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March 19, 2013
TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Glen Gaby called the March 19, 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
Matt Argadine – Police Executive Officer
Roy Schoon – Fire Chief
Bob Schwerd – Attorney for the Town

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to adopt the minutes of the March 5, 2013 meeting as presented, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Claims No. 641 - 832 in the amount of \$886,708.90 (eight hundred eighty-six thousand, seven hundred eight dollars and ninety 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 April 2nd at 7:00 p.m. A study session will be held at 6:30 before the meeting and one will follow if necessary.
- b. There will be a council study session on Tuesday March 26th at 5:00 PM.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- a. Disability Awareness Month Proclamation

REPORTS:

1. NIRPC – No Report
2. Mansards – No Report
3. Legislative Update – Council Member Rick Ryfa described the current status of HB 1585 and reminded residents that even with the change in language, the bill is moving through the legislative process and our goal at this point is to get it passed in the Senate. Adjustments can be made in conference committee if necessary. Clerk Treasurer George Jerome read an email received from Representative Hal Slager (attached)
4. Board of Public Works – No Report
5. Public Works – No Report
6. Police – No Report
7. Fire – No Report
8. Pending Items - None

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

A. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Council Member Larry Ballah moved to approve Ordinance 2013-04: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 86 ZONING, ARTICLE 1 IN GENERAL, SECTION 86-6 GENERAL PROVISIONS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DISTRICT REGULATIONS, SUBSECTION (g) BULK REGULATIONS, PARAGRAPH (5) PERMITTED OBSTRUCTION IN REQUIRED YARDS, SUBPARAGRAPH (a) IN ALL YARDS, TO ALLOW THE USE OF BARBED WIRE FENCES ON TOWN PROPERTY, WITHIN INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS, OR PURSUANT TO

A SPECIAL USE PERMIT, second by Council Member Stan Dobosz.
MOTION CARRIED

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to approve the recommendation of the Public Safety Board to appoint Lt Matthew Argadine to the position of Executive Officer/Detective Lieutenant and Sgt Jeffery Gang to the position of Operations Lieutenant, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED
2. Council Member Pat Schaadt moved to approve Resolution 2013-05: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TRAVEL RELATED CASH ADVANCE, SECOND BY Council Member Rick Ryfa. MOTION CARRIED
3. Council Member Rick Ryfa moved to approve resolution 2013-06: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 1124 N GLENWOOD, second by Council Member Pat Schaadt. MOTION CARRIED
4. Council Member Larry Ballah introduced on first reading, Ordinance 2013-07: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 18 BUSINESSES; ARTICLE VI. RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY; BY THE MODIFICATION OF SECTION 18-101. REGISTRATION OF RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY
5. Council Member Rick Ryfa moved to confirm the actions of the Griffith Police Department in closing down the K and J Health Center for allegedly promoting prostitution until the Clerk Treasurer holds a hearing to determine if the permanent revocation of their business license is warranted, second by Council Member Larry Ballah. MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Rich Cook, 227 W Oak spoke regarding the importance property tax appeals.

Kim Rusch, 1208 N Wheeler questioned if there was still time to succeed with HB 1585; she also asked when 1124 N Glenwood might be demolished.

Dan Dills, 1750 N Indiana asked who changed the language of HB 1585 and thanked those who testified in support of the bill.

Robert Bubala, 1103 E Miller regarding Mary Elgin's claim on channel 56 that Griffith residents don't support the bill claiming "Only Ryfa wants it."

Phillip Drozd, 337 N Lillian urged residents to write letters rather than just sending emails.

Debbie Lex, 725 N Harvey asked when the effort to leave Calumet Township started.

Susan Martin, 520 W Ash described trying to get help in 2007 after her husband was off work after a heart attack and she worked reduced hours providing his care and was the sole source of income for her family of four. She was denied help after requesting one-time help with her NIPSCO bill


Kim Rusch, 1208 N Wheeler stated that after the 2008 tornado, the only assistance offered to Griffith residents was a voucher for groceries that could only be used at a store at 9th & Broadway.

Rich Cook, 227 W Oak complained that Griffith residents are routinely denied assistance.

Dan Dills, 1750 N Indiana encouraged residents to attend meetings of the Calumet Township Board of Advisors.


There being no further business to come before this Council; the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM.

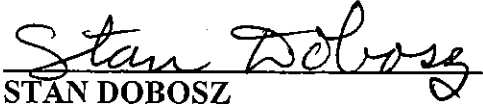
TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF GRIFFITH


GLEN GABY

LAWRENCE BALLAH


RICK RYFA


PATRICIA SCHAADT


STAN DOBOSZ


GEORGE N. JEROME
CLERK TREASURER