

TOWN OF REDDICK COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

July 6, 2023

Reddick Town Council met in regular session on Thursday, July 6, 2023, at 7:00 PM at the Community Building.

PRESENT:

Marjorie Stroup, Clerk  
Steven Rogers, Council Pres.

COUNCILMEN

Martha Cromwell, Councilman Pro Tem  
Nadine Stokes  
Shirley Youmans

ABSENT: Myra Sherman  
John Vetter, Mayor

GUESTS

Dick Gerard	Pam Gerard	Joe Perry	James Racz	Margarita Sullivan
Greg Stafford	Alphonso Lamar	Kathy Leskosky		

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Council President Rogers, giving an invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

- Minutes of the June, 2023 meeting were reviewed . A motion was made by Councilman Cromwell to approve minutes with no corrections. Councilman Youmans seconded motion and motion carried unanimously.
- The Financial Statement for the month of June, 2023 was presented for review. All bills have been paid. Expense exceeded income for the month by \$8, 203, and for the year by \$2,538.85, caused by expenses for right-of-way maintenance totalling \$14,444.74. A motion was made by Councilman Cromwell to accept the financial report as presented and Councilman Stokes seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, pending audit.

**SHERIFF'S DEPT:**

Lt. Keith McQuaig was not able to be present. Gary Skinne, Deputy, gave a report for June activity. 72 calls for services. There were 10 traffic stops. 5 reports were written, among them 1 warrant arrest, 1 burglary, 1 battery and 1 aggravated assault.

Council President Rogers asked about several spots that have people parking and suspected drug activity. One is on NW 145th off of NW 148th Pl, west of Gainesville Road. NW 145th is a dead end road and no one lives on it. The street has never been opened but is partially cleared. This is where the problem is taking place. Also, the assistant librarian noted that over weekends cars are parking in the library parking lot and behind the library. In the mornings, staff are picking up drug paraphernalia. Some cars are using wifi, but other activity is going on. Dep. Skinne stated he would share with Lt. McQuaig.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

Council Pres. Rogers shared that Mayor Vetter has contacted Marion County Code Enforcement again and spoke with Robin Hough for an update on the Interlocal Agreement for Junk & Litter and Zoning. The proposal has been sent to the County Attorney and we are waiting on him before we can move forward. We are continuing to sent out letters from the Town for violations, giving them time for rectify the violation. If owners do not become compliant, it is then sent to County.

We received a phone call about animal cruelty within the town limits. The person has been arrested for starving horses, cows and sheep. Bond was set at \$11,000. The County is very serious about animal control issues. The new Interlocal Agreement with Animal Control has new fines for mistreatment of animals. Unlike Code Enforcement, Animal Control can come on private property to enforce issues.

### **ROADWORK:**

Councilman Youmans reported that Donnie Cassidy and Grady Stafford have been doing some work. Grady has taken care of pot holes. Trimming right-of-ways should come before the Council before work is done so that we can set up a plan and get estimates. Jeff Perkins with Marion County reported that he is trying to get to NW 155th St grading, but that because of the long drought, he is playing catch up. He is working on streets in the County that are impassable. He hopes to get to NW 155th in the next 2-3 weeks. When told it would need limerock, he stated he would send a man out the first of the week to evaluate how much limerock the will need to bring. The road has not been graded since November, 2022 and under the Interlocal Agreement with the County, it should be done every quarter.

Margarita Sullivan reported that a huge tree has fallen from the right-of-way onto her property on Wednesday. Council President stated we will need to evaluate the tree and clean up on the right-of-way. Owner is responsible for clearing tree from their property.

Councilman Youmans reported that the pothole at Club Charmant previously filled, has opened up again.

Duke Energy has sent out a flyer alerting residents that they are going to be doing some pre-storm tree trimming.

### **STREET LIGHTS:**

All streets lights seem to be working.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **PROPOSED PARK AND RECREATION AREA:**

We have signed agreements with the County and are now waiting on the School Board. They are having a workshop on July 20th and have asked Council President Rogers to attend. The School Board will meet in August and hopefully, the lease will be brought up. Once signed, Parks and Recreation are ready to go. A question was raised about a water feature (splash pad) and Council President Rogers responded that it did not include one. It was a tot lot and walkway path at this time. As funding becomes available, we to have some room available to grow.

- **MEETING WITH NEW AUDITORS:**

Councilman Cromwell and Mrs. Stroup met with Purvis and Gray. New state law will not allow accountants for town to also audit. Purvis and Gray has agreed to be our auditors and Crippen will be our liaison.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE CHANGES:**

Gov. Disantis has signed into effect a change in financial disclosure for elected officials. Holdings and liabilities must be disclosed the same as legislators. There are heavy fines for non-compliance.

- **NW 40TH AVE. ROAD:**

Property given to property owners when tracks were removed goes to middle of the road. Is there liability to property owners for incidents that occur on the road. Answer from Council President-"No".

- **CHANGES IN INSURANCE COVERAGES:**

Because of insurance and storms, there will be changes in our insurance because of mandates set by the state. We do not have figures as yet.

- **OPENING NEW BUSINESSES:**

Question was raised about purchasing a business property, but starting a new business in the bldg. Council President Rogers stated that a Special Use Permit needs to be completed and Council will vote on whether to approve or not. The Special Use Permit is for one year and then sunsets and a new one will need to be applied for. Things to consider would be is it in the best interests of the community, as well as parking, traffic, etc.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Marjorie Stroup, Town Clerk

John Vetter, Mayor

Date: