

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Rossford City Council Meeting
Held April 23, 2007

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 April 9, 2007. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda for regular council meeting of April 23, 2007 was presented to council. Committee report from Recreation was added. Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. All ayes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Oberdorf presented the recreation committee report of April 19, 2007. Issues discussed were the final report for summer ball participation, 4 year olds playing T-Ball, charges for field usage by non-RCRC teams, bids on outside wall repairs, recommendation to repair roof over meeting rooms at the RCRC, and the cost to enlarge fitness area and replace floor. Committee has received a request for use of a meeting room by an amputee support group and asked that a representative come to the next meeting to answer questions. Pat Sloan informed the committee that the Wood County Park District will be doing a free safety check of playground equipment in the fall. John Folcik recommended that possibly a camera be installed at Beech St. to help deter vandalism and Brian Hughes asked Pat Sloan to meet with Chad Lilliche about rebuilding the soccer program.

Mr. Ciecka informed council that the bids for repairing the outside wall will be opened this week and that the repairs are being funded through a county revolving loan fund and that the bids were put out and will be awarded by the county.

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

REPORT OF MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Ciecka said that Sarah Sitterle from Poggemeyer is here tonight to answer questions pertaining to the downtown design and revitalization plan., told council that Mr. Heban had been approached by ODOT regarding the development agreement on the I80-90/I75 parcel that had been tabled by council, and said that a preliminary plat plan had been received from Bass Pro on April 19 for review by the planning commission on May 9. He wanted to inform council that he is seeking an engineering firm to review the plan. Mr. Heban said he has been receiving calls from ODOT regarding the development agreement and needs some direction from council as to how to proceed. Mr. Richards and Mrs. Eckel asked that the ODOT discussion be referred to the safety committee. Mr. Hermes feels there is no need to rush into this based on ODOT's lack of cooperation regarding the water line crossing SR795.

Mayor Verbosky told council that new trees will be planted at the municipal building as part of the Arbor Day celebration on April 27, said that the new ambulance arrived last week and is out front for inspection, again thanked Pilkington for their assistance in providing the new Haz/Mat trailer which is now fully outfitted, and thanked Ms. Sitterle for her involvement in the downtown project.

CORRESPONDENCE

The clerk read an invitation to council from the Rossford Library Board of Trustees to attend an open house on April 29 from 2-4 p.m. to meet the new director Jeanine Wilbarger. Council is asked to RSVP.

ORDINANCES

#2007-12 – AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$130,000 NOTES, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, TO PAY COSTS OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING.

Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mayor Verbosky said that ordinances #2007-12 through 16 are all renewals of current notes. This was given a second reading only.

#2007-13 – AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$270,000 NOTES, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, TO PAY COSTS OF ACQUIRING CERTAIN SANITARY SEWERS AND RELATED FACILITIES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. This was given a second reading only.

#2007-14 - AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$270,000 NOTES, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, TO PAY COSTS OF ACQUIRING A WATER LINE AND APPURTENANCES THERETO AND INTERESTS THERIN FOR OPERATION AND USE TO SERVE USERS IN THE CITY AS PART OF THE CITY'S WATERWORKS SYSTEM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. This was given a second reading only.

#2007-15 - AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$425,000 NOTES, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO REDEEM THE OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF THE CITY'S COMMUNITY CENTER CONSTRUCTION BONDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. This was given a second reading only.

#2007-16 - AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$1,805,000 NOTES, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, TO PAY COSTS OF ACQUIRING CERTAIN ROADS AND APPURTENANCES AND INTERESTS THEREIN FOR PUBLIC USE AS A PART OF THE CITY'S SYSTEM OF PUBLIC STREETS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. This was given a second reading only.

#2007-17 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A DESIGN REVIEW DISTRICT, A DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION, AND ENACTING DESIGN REVIEW GUIDELINES FOR THE CITY OF ROSSFORD, OHIO. SECOND READING.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mayor Verbosky said it is critical that this ordinance be passed, as it is needed to be in place prior to the application for the downtown grant project being submitted. Ms. Sitterle said that the city applied one year ago for a Tier 1 matching grant to begin the process of preparing a downtown revitalization plan. Mr. Ciecka said the design criteria meet the guidelines and Mayor Verbosky said the intent is not to completely change the downtown district but to coordinate future development. Mr. Oberdorf asked if this design review commission would work with the zoning inspector and planning commission and was told by Ms. Sitterle yes. Mr. Hermes said he is uncomfortable with the cookie cutter language of this document and is there a shorter version that has been accepted in some other jurisdiction. He does not understand what the city is committing to and this amount of overkill makes him uncomfortable. He feels a 3-1 match is unattainable for the city and was told by Mayor Verbosky that the city match would have to come from

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private business owners based on what they are looking to do and the city would have to ascertain what level of commitment is out there. Mr. Hermes thinks maybe it would be better to wait a year but Mayor Verbosky said he does not want to wait a year and that he has already invested a year's time in this. Mr. Hermes asked what the city has invested in this project to this point and was told \$2500 and that the grant application would be about \$7000. Mr. Hermes asked Ms. Sitterle what is the probability of success for the grant application and she said it is highly competitive and she could not make a guess. Mr. Richards inquired of Mr. Heban if single family residences within the district are exempt and was told yes. Mr. Marquette asked if the prior downtown project will be held against us and was told no. Mr. Oberdorf asked to what extent the RBA has participated in this project and was told that they have very involved and active. Mayor Verbosky said the RBA was the lead organization in sponsoring this. Mr. Oberdorf thinks we need this to send a message to businesses that the city is looking to redevelop downtown. Mr. Michaels asked if Poggemeyer looked at the old downtown development plan from 15 years ago and the RUDAT study from 25 years ago. Mr. Ciecka said that plan was used to implement the streetscape plan on the east end of the city. Mr. Michaels is all for improving the downtown and thinks something was done wrong in the past and this needs to be looked at so the same mistakes are not repeated. Mr. Watrol clarified that 15 years ago was simply a streetscape study and nothing like the scope of this project. Mr. Richards said the improvements at that time were all public right-of-way improvements and handled by the state with ODOT overseeing. Mr. Ciecka said this is to begin the process to revitalize the downtown and look at ways to sustain the downtown and determine what is the downtown's niche and identity. Mrs. Eckel said whether the city submits the grant application or not the downtown plan is still important and needs to be put in motion. Mayor Verbosky said the work done in this study could be used in going after other grants even if this application is not successful, that one year of work by several groups as been done on this, and that everyone has known for a year about the work being done and had opportunity to participate. Mr. Michaels said we can accept that plan but still questions the feasibility of obtaining the grant. Mr. Richards sees no difficulty in giving this a second reading but feels adoption may be an issue. Mayor Verbosky feels that this is a first step that must be taken. This was given a second reading only.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

#2007-04 A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE DOWNTOWN ROSSFORD REVITALIZATION PLAN AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. This was given a first reading only.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Mrs. Eckel asked now that the breaks in pavement caused by the water line improvements along the railroad will be repaved if it is possible the city can find out the limits of the area to be redone and possibly get this repaving extended. She scheduled a safety committee meeting for May 7 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Oberdorf asked if council still wanted to schedule a committee of the whole meeting to discuss the performance audit. After discussion it was decided to discuss this as part of the May 14 regular council meeting in a public hearing. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to cancel the May committee of the whole meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Richards said the city should find some format to recognize and thank those people who serve on voluntary boards and advisory bodies on their own time for no reimbursement. Mayor Verbosky thinks that is an excellent idea and advised council of an opening on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Mr. Kovach said he is in receipt of a letter regarding a neighborhood dispute in the Oak St. area. He said he explained the process to the residents and thinks maybe the residents should meet with a council committee. Mayor Verbosky said he received that same letter today and has talked to Mr. Heban and is waiting for a report from the police chief.

Mr. Hermes agreed with Mr. Richards's suggestion to recognize volunteers, thanked the administration for the new payroll document, said the financial statements are now being printed back to back to reduce paper usage, and reminded council that the second meeting in May falls on the Memorial Day observance.

Council decided to change that meeting date at the May 14 meeting.

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AUDIENCE REMARKS

None

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