

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Rossford City Council Meeting
Held February 25, 2013

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

ROLL CALL: Staczek, Oberdorf, Eckel, Marquette, Ruse, and Scott all present. Mr. Scott moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to excuse Mr. Duricek. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of regular council meeting minutes of February 11, 2013. Mr. Ruse moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda for regular council meeting of February 25, 2013 was presented to council. Ordinance #2013-12 and Resolution #2013-05 were added to the agenda. Mr. Scott moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. All ayes. Motion carried.

KERRY KELLER COMMERATION

Mayor Mackinnon introduced the family of the late Kerry Keller and remembered him as Rossford High School Student, who passed away in May, 2012. The mayor read a statement he had written the day after the memorial service for Kerry in which he encouraged all, young and old, to be active in the community as a tribute to him.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Staczek reported that the Safety committee met on February 22nd to discuss new software for the police department as the current software is inadequate. He will have a written report at the next meeting.

REPORT OF MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Ciecka said the financial system software conversion is in full swing and went live today with very few hitches in the data conversion. In the following days each department will get up to speed on the new system which will result in a new format for financial reports.

Mayor Mackinnon presented an award to Mrs. Freeman for excellence in financial reporting.

CORRESPONDENCE

One item of correspondence from the Ohio Department of Commerce/Division of Liquor Control was presented to council regarding licensing fee distribution of \$150 for All Saints Catholic School.

ORDINANCES

#2013-09 – AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL FROM CLEMANS, NELSON & ASSOCIATES, INC. TO UPDATE THE CIVIL SERVICE RULES FOR THE CITY OF ROSSFORD; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Ruse seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said this can go multiple readings. He indicated that the civil service rules were last updated in 1982 and the cost of updating has been budgeted. Mr. Heban also said this can go multiple readings and said he has a copy of the proposal if any councilperson wishes to review which shows a retainer cost of \$7948. This was given a first reading only.

#2013-10 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PARTICIPATION OF THE CITY OF ROSSFORD AS A COLLABORATIVE PARTNER WITH THE WOOD COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY, THE ROSSFORD EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE ROSSFORD CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU, INC. IN MAKING APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT INNOVATION FUND PROGRAM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Scott moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Rex Huffman said he had talked about this at the last meeting as an opportunity to seek a grant from ODDS for a collaborative project. He said there is some urgency to this as the grant has to be filed by March 4th and that the Wood County Port Authority is really excited by this. Mr. Staczek 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 all ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Staczek moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Staczek moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2013-11 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH THE WOOD COUNTY ENGINEER AND PERRYSBURG TOWNSHIP IN THE BUCK ROAD AND LIME CITY ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Scott seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ruse said this is the follow up to his committee report from the last meeting and that the interested parties are relooking at this intersection based on new traffic studies. He said the two roundabout projects may be scaled down recommendation once ODOT certifies the traffic counts. Mr. Ruse said we are looking for council to revisit based on what the previous agreement was. He said something is going to have to be done and the majority of this is in Rossford. He also said the grant money is still available. Mr. Marquette asked if there was an expense to the city for traffic counts and was told yes by Mr. Ciecka. Mr. Marquette said he did not understand why we were spending money on traffic counts after council voted against this project and he has a problem with that. Mr. Ciecka said it was decided to do weekend traffic counts as part of a cooperative regional approach and the cost was less than \$5,000. Mr. Staczek said he was one of the adamant people against this project but he appreciates Mr. Ruse's efforts on this and he would have no problem sitting down and having a conversation with the other entities. Mr. Oberdorf asked how a scaled down project would affect the city's cost and Mr. Ruse said we do not know the numbers at this point. Mr. Marquette said he still has a problem with spending money on something we had already turned down. Mrs. Eckel said this is really a new project that will be determined by the actual traffic counts instead of estimates and the formula for dividing cost is different and also said if we can't partner we may have to pay all the cost someday. Mayor Mackinnon said there are no dollars attached to this agreement and we can get out. Mr. Scott asked about the timing of this and was told it will take 90-120 days for the traffic counts to be certified. Mr. Ciecka said the intersection ratings will be rerun after the traffic counts are certified and that the County Engineer has indicated depending on the rating the whole project may have to be redone and he will not go forward without a cooperative agreement in place. Mr. Scott and Mr. Staczek both agreed this can go three readings. This was given a first reading only.

#2013-12 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS WITH THE OHIO PATROLMANS BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION ROSSFORD OHIO UNIT (PATROL OFFICERS) AND OHIO PATROLMANS BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION ROSSFORD OHIO UNIT (COMMAND OFFICERS) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said the police bargaining units had approved this agreement as previously discussed by council in executive session. The major items are a 3% wage increase per year, the ability to deny compensatory time if it creates overtime, the ability to hire a part-time officer directly rather than from the civil service list, and educational reimbursement being capped at \$12,500 lifetime. He said the major item changes justify the 3% wage increase. Mr. Marquette said it was important to note that this bargaining unit had sacrificed in previous years. Mr. Scott 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. Mr. Scott moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Scott moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

#2013-05 – AMENDED - A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF AN INVOICE FOR ET ELECTRIC THAT WAS ISSUED WITHOUT A PURCHASE ORDER.

Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Freeman indicated that the title as read is incorrect as she did not review. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Ruse seconded the motion to amend the resolution by correcting the title. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said the requirement is that a purchase order be issued prior to purchase but that due to the transition period between public works supervisors a request was made for a purchase order that never made it to Mrs. Freeman until after the purchase was made. Mr. Scott 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. Mr. Scott moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Mr. Scott said he has been getting calls and questions about the increase in water bills. He said it was a matter of timing that the change to a monthly billing cycle coincided with a 9% water and 3% sewer increase from Toledo and a 2% increase from NWWSD which caused the monthly bill to be higher than taking the previous quarterly bill and dividing by three. He said these increased were something we knew was coming. He also said he attended a Chautauqua meeting today and things are coming together well and the help of the Beautification Committee and Recreation Department is appreciated. A number of groups have already made contact regarding bus trips to attend. Mr. Ruse said the Finance Committee will meet at 6:00pm on March 11th. Mr. Marquette said his thoughts and prayers are with the Keller family.

Mrs. Eckel asked if the Zoning Committee had met regarding fences and driveways and Mr. Marquette said they had and he would have a written report at the next meeting. Mrs. Eckel said she had also heard from people regarding the water bills and wanted to mention that the monthly minimum seems to be quite high and should be reevaluated.

Mr. Oberdorf also offered his thoughts and prayers to the Keller family, had Mr. Ruse introduce two guests from Notre Dame Academy, congratulated Mrs. Freeman on her award, and told Mr. Ciecka and Mrs. Freeman no apology is needed regarding the circumstances of Resolution #2013-05.

Mr. Staczek offered his prayers to Rex Huffman and his wife Jackie Keller Huffman and also to Ken Gwozdz on the loss of his wife. He said speed limit signs are needed in the Water St. alley and that he is getting weekly complaints about the railroad tracks at Pilkington. He realizes that people are working on getting a grant but his view is that this should have been taken care of long ago and he is tired of the excuses for this not getting done. He would like a letter sent to Pilkington demanding that these tracks be fixed within 30-60 days or the city will take legal action or fix ourselves and bill them. He then made a motion that would authorize Mr. Heban to draft this letter and send to Pilkington. Mayor Mackinnon said he has spoken to Pilkington as our largest employer and been assured this will be done this year and he would be against such a letter. Mr. Scott asked Mr. Huffman to recap what he had told council at the last meeting regarding a grant request for fixing these tracks. Mr. Huffman said that the soul of this community is that glass plant and we continue to look for ways to help that plant be more competitive and to keep this plant here. One of the things we can do is to use State of Ohio money to help repair these tracks as a state of the art project but this cannot be done overnight and sending such a letter would be a huge mistake. Chief Verbosky said he is aware the Pilkington is due for a furnace rebuild that will cost millions of dollars. At this time Mr. Staczek withdrew his motion and said he hopes Mr. Huffman and the Mayor are on the right path to get this done.

Mr. Oberdorf asked if anyone saw a need for a March Committee of the Whole meeting.

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

AUDIENCE REMARKS

Jackie Keller Huffman, Perrysburg, thanked council and the community for their support during this time and said it is heartwarming to see all the blue. She said she never imagined losing a child and never imagined all the support which they received and has never ended and still continues. She said her family and friends learned so much from Kerry and like to think that cancer did not beat him. They appreciate all the thoughts and prayers and kindness. Mayor Mackinnon said we are a better community because of him.

Drew Griffin, Perrysburg, introduced himself as a candidate for the primary election for Perrysburg Municipal Court judge on May 7th.

Debbie Zuchowski, 202 Hillsdale asked Mr. Staczek how fast these people are going when they go over the tracks and said if you go the speed limit of 25mph. they are not a problem.

Mr. Scott moved and Mr. Ruse seconded the motion to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried.

*Neil Mackinnon, III
Mayor*

*Robert P. Watrol
Clerk of Council*