

September 05, 2017

TOWN OF GRIFFITH TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the September 5, 2017 meeting to order at 7:01pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Council Member James Marker read the names of Police Officers killed in the line of duty:

Police Officer Matthew Scott Baxter, Kissimmee Police Department, FL

Sergeant Richard "Sam" Howard, Kissimmee Police Department, FL

Deputy Sheriff Robert French, Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, CA

ROLL CALL:

James Marker

Larry Ballah

Rick Ryfa

Tony Hobson

Melissa Robbins

ALSO ATTENDING:

John C. Volkmann- Clerk Treasurer

Greg Mance – Chief of Police -

Steve McDermott – Building Commissioner

Robert Schwerd – Attorney for the Town

Roy Schoon – Fire Chief - Absent

Don Hill – Asst. Fire Chief - Absent

Rick Konopasek – Director of Public Works

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Council Member Tony Hobson moved to adopt the minutes of the August 15, 2017 meeting as presented, seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins.

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

1. Claims No. 13629 – 13920, in the amount of \$909,957.02 (Nine hundred and nine thousand, nine hundred fifty-seven dollars and two cents.) A motion to approve the claims as read was made by Council Member James Marker, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah. Motion Carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next Council meeting will be Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at 7:00pm. A Study Session will be held at 6:30pm before the meeting and one will follow if necessary. There will be a study session on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 6:00pm in Town Hall.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- a. Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to approve the request of Cub Scout Pack 518 to sell pop corn door to door during the months of September and October, seconded by Council Member Larry Ballah. Motion Carried.
- b. Council President Rick Ryfa announced that beginning September 11, 2017 at approximately 8:30am NIPSCO will begin excavating their pipeline on the North side of Pine St. at the Bike Trail.
- c. Council Member Melissa Robbins gave an update on the donations received at the Rock N Rail Fest. Almost \$3,000.00 was collected for the Texas hurricane relief effort. The Town will continue to collect donations until October 5, 2017, donations can be made at the Town Hall Clerk Treasurers Office, checks should be made out to the Town of Griffith and hurricane relief should be on the memo line. All of the donations will be channeled through the Lions Club International to the relief efforts in Texas.
- d. Council President Rick Ryfa thanked the Police, Fire, VEST, Explorers, Public Works, Clerk Treasurers Office and all of the others who made the Rock N Rail Fest a success.

REPORTS:

Public Works – No Report

Police – No Report

Fire – No Report

PENDING ITEMS:

1. TOWNSHIP ISSUES:

a. Calumet Township Secession update: No Report
PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. 115 S. Lafayette St.: Council Member Tony Hobson made a motion to continue discussion on this until the next meeting, seconded by Council Member James Marker. Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS:

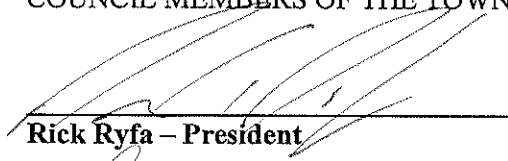
- a. Council Member James Marker made a motion to allow Council President Rick Ryfa sign an agreement with Butler, Fairman & Seufert to conduct a traffic study at the intersection of Broad St. and Main St., seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson. Motion Carried.
- b. Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to allow Council President Rick Ryfa sign a contract with Independent Mechanical Industries, Inc. for the Cline Ave. Pump Station Improvements, seconded by Council Member Tony Hobson. Motion Carried.
- c. Council Member Melissa Robbins did a first reading of Ordinance 2017-47 an ordinance for stop signs for the Turnberry Subdivision.
- d. Council Member Larry Ballah made a motion to allow Council President Rick Ryfa sign a Consent to Assignment with Wide Open West (WOW), seconded by Council Member Melissa Robbins. Motion Carried.

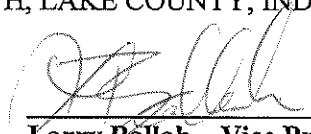
PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- a. Marylyn Glinski, expressed concern that cars and trucks do no stop at the stop signs where the entrance to the Turnberry Subdivision intersects the Bike Trail. Public Works Director Rick Konopasek advised that the streets in the Turnberry Subdivision are still under the control of the contractor.
- b. Mike Reese, expressed several concerns: bicyclists do not obey stop signs on the trail, a cyclist claimed he was a pedestrian and that cars had to stop for him. He wanted to know who was dumping clay in the wet land at the Golf Course. He was advised that the fill is being placed in an area that is not wet land and the area will be used for future development. Mr. Reese was advised that the raising of manholes on 45th St. was part of the repaving contract and was not an up-charge. He also complained about semi truck traffic on the north side of town and fence that separates a residential area from an apartment complex needs to be repaired.
- c. Joseph Kras, stated that a four-way stop is needed at the intersection of Sawgrass Dr. and Turnberry.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.

COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF GRIFFITH, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA


Rick Ryfa – President


Larry Ballah – Vice President


James Marker


Tony Hobson


Melissa Robbins


Attest: John C. Volkmann
Clerk Treasurer