

June 3, 2014

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the June 3, 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
Roy Schoon – Fire Chief
Rick Konopasek – Public Works Director
Bob Schwerd – Attorney for the Town

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to adopt the minutes of the May 20, 2014 meeting as presented, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED
2. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to adopt the minutes of the May 29, 2014 meeting as presented, second by Council Member Glen Gaby. MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

1. Claims No. 1516– 1623 in the amount of \$819,251.05 (eight hundred nineteen thousand, two hundred fifty-one dollars and five cents) were presented for payment. 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 June 10th at 5:30 p.m.
2. The next council meeting will be Monday June 17th 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 operate their barrel train in Central Park in conjunction with the Central Market. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to grant permission, second by Council Member Stan Dobosz. MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS:

1. NIRPC – No Report
2. Director of Public Works
 - a. Main Street work is on hold pending NIPSCO utility relocations
 - b. Ave H & Colfax work will begin in July – A letter to residents was distributed that describes the arrangements made with Schererville and the County to ensure public safety is not compromised during the 60-day road closure.
3. Police –
 - a. Chief Mance requested permission to use up to \$20,000 from the Crime Prevention Initiative Fund for additional patrols and various planned activities. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to approve the use of the funds, second by Council Member Stan Dobosz. MOTION CARRIED
4. Fire – No Report
5. Pending Items
 - a. 2014 Town-wide Concrete Removal and Replacement Program: Bid results and award of contract:
 - i. Three bids were received and opened.

COMPANY	LOCATION	BID AMOUNT
Walsh & Kelly, Inc.	Griffith, IN	\$5,368,500.00
Gariup Construction Co. Inc.	Gary, IN	\$6,379,275.70
Reith-Riley Construction Co.	Gary, IN	\$9,989,399.00

- ii. Council Member Glen Gaby moved to have the bids reviewed by the Director of Public Works and Town Attorney and award the contract to the bidder determined to be the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Council Member Larry Ballah moved to approve Ordinance 2014-23: An Ordinance Creating a New Police Rank of Police Officer First Class Special, second by Council Member Glen Gaby. MOTION CARRIED
- b. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to approve Ordinance 2014-24: Salary Ordinance, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED

2. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Council Member Glen Gaby moved to table Resolution 2014-25: a resolution regarding the Rainy Day Fund, second by Council Member Stan Dobosz. MOTION CARRIED
- b. Council President Rick Ryfa opened the Public Hearing regarding additional appropriations at 7:10 p.m.
 - i. Clerk Treasurer George Jerome explained that overtime associated with the severe winter created the need for additional appropriations in the Motor Vehicle Highway (MVH) Fund
 - ii. Clerk Treasurer George Jerome stated that the additional appropriations in various non-levied funds was necessary to create budgets for specific projects as well as the revenue received from the new Lake County Income Tax
 - iii. With no questions from the council or residents present, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:15 p.m.
- c. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to approve Resolution 2014-26: A Resolution Requesting Additional MVH Appropriations, second Council Member Glen Gaby. MOTION CARRIED
- d. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to approve Resolution 2014-27: A Resolution Authorizing Additional Non-levied Appropriations, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED
- e. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to approve Resolution 2014-28: A Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Monies for the Funding of Infrastructure Projects, second by Council Member Glen Gaby. MOTION CARRIED
- f. Council Member Glen Gaby moved to approve Resolution 2014-29: A Resolution Transferring Monies to the Avenue H Project, second by Council Member Stan Dobosz. MOTION CARRIED

g. Council President Rick Ryfa described the situation with the bridge over the Cady Marsh Ditch at Arbogast and explained that for public safety, an emergency existed that requires immediate action.


i. Council Member Larry Ballah moved to approve Resolution 2014-30: A Resolution Declaring an Emergency Regarding the Arbogast Bridge, second by Council Member Glen Gaby. A roll call vote was taken and by a vote of five (5) in favor, zero (0) opposed, MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Ron Wiedeman, Robinson Engineering provided a brief update on the alley paving project – Soil borings have been completed and are being analyzed. Some alleys will require structures. The plan will be finalized soon.
- Tom Sandman, 1200 N Jay spoke on a variety of issues. He asked what the town was doing to address crime, especially in the Mansards. Chief Mance stated that he would provide an update at the next council meeting.
- Linda Jacknow, Mansards General Manager responded to Mr. Sandman's comments regarding the Mansards by stating that the Mansards, Griffith Schools and Griffith Police work together to ensure that any problems are dealt with quickly.
- Cheryl Satkus, 330 N Indiana, commented that many things were improving in town but expressed some concern about Griffith Plaza
- Cecil Wright, 207 N Lafayette asked about the former Service Merchandise building
- Red Anderson, 1447 N Harvey commented on the roads inside Griffith Plaza

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p. m.

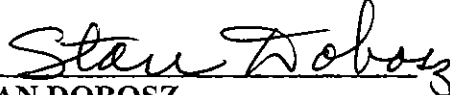
**TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF GRIFFITH**


GLEN GABY


ABSENT
LAWRENCE BALLAH


RICK RYFA


PATRICIA SCHAADT


STAN DOBOSZ


GEORGE N. JEROME
CLERK TREASURER