

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Rossford City Council Meeting
Held February 27, 2012

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of regular council meeting minutes of February 13, 2012. Mr. Scott moved and Mr. Duricek seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda for regular council meeting of February 27, 2012 was presented to council. Committee reports from City Facilities, Parks & Marina, Public Works, and TARTA special committee and Ordinance #2012-17 were added to the agenda. Mr. Duricek moved and Mr. Ruse seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. All ayes. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION BY RCVB: Mr. Scott introduced Wendy Stram, Exec. Dir. Of the RCVB, Beth Genson, and board member Eric Charlot. Mr. Scott said the group has been in existence for 18 months and are we are contracted with them through the end of 2012. They are here to give an update and the annual report. Ms. Stram reported that reports indicated that the trend for all five hotels is slightly up from last year. She provided a copy of the CVB's strategic plan for 2012 to council. Ms. Genson said the highlights of 2011 were the distribution of over 20,000 Rossford Visitors Guides throughout the state utilizing ODOT and all Toledo area and Rossford hotels, the production of a Rossford Savers Card to be given to visitors, the addition of over 300 tour operators to the monthly email list that provides updates on Rossford events, and the placement of RCVB ads in many other publications and the Discover Ohio website. She said in the fall a Rediscover Rossford event will be held that will be attended by approximately 175 travel coordinators. She said in the last year the RCVB was also present at RBA meetings, the Rossford Business Fair, and Fun at the Fountain. Mr. Scott said that the purpose of the RCVB is to show visitors to Rossford what else we have in the area to do. Ms. Genson also gave council an update on the historic program Ohio Chautauqua which is a five day event under a large tent featuring historic characters, music, performances, and other activities. She said five Ohio cities are selected for each summer and that the RCVB has applied for 2013 and has been informed that the committee will visit the city this year to check us out. Mr. Marquette asked about the budget for the RCVB and was told by Mr. Scott that they had \$90,000 in receipts in 2011 and did not spend it all, keeping money in reserve for events that may come up. He said that approximately \$60,000 is in the reserve fund. Mr. Marquette explained about a sign he saw in Louisville, Ky. that advertised local businesses along I-75 and said we should think about something like that with the opening of the casino.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

City Facilities, Parks & Marina committee report from February 20th was presented by Mr. Duricek (see written report).

Public Works committee report from January 30th was presented by Mrs. Eckel (see written report).

TARTA special committee report was presented by Mr. Oberdorf (see written report). Mr. Scott said that Perrysburg is using the same company and that he was impressed with them and there methodology. Mr. Ruse said he echoed both the comments of Mr. Oberdorf and Mr. Scott. Mrs. Eckel said she agreed that we do not have the expertise to do this in-house and said she was interested in how they will obtain ridership numbers. Mr. Ruse said the company plans to actually ride on the buses to get general ridership numbers and that the TARPS and Call-A-Ride numbers are easily available. Mr. Oberdorf said the company has also indicated a willingness to hold meetings with citizens. Mr. Marquette feels this is money that does not need to be spent until we know for sure if the community wants public transportation. Mr. Scott said the committee did not look at whether public transportation is needed or not but whether we are getting the best value for what we are spending. He said that in November the ballot will have two issues: 1) Do we want to be part of TARTA or not? 2) Do you prefer the alternative method of public transportation? Mr. Ruse said the consultant will help craft an alternative transportation plan. Mayor Mackinnon said the consultant will be able to give the city real statistics and data so that we can make a decision. Mrs. Eckel wondered if we could get a cost estimate earlier and Mr. Scott said not without doing an RFP. Mr. Ruse said they will try to determine if we are getting the value for the approx. \$350,000 we spend now and if the alternative will cost more.

Mr. Ruse moved and Mr. Duricek seconded the motion to accept the committee reports as amended. All ayes. Motion carried.

REPORT OF MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Ciecka said that he will be providing council with a copy of the 2011 Waste Management report later this week. He said it shows recycling has increased again in 2011 with solid waste tonnage declining. He reminded council of the Wood County Economic Development Committee annual meeting on March 21st at the Hilton Garden Inn at 6:00 and said the city has reserved a table. Mayor Mackinnon thanked Sue Pinski and Interstate Lanes for hosting a state bowling tournament this weekend. He said he had received a call from Richard St. Jean, the general manager of Hollywood Casino and that they offered to pay the cost for the dog and training for the canine unit which he readily accepted. He also read a proclamation that declared last Saturday, February 25th as Kerry Keller day as part of a fund-raiser for a Rossford High School student battling cancer. He asked everyone to keep him and his family

in their prayers. He also recognized Rossford residents Adrienne Owens Taylor and Councilman Robert Ruse for being named the Young Engineer of the Year and Engineer of the Year respectively. .

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ORDINANCES

#2012 -09 - AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR OPERATING EXPENDITURES AND TO AMEND THE ESTIMATE OF REVENUES FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2012 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012 AMENDING ORDINANCE NO 2011-55; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING Mr. Scott moved and Mr. Duricek seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ruse moved and Mr. Duricek seconded the motion to amend the ordinance. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ruse moved and Mr. Duricek seconded the motion to suspend with the third reading. Audience comments were requested and none received. Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Duricek moved and Mr. Scott seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Duricek moved and Mr. Scott seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2012 – 16 - AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR OPERATING EXPENDITURES AND TO AMEND THE ESTIMATE OF REVENUES FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2012 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012 AMENDING ORDINANCE NO 2011-55.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Marquette noted that there are a number of items in this one ordinance and he thought we were trying to be more transparent by having each appropriation in a separate ordinance. Mr. Ciecka explained the process of providing money in the budget now for future projects rather than amending the budget at the end of the year. Mr. Ruse said this ordinance was reviewed by the Finance committee this evening and includes the \$50,000 added for public works, two items for the police department, additional full time guard coverage at the marina, and other contracted obligations. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Duricek seconded the motion to suspend with the second and third reading. Audience comments were requested and none received. Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Duricek seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2012-17 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH CLEAR VIEW STRATEGIES TO DEVELOP A TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE CITY OF ROSSFORD AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Scott moved and Mr. Duricek seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Scott believes we need to move fairly quickly on this. Mr. Heban asked for an amendment inserting a phrase in Section 1 that will allow dispensing with the competitive bidding requirement.

Mr. Scott moved and Mr. Duricek seconded the motion to amend the ordinance. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Scott moved and Mr. Duricek seconded the motion to suspend with the second and third reading. Audience comments were requested and none received. Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Scott moved and Mr. Duricek seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Scott moved and Mr. Duricek seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

None

COUNCIL REMARKS

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

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

Mr. Oberdorf said he is pleased to see so many attending the council meetings and Mayor Mackinnon agreed and said audience input is important.

Mrs. Eckel thanked the RCVB for coming tonight and for the work they do and noted the impressive list of accomplishments in the short time they have been in existence. She said she would like to see council get back to giving ordinances two or three readings rather than just one and passing as an emergency.

Mr. Marquette congratulated Mr. Ruse and Ms. Taylor for being named Engineers of the Year and asked God to bless the Keller family.

Mr. Ruse said that at the request of Mr. Staczek he will delay until the next meeting his request to bring the roundabout ordinance off the table. He noted that in talking to a friend on Ottawa Hills council that they have the same problem with the Free Press being thrown in the street and said he has talked to a graphic designer regarding banners for the new streetlight poles and will pass the information on to the RBA.

Mr. Scott said he is proud of the work done by the RCVB group, said that Kirkland (a home decor store) is moving into the Crossroads, and that Interstate Lanes is a huge draw to the community as proved by the 6500 people attending the current eleven week bowling tournament.

Mayor Mackinnon said he attended the Engineers dinner and was very impressed by the talk given by Mr. Ruse. He also introduced Ken Sutter from the audience who is a member of the Rossford Board of Education.

AUDIENCE REMARKS

Laurie Pangle Watrol, 119 Homestead Dr., thanked council for what has been a very good meeting with a lot of discussion about what the community wants and needs, considering all the facts before making a decision, and using money wisely. She asked council to keep all those factors in mind as they consider the resolution regarding the roundabout. She said she is not hearing Rossford residents expressing that they want or need this. She pointed out that per federal highway guidelines regarding roundabouts requiring no curb cuts within 247 feet in 35mph zones this would have a negative effect on longtime and loyal businesses such as McDonalds, Subway, BP, etc. and she also wondered who would pay any possible overages on the project stating that other parties have already said they would not. Mr. Ruse noted that the \$500,000 to be paid by Rossford is the required local share for the TMACOG grant and disagreed with her statement regarding who would pay any overage.

Barb Weir, 1252 Grassy Ct., said she would appreciate the roundabout and that it would enhance the community.

Steve Vedra, 170 Hannum, said he is against the roundabout and reminded council that when Penta first opened at Willis Day there was no light and the police directed traffic at peak times.

Ken Szczesniak, 157 Windsor, asked Chief Goss and Chief Verbosky what plans they have in place for a situation like the shooting at Chardon H.S. Chief Goss said the police department has several things in place and that training is ongoing in handling a crisis such as this involving several of our officers. He hopes that we will never need to use. Chief Verbosky said the fire department is part of the Northern Wood County Mass casualty plan that involves several communities and that they discuss preparation for situations like this constantly.

Mr. Duricek moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried.

*Neil Mackinnon, III
Mayor*

*Robert P. Watrol
Clerk of Council*