

## **August 5, 2014**

# **TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

Council President Rick Ryfa called the August 5, 2014 meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Larry Ballah  
Glen Gaby  
Rick Ryfa  
Pat Schaadt  
Stan Dobosz

### **ALSO ATTENDING:**

George Jerome - Clerk Treasurer  
Greg Mance – Chief of Police  
Don Hill – Assistant Fire Chief  
Rick Konopasek – Public Works Director  
Bob Schwerd – Attorney for the Town  
Donche Andonov – Building Commissioner

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to adopt the minutes of the July 15, 2014 meeting as presented, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED

### **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:**

1. Claims No. 2169 – 2360 in the amount of \$1,782,708.37 (one million, seven hundred eighty-two thousand, seven hundred eight dollars and thirty-seven cents) were presented for payment. Clerk Treasurer George Jerome explained that claim, #2276 was voided and is excluded from what is being presented. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to accept the claims as presented, second by Council Member Glen Gaby. MOTION CARRIED

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. There will be a council study session on Tuesday August 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.
2. The next council meeting will be Tuesday August 19<sup>th</sup> 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. The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Rock 'n Rail Street and Music Festival will take place Thursday August 28<sup>th</sup> through Sunday August 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. The Town received a communication from NICK requesting the Town to Proclaim September Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to make such a proclamation, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED
2. Council Member read a communication from resident Brenda Reitz regarding recognition of Griffith Wrestling. The issue was referred to Director of Public Works Director Rick Konopasek for action.
3. Eagle Scout candidate Jesse Gates requested permission to place the Little Free Libraries at various locations in town. While a number of issues remain unanswered, Council member Stan Dobosz moved to allow Council President Rick Ryfa make determinations as necessary to allow the project to proceed, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED

### **REPORTS:**

1. NIRPC – No Report
2. Director of Public Works
  - a. Utility relocation is almost complete at Arbogast and Avenue H
  - b. The Arbogast Bridge work continues – The cofferdam is in place
3. Police –
  - a. Bridges Scoreboard is sponsoring a Benefit Run to support the Animal Shelter on Thursday August 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. Chief Mance thanked 7-11 Corporation and local owner Rich Olszewski for a program that provided officers with coupons for free Slurpees to be given to young people with whom they come into contact. It provided an

effective way for officers to make positive contacts.

4. Fire – No Report

5. Pending Items

- a. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to approve the purchase of four (4) medium-duty dump trucks with snow plows and salt spreaders, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED.
- b. Council Member Glen Gaby moved to approve an Inspection Services Agreement with Lawson-Fisher Associates to oversee the construction of the Arbogast Street Bridge, second by Council member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED
- c. Robinson Engineering Project Manager Ron Wiedeman provided an update regarding the Main Street Project and the 2014 Road Project

**BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:**

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. None

2. NEW BUSINESS


- a. Council Member Larry Ballah moved to approve an agreement with BF&S to oversee construction of the Connector Trail Project, second by Council Member Stan Dobosz. MOTION CARRIED
- b. Council Member Larry Ballah moved to approve a MOU with the City of Gary regarding the paving of Colfax Street between Ridge Road and 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue, second by Council Member Glen Gaby. MOTION CARRIED
- c. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to affirm the BZA Findings of Fact and their recommendation to grant a Special Use Variance to Total Renal Care, Inc to open a Dialysis Center at 110 W Ridge Road, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED
- d. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to authorize Clerk Treasurer George Jerome to solicit lease purchase agreements for the acquisition of E-911 communications equipment and new Public Works trucks. The combined purchases will total approximately \$950,000.
- e. There will be a meeting immediately following to discuss the FEMA Appeal Process

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

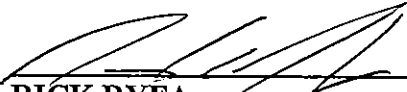
- Patty Fisher, 1120 N Jay asked about the estimated completion date of the Arbogast Street Bridge
- Jon Condict, 303 W Main reported continued storm sewer surcharging
  - Also asked about paving a short section of S Harvey
- Steve McDermott, 247 N Ernest asked about an update on his previous request for a stop sign.
- Pete Thompson, 1343 N Griffith Blvd - Drainage
- Susan Palmer 1231 N Jay – Drainage
- Cheryl Satkus, 330 N Indiana has problems with the recently paved alley
- John Sowinski 1146 N Lafayette
- Ken Asche, 1127 N Wood complained that the Arbogast Street Bridge was closed too soon
- Judy Schoon, 304 N Dwiggins has issues with the depth of the milling in her alley

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

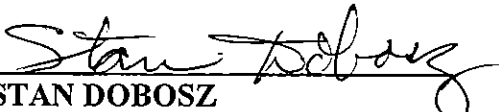
TOWN COUNCIL  
TOWN OF GRIFFITH

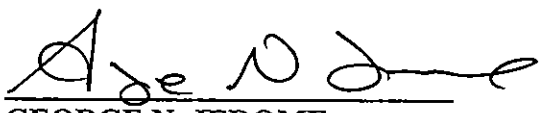
  
GLEN GABY

  
LAWRENCE BALLAH

  
RICK RYFA

  
PATRICIA SCHAADT

  
STAN DOBOSZ

  
GEORGE N. JEROME  
CLERK TREASURER