



Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting May 12, 2026

Rocky Ripple Town Board member, Randy Sanders, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Town board members Randy Sanders, Megan Hulland and Rachel Hunter were present. Caroline Martin, Clerk-Treasurer and Mike Kiefer, town marshal, were present. Town attorney Sarah Guffey was present.

### **Welcome Community!**

Town board president, Randy Sanders, welcomed those who were present at Town Hall.

### **New Business**

#### **IDEM**

Herb Engman, Environmental Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator with Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), gave an informational presentation regarding IDEM programs and resources available to communities.

### **Clerk Treasurer Reports**

#### **Minutes**

The April 2026 meeting minutes were approved. Randy made a motion to approve the minutes, and Rachel seconded the motion.

#### **Treasurer Report for March 2026**

Notable expenditures included the Town's insurance payment of \$9,491. It was also noted that the Rocky Ripple Community Association contributed 50% of the cost of the new AED pads. Rental income was strong for the month. Randy passed along the information on [SAM.gov](https://www.sam.gov) account documentation for Town records and noted that the Clerk-Treasurer access to the account has been established. The May starting bank balance was \$134,215.35, ending bank balance was \$125,802.93. Rachel motioned and Megan seconded.

## **Capital Development Fund**

The Board discussed the establishment of a Cumulative Capital Development Fund pursuant to Indiana Code 36-9-16-2. The proposed fund will be used for capital improvements and repairs, including projects such as Town Hall roof replacement, HVAC systems, and other infrastructure needs. The proposed tax rate will begin in 2027 at \$0.0167 per \$100 of assessed valuation, increase to \$0.0333 per \$100 of assessed valuation in 2028, and increase to \$0.05 per \$100 of assessed valuation in 2029 and thereafter. Rachel made a motion to establish the Cumulative Capital Development Fund Megan seconded.

## **Ordinance for Restriction of Town Property for Commercial Use**

The Board discussed a proposed ordinance regarding commercial use of Town-owned property, including parks and recreational areas. Potential regulations discussed included permitting requirements, proof of insurance, activity information, and enforcement measures for unauthorized commercial use.

Board members discussed the need for a consistent policy applicable to all forms of commercial activity on Town property, including organized classes, events, and commercial vendors. Questions were raised regarding whether certain commercial uses should be prohibited outright or regulated through a permitting process. Residents shared ongoing concerns regarding commercial livery operations and their impact on the community. The Board discussed meeting with representatives from Frank's Livery to explore potential solutions and gather additional information. The Board expressed its intent to establish clear ordinances and regulations regarding commercial use of Town property and noted that discussions will continue at future meetings.

## **Old Business**

### **Rocky Ripple Flood Protection; DPW Updates; ILA**

Randy reported that he emailed Todd Wilson, Director of the Indianapolis Department of Public Works (DPW), requesting an update on the Floodwall Project and asking whether the Town should assume the project has been abandoned. Mr. Wilson forwarded the inquiry to Shea Joyce for response. No further updates were available at the time of the meeting.

## **CEG Canal Updates**

The Board received an update regarding the tree located near Ripple Road and was advised that it is not located on Citizens Energy Group property. Steve Berube of Citizens Energy Group reported that Christopher Burke Engineering indicated downstream dredging, scheduled for 2027, is expected to significantly improve water flow within the canal. Christopher Burke Engineering has also been asked to evaluate canal bank erosion and the source of leaking that occurred last year. Canal water levels will continue to be monitored.

## **Speeding Cars in Rocky Ripple/Related Safety Concerns**

Rachel distributed an email requesting residents submit traffic incident reports to help document ongoing safety concerns. Residents are encouraged to log incidents with details on time, location, and type of event via the town website. The goal is to collect evidence to gain attention from Butler University, city officials, and media to push for better traffic management. Megan printed flyers for distribution to Butler parents to raise awareness of traffic-related issues affecting the Town. The Board discussed ongoing concerns regarding speeding and traffic safety in Rocky Ripple and encouraged residents to continue reporting incidents. It was also noted that traffic signage previously requested by the Town Marshal from Butler has not yet been received.

## **Town Manager/Marshal's Report**

On April 18th on the 5100 block of Riverview Drive, Marion County Sheriff's officers arrested a female for domestic battery. The Marshal also reported that a new battery was installed in the Town tractor at a cost of \$75. Community Crossing Matching Grant (CCMG) paving project submissions have been postponed until September. The Town is researching grant opportunities for AED supplies, including potential funding through the Union Pacific Foundation.

## **Right of Way Clearing (ROW)**

The Board reported that work on the Right-of-Way (ROW) ordinance is ongoing. The draft ordinance will be finalized and distributed for public review prior to being presented for consideration and a vote at the June meeting.

## **Town Web**

Town Web, hosting provider for the Town of Rocky Ripple website, worked on updating the website, corrections are still being made.

## **Community Association Updates**

Town-wide yard sales will be held on June 13 for residents who wish to participate. The next Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) meeting and the Rocky Ripple Community Association (RRCA) will occur on May 19. The RRCA meeting will include recognition of Dhyana for her 17 years of service and the election of a new secretary.

The Burkhart Garden Plant Swap remains open through early June, and a community clothing swap is scheduled for May 17.

## **Community Concerns**

A resident reported vegetation encroaching into the roadway along Canal Boulevard. Randy noted that right-of-way maintenance and related issues are expected to be addressed through the proposed ROW Ordinance currently under development.

A resident also reported a leaning tree within the right-of-way near the intersection of 53rd Street and Lester Street.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40pm. Rachel motioned to adjourn, and Megan seconded.

Respectfully submitted,  
Caroline Martin