

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Rossford City Council Meeting
Held January 27, 2014

The meeting opened with a request from the mayor for a moment of silence in memory of the two Toledo firefighters who lost their lives this week.

The meeting was then called to order by Mayor Neil Mackinnon III, and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Staczek, Oberdorf, Eckel, Marquette, Ruse, Wagner, and Minarcin all present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of regular council meeting minutes of January 13, 2014. Mr. Minarcin moved and Mr. Wagner seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda for regular council meeting of January 27, 2014 was presented to council. Committee reports from Recreation and Public Safety & Health were added to the agenda. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Ruse seconded the motion to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATION: Mayor Mackinnon presented a proclamation to Alexa Irvin, a fourth grader who while battling many medical problems and hospital stays has achieved success in academics and as a wrestler in the Biddy program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recreation committee minutes from January 16th were presented by Mr. Oberdorf (see written report). He added that Mr. Kovasevic has put in a lot of time working on different master plan options. Mayor Mackinnon complimented Mr. Kovasevic for a good job on the Maverick basketball program.

Public Safety & Health committee minutes from January 16th were presented by Mr. Wagner (see written report). Mr. Marquette asked what the total millage cost would be for the recreation and fire levies. Mr. Kovasevic gave an average of \$28 for the recreation levies and Mr. Ciecka said the fire levy cost would be higher because of being higher millage plus the new .5 mill fire levy. Mr. Marquette said he is concerned about the three fire levies being on the ballot on the same time and Mr. Wagner said that is why the .5 mill levy was a new separate levy so that the renewals would hopefully get approved at least. Mr. Ruse said he is concerned that this new levy needs to be passed tonight unless council holds a special meeting and said with only time for one reading he would like this held off until November.

REPORT OF MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Ciecka said the Public Works department continues to address the snow and that it is taking a toll on our snow removal equipment. He said they are staying ahead of the snow regardless with the biggest problem the blowing and drifting snow on the Crossroads Parkway. He said our salt supply is getting low thus the ordinance on tonight's agenda. He encouraged council and any other interested parties to attend the public meeting being held by ODOT regarding the proposed restructuring of the Disalle bridge and exit and entrance ramps. Mr. Staczek said he echoed Mr. Ciecka's comments regarding public works and said he is concerned about fatigue and burnout of the department employees. He asked when the civil service exam will be scheduled for the new employee and Mr. Ciecka said as soon as possible.

Mayor Mackinnon said he attended the TMACOG annual meeting last Wednesday and said he will be presenting a proclamation to Savannah Macintosh, a sophomore at RHS who was number one in the entire country in the American Legion Government test. She will be receiving a free trip to Gettysburg and Washington D.C.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ORDINANCES

#2014-03 - AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL SODIUM CHLORIDE (ROCK SALT) UNDER THE AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE 2013 -2014 WINTER SEASON; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Wagner seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said this will take us to the maximum amount of 840 tons we are allowed to purchase under the contract with

our initial purchase being 700 tons. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to suspend with the second and third readings. Audience comments were requested and none received. Mr. Ruse asked Mr. Kolb where we stand on salt supply now and was told we have 225 tons in the barn and another 40 tons on the trucks. Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2014 – 04 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO DISPOSE OF CERTAIN SURPLUS PROPERTY NOT NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Staczek moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Heban said Rossford police apprehended a thief who had stolen items from Meijer stores from New York to Chicago but that all property was forfeited to Rossford since it could not be determined what individual stores it came from. These are books on tape and other media that the Rossford Library will accept. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to suspend with the second and third readings. Audience comments were requested and none received. Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

#2014-01 – A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE AMOUNT OF TAXES THAT MAY BE RAISED BY A LEVY AT THE MAXIMUM RATE AUTHORIZED BY LAW WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE ELECTORS IS INSUFFICIENT, AND DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF A RENEWAL LEVY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING FIRE APPARATUS, APPLIACANCES, BUILDINGS, OR SITES THEREFOR IN EXCESS OF THAT RATE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Wagner seconded the motion to suspend with the second and third readings. Audience comments were requested and none received. Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Wagner seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2014-02 - A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE AMOUNT OF TAXES THAT MAY BE BY A LEVY AT THE MAXIMUM RATE AUTHORIZED BY LAW WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE ELECTORS IS INSUFFICIENT, AND DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF A RENEWAL LEVY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FIRE PROTECTION OPERATONS AND APPARATUS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to suspend with the second and third readings. Audience comments were requested and none received. Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2014-03 - A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE AMOUNT OF TAXES THAT MAY BE RAISED BY A LEVY AT THE MAXIMUM RATE AUTHORIZED BY LAW WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE ELECTORS IS INSUFFICIENT, AND DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF A NEW LEVY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING FIRE APPARATUS, APPLIACANCES, BUILDINGS, OR SITES THEREFOR IN EXCESS OF THAT RATE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Marquette asked how urgent the need for this levy is. Mr. Ciecka said he had provided each councilperson with a spreadsheet that shows we cannot meet all the obligations on the fire department wish list. Mrs. Eckel said the sooner we get this on the ballot the better. Mr. Ruse said he finds it frustrating that this was not before council earlier as a new levy should not be an emergency measure. Mr. Staczek said he understands Mr. Ruse's concern but that this was just brought up at the last committee meeting before the November election. Mr. Ruse said he cannot support this as an emergency. Mr. Wagner said that ultimately it is up to the voters whether council passes this as an emergency or not. Mayor Mackinnon agreed that the citizens will make the final decision. Mr. Minarcin said if given three readings won't make the May ballot. Mr. Ciecka said the tax won't be collected until 2015 and it could be delayed until the November ballot. Mrs. Eckel said asking for this additional levy shows the committee is looking at the needs of the department.

Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to suspend with the second and third readings. Audience comments were requested and none received. Vote on the motion was Eckel, Oberdorf, Staczek, and Wagner aye; Minarcin, Ruse, and Marquette no. Motion fails 4-3 as motion to suspend requires five votes aye.

#2014 -04 - A RESOLUTION UPDATING THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL AND DEBT POLICIES, RESOLUTIONS 2010-23, 2006-16 AND 2012-08.

Mr. Wagner moved and Mr. Minarcin seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Freeman said this is an update to the policy that removes the water and sewer funds and changes the name of one fund to the correct name and that no new monies are involved. Mr. Ruse said this was reviewed by the finance committee. Mr. Staczek moved and Mr. Minarcin seconded the motion to suspend with the second and third readings. Audience comments were requested and none received. Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Staczek moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Staczek moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2014 -05 - A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF JOSEPH E. MINARCIN, JR TO THE ROSSFORD, OHIO TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Staczek moved and Mr. Wagner seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Staczek moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to suspend with the second and third readings. Audience comments were requested and none received. Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Staczek moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Staczek moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Mr. Ruse complimented the public works department for doing a nice job on snow removal and said we need to schedule a public works committee meeting to review RFQ's for engineering services.

Mr. Marquette said snow removal in the recreation center parking lot is a concern because of the number of elderly people that park and walk there. Mr. Kolb said the lot is plowed with the smaller snow plow truck on a regular basis. Mrs. Eckel told Mr. Kolb and the public works department to keep up the good work and said we need to get a civil service test in place so we can hire the additional public works employee authorized. She said she has noticed over the last six to eight months, maybe longer, that council is not using the committees to discuss issues. She does not know if council has lost faith in the committees and said the committees put in a lot of work on researching issues only to see them voted down. She thinks it is getting frustrating and slowing things down and that important work is being done by the committees and department heads i.e. facilities at the recreation center have been researched by the recreation committee for over a year.

Mr. Oberdorf asked if anyone saw a need for a committee of the whole meeting in February.

Mr. Staczek moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to suspend with the February Committee of the Whole meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Oberdorf said he can live with a split vote on issues and thinks that dissenting votes are healthy but said when a committee does a lot of work and a department head identifies a need it doesn't make sense to turn down just because it was new. He said the new fire levy had the potential down the line to save a life and just because it was new did not override its importance. He said council is often given information as in the bin problem provided by Mr. Staczek but because council does not review the issue becomes contentious. He said it is each council member's responsibility to investigate issues and research them and to vote in the best interest of the people even if politically unpopular.

Mr. Ruse said council and the public should be notified of committee meetings in a better method than posting on the calendar. He said he did not receive the minutes of the Public Safety committee meeting until tonight. He said he took exception to receiving a resolution and needing approval on the same night. Mrs. Eckel disagreed saying that this had been talked about in previous meetings. Mr. Ruse said the new levy should go for three readings.

Mr. Minarcin asked if councilman can have input if attend committee meetings they are not members of. Mr. Heban said no because that makes a quorum of four councilmembers and that cannot be allowed because of lack of notice. He will send Mr. Minarcin his previous memo on this issue.

Mr. Staczek said he needs some help from the economic development committee as he is in contact with a national company about locating in the Crossroads. He said the CEO of the company would like to sit down with the city in the next couple of weeks. He also complimented the public works, fire, and police departments.

AUDIENCE REMARKS

John Folcik, 215 Hannum, asked why the city could not hire a couple of temporary snow plow drivers just like they hire temporary help in the summer and said he hopes the zoning inspector is checking for sidewalks not cleared of

snow. Mayor Mackinnon said they will meet about hiring temporary help and the zoning inspector is checking the sidewalks.

Jeff Appelhans, 177 Hannum, said he appreciated the conversation about lack of notice for the third fire levy and said he would not vote for any of the fire levies because they are considering about buying a \$300,000 boat for patrolling the river. Mayor Mackinnon said council has never discussed buying a \$300,000 boat but have talked about replacing the existing boat.

Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Wagner seconded the motion to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried.

Neil Mackinnon, III
Mayor

Robert P. Watrol
Clerk of Council