

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Rossford City Council Meeting
Held March 10, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Mayor William Verbosky Jr. and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Richards, Oberdorf, Eckel, Marquette, Hermes, Michaels, and Kovach all present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of regular council meeting minutes of February 25, 2008. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda for regular council meeting of March 10, 2008 was presented to council. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

REPORT OF MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR

Mayor Verbosky told council that the handwritten letters they had received were from All Saints School students, that the Planning Committee will meet on March 12 to discuss potential new businesses in the Crossroads, and that he had attended the Wood County Health Board annual meeting on March 6 with Betty Woods and that a report of their 2007 accomplishments is available for review. He welcomed Office Depot to Rossford and said that he and Mrs. Eckel had attended the ribbon-cutting. He said that he is having Mr. Ciecka prepare some background information regarding the upcoming water contract with the City of Toledo. He said council should probably be looking at a committee of the whole meeting or a public hearing to discuss alternatives i.e. NW Water and Sewer district, and to get input from their constituents.

Mr. Ciecka said the new police vehicle was received on March 6 and is now in service and that it is an E85 vehicle able to use ethanol fuel. He said the city had received \$5,832 from the state which is for the DARE program, that the city salt supply is now depleted after last weekends major snowstorm and he is trying to procure more, and that last weekend Chief Vespi, Officers Johnson and Hudak, and prosecutor Melissa Pupera participated in the Wood County Youth Olympics as volunteers.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ORDINANCES

#2008-06 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE REPEAL OF CHAPTER ELEVEN, IN TOTAL, OF THE ROSSFORD MUNICIPAL CODE AND ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER ELEVEN OF THE ROSSFORD MUNICIPAL CODE. SECOND READING.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2008-07 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE REPEAL OF THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF ROSSFORD AND ADOPTING A NEW ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF ROSSFORD. SECOND READING.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2008-09 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF ROSSFORD MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 303.083; RELEASE OF VEHICLES; RECORDS; CHARGES. SECOND READING.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said he did not have any updated information for council. Mr. Kovach said he had met with the Police Chief, Mr. Heban, and Sgt. Marek to check on the language regarding charges and been told by Sgt. Marek that the city has contracts with six different towing companies that state what the allowed charges are for towing and storage. Mr. Ciecka is to check on the fees this week to make sure they are in line with other communities. Mr. Heban said he is

the one who changed the language from an exact amount to customary charges in order to avoid having to come back to council every five years or so to raise the charge. Mr. Heban said it is not a problem to put caps on the amounts. Mr. Kovach said possibly #2008-10 could be amended to read as per current assigned contracts which Sgt. Marek will review annually. Mr. Richards said the committee had raised a couple more questions regarding the licensing and bonding procedure and whether towing companies should be licensed by the city with a collected fee. Mr. Heban said the contract requires the towing companies to have proper liability insurance and be licensed by the state of Ohio. Mr. Heban said there is no licensing fee in the code but that is something council could add. Mr. Richards feels this is an issue that should be explored. Mrs. Eckel said they should be licensed to operate in the city of Rossford, as is any other contractor. Mr. Oberdorf asked how other municipalities handle this and Mr. Heban said he could check on. Mrs. Eckel also questioned the control over storage fees charged. Mayor Verbosky asked that Mr. Ciecka and Mr. Heban address these issues and get the answers to council by next week so they can review and get back to Mr. Ciecka with possible changes. Mr. Marquette asked if storage charges are addressed in the towing contracts and was told yes.

#2008-10 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF ROSSFORD MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 303.082, PRIVATE TOW-AWAY ZONES. SECOND READING.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

#2008-06 – A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CONTINUATION AND STRENGTHENING OF TRADITIONAL MEDICARE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Oberdorf said this resolution was the result of being approached by a local citizen who was concerned about the effect of changes to Medicare on senior citizens. There is no great urgency to pass this and it was given a first reading only.

#2008-07 – A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 480 AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mayor Verbosky said this resolution is being co-introduced by Mr. Richards and Mr. Oberdorf. Mr. Richards said it is response to a request from State Senator Gardner in order to reinforce his effort to pass a change in the legislation regarding TARTA affiliation requirements. The changes in the bill include the not only the opportunity to opt out of TARTA but also to opt in on a temporary trial basis. It will challenge TARTA to be more competitive and efficient. It is requested this be passed promptly so the committee involved will be aware of local community support. Mr. Oberdorf said this bill is a follow up to SB 88 with some changes that may enhance the chance for passage. Mr. Oberdorf still sees this as a voter rights issue. Mr. Richards 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. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Mr. Marquette hopes that NW Water and Sewer is invited to any meeting where water/sewer contracts are discussed. He also reminded everyone of the meeting on Thursday regarding the Buck Rd. /Lime City Rd. intersection.

Mrs. Eckel said she had spoken to the Wood County engineer regarding the funding for the Buck/Lime City Rd. intersection improvements and she encouraged everyone to attend the meeting on the 13th to review the alternative plans. She said it was great to see a new store open in the Crossroads (Office Depot) and that the public works crews had done a terrific job on snow removal during this last storm. She wondered what the date was for the RBA business fair and was told by Mayor Verbosky it will be held April 5th. He encouraged council members to help staff the city's booth.

Mr. Oberdorf reminded council to review the transportation information he had given them and give him their input. He said he had received some cards from students at All Saints School and that he enjoyed them. Mayor Verbosky said he is still looking for a TARTA Board representative.

Mr. Richards commented on the power outage and water stoppage that occurred today. He said he was impressed at the efficiency with which the disabled traffic signals were handled by the police department. He said he saw Chief Vespi, Sgt. Marek, and other officers directing traffic at the effected intersections.

Mr. Michaels asked if any progress had been made regarding the abandoned railroad buildings. Mr. Drouard said no response had been received and that a follow-up letter would be sent. Mr. Michaels said the Toledo Free Press is still being thrown all over people's yards and that some pressure need to be put on them to clean up their delivery system.

Mr. Hermes said a new pizza shop had opened (Tanos) and it was good to see another new business in the downtown area. He recommended a note from the mayor be sent to them and all new businesses in town. He asked Mr. Heban if their had been any action from Lyden Oil saying if not maybe the city should put an immobilization boot on the Lyden truck he sees in town. Mr. Heban said he has been contacted by Lyden's attorney who requested some additional information.

AUDIENCE REMARKS

Jeff Appelhans, 177 Hannum Ave., Rossford wanted council to know that the driver of the Lyden Oil truck Mr. Hermes mentioned is a Rossford resident.

Jay Hahn, 838 Lime City Rd., Rossford, said he had read about the rezoning and wondered why he was not notified before the process started. He said his property is for sale now as commercial but wondered if the zoning change would affect his taxes. Mayor Verbosky explained that the zoning change information has been public for a number of months but that the legislation is not being rushed through in order to publicize the changes as much as possible. Mr. Ciecka said that the county auditor sets the taxes but that the tax appraisal is based on current use not zoning.

Elmer Hoffbauer, 525 Glenwood Rd., Rossford, said he does not want his zoning changes. He did not petition to have it changed and sees no benefit to the city or himself if it is. He said he was speaking for Marge Law and Charlie Rinker who also currently zoned agricultural and want it left that way. He said changing the zoning of his property would hinder him and that he had already been here 4-5 years ago with his attorney to address this subject. He plans to leave the business to his son who would want it agricultural also. Mayor Verbosky said this is the first time an inheritance question has entered into this process. He said the property was looked at as to future use of the property based on the surrounding area. Mr. Richards said as a parent and grandparent he found Elmer's statement emotional and said that he and several other council members would probably want to review this further. Mr. Marquette said he is concerned about these changes and he will not support any zoning changes if the property owner does not want it changed. Mr. Ciecka said that individual notices are being mailed to the property owners whose zoning is being changed. Mr. Michaels asked if these were being mailed certified and was told no. Mayor Verbosky outlined what the procedure on this ordinance will be from this point as to passage, tabling, amending, or voting it down.

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

William Verbosky Jr.
Mayor

Robert P. Watrol
Clerk of Council

