Schwerd will prepare new Findings of Fact
 - d. Council Member Larry Ballah introduced on 1st reading, Ordinance 2015-09: An Ordinance Regarding Alarms.
 - e. Council Member Stan Dobosz introduced Ordinance 2015-10: A Revised Salary Ordinance.
 - i. Because the only revision was to create a part-time position in the Police Department to facilitate the E-911 consolidation, Council Member moved to suspend the rules and vote on passage at this meeting, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. In a roll call vote, all voted to suspend the rules.
 - ii. Council Member Larry Ballah moved to approve Salary Ordinance 2015-10, second by Council member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED

- f. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to pass Resolution 2015-11: A Resolution Transferring Appropriations, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED
- g. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to grant the Griffith Historical Society \$5,000 for the continuation of their efforts to collect, preserve and display artifacts significant to Griffith's history, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED
- h. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to authorize Council President Rick Ryfa to sign a Master Services Agreement with Weaver Consultants Group North Central LLC, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1. Board of Public Works
 - a. Board Member Larry Ballah moved to confirm a contract with R&R Visual for Interceptor Inspection, second by Board Member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p. m.

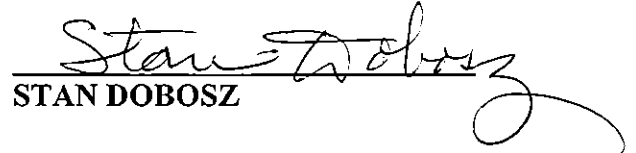
**TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF GRIFFITH**


LAWRENCE BALLAH


RICK RYFA


PATRICIA SCHAADT


GEORGE N. JEROME
CLERK TREASURER


STAN DOBOSZ