

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
Minutes of Rossford City Council Meeting  
Held March 12, 2007

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

ROLL CALL: Richards, Oberdorf, Marquette, Hermes, Michaels, and Kovach all present. Mrs. Eckel is expected shortly.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of regular council meeting minutes of February 26, 2007. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Eckel entered the meeting at this time.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda for regular council meeting of March 12, 2007 was presented to council. Budget and safety committee reports were added. An executive session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation and labor negotiations was also requested. Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. All ayes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Hermes presented the Budget Committee report for the meeting of February 26<sup>th</sup>. Items discussed were the bond anticipation notes to be issued in June, an update of spending using the funds from the 3.5m levy approved in 2005, the increase in workmen's compensation cost, and the 2006 city financials. Mr. Ciecka asked for comments on a proposal for a city engineer position, the committee requested an official recommendation with cost, and time needs. The committee also requested that the public works committee meet and discuss road and sewer work priorities so that funding can be discussed. Mayor Verbosky commented that the increase in the federal reserve rate has affected the interest rates for bonds, lower property values based on the housing market slump probably contributed to the lower than expected revenue from the levy, and that CHIP money can only be used for loans in low income areas. Mrs. Eckel stated that she is not sure why the committee is split on the city engineer position but she thinks it would be beneficial because of the continuity of knowledge and familiarity with previous problems. Mr. Michaels asked how the shortfall in revenue from the levy would be handled and Mr. Hermes said that the hope was to still fund all budgeted projects using other funds i.e. estate tax. Mr. Michaels also feels that a city engineer position would provide a continuity of professional assistance. Mr. Marquette asked how engineering needs are handled currently and was told by Mr. Ciecka that several engineers are used on an as-needed basis. Mr. Ciecka intends to prepare a request for qualifications and then review engineers and engineering firms for being retained. Mr. Kovach said public works has looked at this issue before and will review again at their next meeting.

Mrs. Eckel presented the Safety committee report for the meeting of March 5<sup>th</sup>. This meeting was only with the fire department and items discussed were an update on the fire convention, two draft ordinances dealing with the rules and regulations for the department and charges for emergency medical services, the Lime City/River Rd. intersection and recent accident there, NIMS training, requests for grants, testing of tornado sirens, performance audit recommendation to disband the union, and environmental problems at 480 Dixie Highway. Mr. Richards asked if Lyden Oil has forwarded reimbursement to the city for the environmental cleanup at 480 Dixie Highway since the committee meeting and was told by Mr. Heban that Lyden Oil has accepted responsibility and is working on forwarding reimbursement.

Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to accept the committee reports as given. All ayes. Motion carried.

REPORT OF MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR

Mayor Verbosky extended the city's sympathies to the family of councilman William Russell who passed away last week, indicated that Patricia Ogdahl had accepted the position of full time account clerk replacing the recently retired Annette Plikerd and that Mrs. Ogdahl's position will be replaced with another part-timer, said the RBA Business Fair will be on March 24<sup>th</sup> and looks to be bigger and better than last year with 55 participants this year, and that the last lien had been cleared on the fire station property in the Crossroads and the mortgage release had been recorded. The mayor also said he had attended the open house of the new Heroes franchise last week and they had stated their satisfaction with the city's cooperation in completing that building. He also said that he and Mr. Ciecka had attended the grand opening of the new Bass Pro in Portage, IN. and had the opportunity to talk with the project engineers who will be working on the Rossford store and said they hope to break ground on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Ciecka asked for authorization to file a grant application for the marina dredging project. The projected cost is \$161,922 with the grant request to cover 85% and the remaining 15% (\$24,288) local share to be paid through the marina fund. \*\* Mr. Marquette moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to approve the grant application. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Hermes asked what was the expected start date of this project and was told by Mr. Ciecka that it could be another two years. Mr. Marquette asked how many municipalities owned, operated marinas exist in Ohio, and Mr. Ciecka responded that he did not know but would find out. Mr. Ciecka informed council of a thank you note from Annette Plikerd for the retirement gift, reminded council of the annual meeting of the Wood County Economic Development Committee on March 21<sup>st</sup>, said he will be on vacation from March 13-20 but available by phone, and notified council that the workmen's compensation rate will increase from \$30,000 to \$65,000 in 2007. This represents about a 73% increase. Mr. Marquette asked why such a significant rate increase and was told it is based on claims and past experience as well as elimination of some discount programs.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ORDINANCES

#2007-04 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE CITY OF ROSSFORD; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING.

Mr. Hermes moved and Mr. Kovach seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Hermes recommended this ordinance be tabled until such time as the new director of ODOT can be contacted for potential ways of handling this. Mr. Heban said that ODOT had provided him with an appraisal of \$250,000 per acre and were willing to give the city an option on 1.5 acres for \$375,000.

\*\*Mr. Hermes moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to table this ordinance until such time as council removes from the table. All ayes. Motion carried. This ordinance was tabled.

#2007-07 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO A STORM WATER TAP AGREEMENT WITH WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Kovach seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Heban said he had met with Mr. Ciecka and then contacted the attorney for Wal-Mart which resulted in a new agreement calling for Wal-Mart to be treated as if in the city of Rossford and inserting 25 years in section 4. Mr. Michaels thought that an adjustment had been to lower the flow rate and asked that this be checked on. Mrs. Eckel asked if the map had been provided showing the flow rate from the rest of this area and was told it had not been received yet. Mr. Richards asked that the language in section 4 of the agreement be clarified. Mr. Michaels gave an explanation of the engineering mechanics of this section and discussion took place regarding the less than 25 year language in this section. Mayor Verbosky said this will need to be clarified. Mr. Michaels suggested that a mechanism for assessing for future needs be established and that public works and budget committee work this out. Mr. Hermes said good progress has been made in getting a mechanism to assess Wal-Mart for maintenance and repairs and along with Mr. Kovach asked that copied of the exhibits be provided. Mr. Marquette asked where this storm water eventually ends up and was told it goes east through dry creek east. Mr. Marquette wants to be sure that this

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does not create further problems as this area develops. Mr. Hermes said the agreement calls for the Wal-Mart retention pond to make sure that current levels are not exceeded. This was given a second reading only.

**#2007-08 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ED SCHMIDT TO REPAIR THE 1977 GMC TRUCK; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said this ordinance is for repairs to the leaf pickup truck which is in relatively good shape for a 1977 truck except for a blown motor. The recommendation is to repair with a new engine rather than replace based on \$16,000 in cost for the engine versus approx. \$65,000 for another vehicle. This vehicle is only used in the fall for leaf pickup. Mr. Hermes asked when the motor blew, what about sharing a truck with another city, and about possibly renting a truck. Mr. Ciecka said the motor blew last December and that the repair was included in the 2007 budget expense, that i.e. Perrysburg just blows leaves into the back of a dump truck and that Mr. Jones says that our way of doing it has more capacity and thus fewer trips to the landfill and thus less time, and he has not been able to find a rental. Mr. Marquette asked if with the exception of the blown motor the truck was in good working order and was told yes, that over the last year several components had been rebuilt or replaced. Mr. Oberdorf asked if would make more sense to do it as Perrysburg does rather than spending \$16,000 on this truck based on new equipment versus repairing an old truck. Mr. Ciecka said the Perrysburg method would still require the purchase of a blower with a cost estimated about the same as the repair. Mr. Oberdorf would like to see some price comparisons for equipment. Mrs. Eckel asked if we were replacing the original engine and after being told yes said that conceivably after the repair the truck may last another 20-30 years. She also feels that the Perrysburg method is more labor intensive and thus more expensive in the long run. This was given a first reading only.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**#2007-01 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO PETITION THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WOOD COUNTY, OHIO TO CHANGE TOWNSHIP LINES.**

Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Heban explained that this resolution is a result of the state asking cities to conform boundary lines to annexation lines to avoid double taxation and that both Perrysburg and Bowling Green had passed similar legislation just recently. Mr. Richards asked if this changed the city property map and was told no. Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to suspend with second and third readings. Audience comments were requested and none received. Vote on the motion was all ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

**COUNCIL REMARKS**

Mr. Marquette said there had been a diesel spill at the Sunoco station and wondered who complained and who had paid for the cleanup. Mr. Ciecka said that a complaint was made by a resident and that the receiver in charge of this closed station had accepted responsibility for all cost. Mr. Marquette also wondered if Rossford has a problem with duplicate fees such as is occurring at the Wal-Mart site between the city of Perrysburg and the township and was told by Mr. Ciecka we do not.

Mrs. Eckel expressed her condolences to the family of former councilman William Russell.

Mr. Oberdorf encouraged everyone to read the article in last week's Rossford Record pertaining to Senator Gardner and the mass transit bill (SB-88).

Mr. Kovach said a public works committee meeting is scheduled for March 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Michaels thanked retired police officer Ken Szczesniak for putting together the marina grant application and recommended council make the public aware of the recommendations of the performance audit received in December 2006 that the city is trying to implement.

Mr. Hermes said council should consider a committee of the whole meeting to discuss the performance audit excluding the labor contract portion. He said he had made a presentation of the role of city council to the third grade class at Eagle Point School last week and said he was thankful for the invitation and opportunity.

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AUDIENCE REMARKS

None

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to go into executive session for the purposes of discussing pending litigation with Perrysburg Township and labor negotiations. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to return to regular session. All ayes. Motion carried.

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

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William Verbosky Jr.  
Mayor

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Robert P. Watrol  
Clerk of Council