

PAGE 56
MAY 7, 2008
TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Council President Rick Ryfa called the meeting of May 7, 2008, to order at 7:02 p.m. at the Town Hall, 111 N. Broad Street, Griffith, Indiana.

ROLL CALL

Glen Gaby
George Jerome
Rick Ryfa
Michael Gulley
Stan Dobosz

ALSO ATTENDING

Ronald Szafarczyk – Clerk Treasurer
Rick Konopasek – Public works director
Donald McCarter – Police Lt.
George Thiel – Fire Chief
Robert Schwerd – Town Attorney
Pastor – Andrew Bailey Griffith Lutheran Church

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to approve the minutes of April 15, 2008 meeting as presented, seconded by Council Member Glen Gaby.

MOTION CARRIED

Council Member George Jerome moved to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2008 meeting as presented, seconded by Council Member Michael Gulley.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Council Member Michael Gulley moved to approve Claim number 1150 in the amount of \$2574.50, seconded by Council Member Stan Dobosz. This claim was held from the last regular scheduled meeting. Clerk Treasurer Ronald Szafarczyk stated that this claim was to pay toward our \$10,000 deductible. **MOTION CARRIED**

Claims numbering 1192 through 1392 in the amount of \$473,394.17 **FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED NINETY FOUR DOLLARS AND SEVENTEEN CENTS** were presented for payment. Council Member Michael Gulley moved to accept the claims as presented, seconded by Council Member Stan Dobosz. **MOTION CARRIED**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Next Town Council meeting Tuesday, May 20, at 7:00 p.m., Study Session to follow, if needed
2. Study Session Tuesday, May 13th, at 4:30 p.m.,
3. Lake County Solid Waste District, Household Hazardous disposal Saturday, May 17th, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Public Works Garage, 134 S. Colfax
4. New Web site www.griffith.in.gov
5. Memorial Day service, Central Park, Monday 26th, at 10:00 a.m.
6. American Legion Poppy Day May 16th & 17th Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to allow the American Legion to sell Poppies, seconded by George Jerome.
MOTION CARRIED
7. The Fire Department will be going door to door selling tickets for their raffle/dance

PAGE 57
MAY 7, 2008
TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

COMMUNICATIONS

None

REPORTS

1. Council Member Stan Dobosz spoke on the CN – EJ&E railroad stating that he has been attending meetings with the STB fighting this issue. A petition has been sent out this month to all of the town's utility costumers

2. Council Member Michael Gulley stated that the county highway department has completed the paving on Colfax Avenue from 45th to Main Street. Council Member Gulley also thanked PWD Rick Konopasek for working with the county on this improvement. He also stated that the County Highway department is working on South Broad Street from Avenue H to old 330.

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Council Member George Jerome presented the BZA Findings of Fact for a Special Use Variance for the property at 426 N. Broad Street owned by Murphy Brothers Realty. Council Member George Jerome stated that the Town Attorney would draw up an agreement that would allow the owners to rent this property for 1 year. During that time they would have to prove that they actively pursued selling the property as commercial (PB). Council Member George Jerome moved to grant the Special Use Variance for 1 year, seconded by Council Member Glen Gaby. Council Member Michael Gulley stated the best use for this property is (PB) Professional Business. A vote was taken 4 in favor 1 opposed. MOTION CARRIED (See Attached)

- b. Council Member George Jerome presented the BZA Findings of Fact for a Special Use Variance for the property at 430 N. Broad Street owned by Murphy Brothers Realty. This property was handled the same as 426 N. Broad Street. Council Member George Jerome moved to grant the Special Use Variance for 1 year, seconded by Council Member Glen Gaby. (4 in favor), 1 opposed MOTION CARRIED (See Attached)

- c. Council Member Glen Gaby presented the BZA Findings of Fact for a Special Use Variance for the property at 331 N. Broad Street owned by Francisco & Kendra Paniagua. Council Member Michael Gulley moved to reject the Special Use Variance, seconded by Council Member George Jerome. Council Member Michael Gulley stated that this property was a residential home years ago, rezone to B2 and now the owners would like it rezoned once again back to residential. MOTION CARRIED (See Attached)

- d. Council Member Glen Gaby presented the BZA Findings of Fact for a Special Use Variance for the property at 115 S. Rensselaer owned by Don Zuidema. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to adopt the Findings of Fact and allow the Special Use Variance, seconded by Council Member George Jerome. Council Member Michael Gulley stated this would be great improvement to the neighborhood. MOTION CARRIED (See Attached)

2. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Council President Rick Ryfa presented Chuck Anderson with a clock for his service to the town as Webmaster.

PAGE 58
MAY 7, 2008
TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

b. Council Member George Jerome presented a letter from the president of the Griffith Youth Baseball requesting permission to display ad signs on the fence at the field. Council Member George Jerome stated that a presentation to the Town Council and Park Board would be in order.

c. Council Member Stan Dobosz moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2008-09, Special Joint Resolution – Regional Bus Authority Appointment** and allow the Council President to sign the Resolution. Seconded by Council Member Michael Gulley. MOTION CARRIED (See Attached)

d. Council Member Michael Gulley moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2008-10, A Resolution Approving Sewer Recoupment Agreement with Diamond Enterprises, Inc.**, seconded by Council Member Glen Gaby. MOTION CARRIED (See Attached)
Council Member Michael Gulley moved to allow the Council President to sign the Sewer Recoup agreement, seconded by council member Glen Gaby.
MOTION CARRIED (See attached)

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Numerous residents north of Ridge Road in the Mansards area expressed concerns of neighborhood safety.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

**TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF GRIFFITH**

GLEN GABY

GEORGE JEROME

RICK RYFA

MICHAEL GULLEY

**RONALD J. SZAFARCZYK
CLERK TREASURER**

STAN DOBOSZ

