

**PAGE**  
**April 16, 2013**  
**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

Council President Glen Gaby called the April 16, 2013 meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

**ROLL CALL:**

Larry Ballah  
Rick Ryfa  
Glen Gaby  
Pat Schaadt  
Stan Dobosz

**ALSO ATTENDING:**

George Jerome - Clerk Treasurer  
Rick Konopasek – Public Works Director  
Gregg Mance – Police Chief  
Don Hill – Assistant Fire Chief  
Bob Schwerd – Attorney for the Town

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to adopt the minutes of the April 2, 2013 meeting as presented, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:**

Claims No. 956 - 1124 in the amount of \$913,384.37 (nine hundred thirteen thousand, three hundred eighty-four dollars and thirty-seven 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:**

- a. The next council meeting will be Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. A study session will be held at 6:30 before the meeting and one to follow if necessary.
- b. There will be a council study session on Tuesday April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:15 PM.
- c. Culver's in Highland will have a Grand Opening on Friday April 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am. At the ceremony, they will make donations to the Griffith Police and Fire Departments.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- a. Griffith Fire Department sent a letter announcing the date of their Annual Dance and Raffle and requested permission to sell raffle tickets door-to-door, solicit businesses for donations and to close off the area behind and adjacent to Fire Station #1. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to grant their request, second by Council Member Rick Ryfa. MOTION CARRIED
- b. Griffith Fire Department requested permission to conduct their Annual Boot Drive in support of the Hoosier Burn Camp on May 4, 2013 from 9a-1p with May 11<sup>th</sup> as a rain date. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to grant the request, second by Council member Stan Dobosz. MOTION CARRIED
- c. The Griffith Historical Society announced their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration is schedule for June 1 – 2, 2013.

**REPORTS:**

1. NIRPC – No Report
2. Mansards – No Report
3. Legislative Update – Council Member Rick Ryfa reported that HB 1585 has passed the senate and Representative Hal Slager, author of the bill has indicated that he will concur with senate changes. Accordingly, the bill will go back to the house here it is expected it will pass without issue. This may occur as early as this week. Once passed, the bill will go to the governor for signature. The bill stipulates that Calumet Township must get their poor relief costs down to no more than 12 times the state average by 12/31/2013 or the state can appoint an emergency manager who will then have until 12/31/2014 to accomplish the same. If that doesn't occur, on 1/1/2015, Griffith can begin the process necessary to leave Calumet Township and join an adjacent township.
4. Board of Public Works – No Report
5. Public Works – Weather permitting, work will resume on sub-section N.

**6. Police**

- a. The consolidated E-911 process is progressing but there seems to be ongoing issues.
  - b. There was a rash of graffiti on the 200–400 blocks of N Indiana. An investigation is under way.
  - c. There are two fundraisers scheduled to benefit the K-9 Unit: 1) on 4/22, the Lions Club is holding a Bunco at Mi Tierra Restaurant. Cost is \$25/person, and 2) the Chamber of Commerce is hosting Taco Meet & Greet April 27<sup>th</sup> at the YMCA. Tickets are \$12 in advance. .
7. Fire – The Auxiliary reported a very successful 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Chili Cook-off that resulted in a profit of more than \$2000. GPD Lt Gang's chili was judged best.
8. Pending Items – Council Member Rick Ryfa moved to allow the council president to appoint a three member committee to review and report to the council on all issues related to the E-911 consolidation; such committee to not have more than 2 council members, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. MOTION PASSED. Council President Glen Gaby appointed Police Chief Greg Mance and Council Members Larry Ballah and Rick Ryfa to the committee.

**BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:**

**A. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. NONE

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Bids for the exterior renovation of the Franklin Center were opened: three bids were received:

COMPANY	LOCATION	BID
Hasse	Calumet City, IL	\$455,000
Gough	Merrillville, IN	\$444,000
Precision	Gary, IN	\$459,000

- Council Member Larry Ballah moved that he and the Town Attorney review the bids and make a recommendation to the council, second by Council Member Rick Ryfa. MOTION CARRIED. Council Member Ryfa noted that the bid would be awarded at the next public meeting.
2. Council Member Stan Dobosz introduced Ordinance 2013-09: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 74 TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, ARTICLE VIII TRAFFIC SCHEDULES, SECTION 74-294 STOP SIGNS FOR NEW SUBDIVISIONS, TO INSTALL STOP SIGNS IN THE WEST-HAVEN MANOR AND TRAIL CREEK SUBDIVISIONS for 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Council Member Dobosz moved to suspend the rules in order to pass the ordinance on 1<sup>st</sup> reading, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. After a roll call vote, all members were in favor of suspending the rules. Council Member Stan Dobosz then moved to pass the ordinance, second by Council Member Rick Ryfa. MOTION CARRIED.
  3. Council Member Rick Ryfa moved to Approve Resolution 2013-10: A RESOLUTION TO INITIALLY FUND THE GRIFFITH OPEN AIR MARKET BY TRANSFERRING \$5,000 FROM FUND 448 CN RR MITIGATION TO FUND 457 OPEN AIR MARKET, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED


**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- Pam Vroman, 437 N Rensselaer, asked about recent thefts in the neighborhood.
- Cheryl Satkus, 330 N Indiana expressed concern about activity at Tot Park.
- Judy Schoon, 304, N Dwiggins commented on the issue at Tot Park
- Karen Tanis, asked about graffiti removal

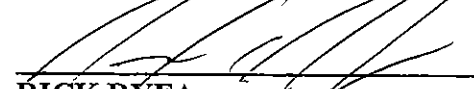
- Margaret Garastik, 727 N Cline brought pictures of flooding problems on her property. There may be a problem with a collapsed storm sewer line.

There being no further business to come before this Council; the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM.


TOWN COUNCIL  
TOWN OF GRIFFITH

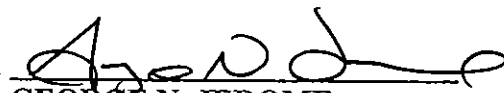
  
GLEN GABY

  
LAWRENCE BALLAH

  
RICK RYFA

  
PATRICIA SCHAADT

  
STAN DOBOSZ

  
GEORGE N. JEROME  
CLERK TREASURER