

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Rossford City Council Meeting
Held May 22, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Neil Mackinnon followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Staczek, Oberdorf, Ruse, Wagner, and Minarcin all present. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Minarcin seconded the motion to excuse Mr. Marquette for medical reasons. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of May 8, 2017 regular council meeting were presented to council. Mr. Ruse moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda for regular council meeting of May 22, 2017 was presented to council. Marina committee report received today was added to the agenda. Mr. Ruse moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to accept the agenda as amended. All ayes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Oberdorf presented the Recreation committee report from May 8th, 2017 (see written report). *Mrs. Eckel entered the meeting during the reading of the report.*

Mayor Mackinnon thanked everyone involved for the ballfields at the union hall being fixed and utilized by the recreation department. Mrs. Eckel said the fields are really nice and thanked IBEW for a great partnership.

Mr. Staczek presented the City Facilities, Parks, and Marina committee report from March 24th, 2017 (see written report).

REPORT OF MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR

Mayor Mackinnon extended his thanks to D. J. Hiner, director of the RHS Choir who is retiring after thirty years. This evening is his last concert.

Mr. Scott was not in attendance.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ORDINANCES

#2017 – 34 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 1909 DEALING WITH VACATION BENEFITS FOR DEPARTMENT HEADS. SECOND READING

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Minarcin said if council had no comments on this he would suspend the third reading. Mr. Oberdorf asked Mrs. Freeman to explain and she said she was not involved in this legislation. Mr. Murphree said his office was asked to make 1909 more consistent with patrol and command officers. Mr. Oberdorf asked who requested this legislation and was told it was requested by the mayor to which Mr. Oberdorf asked the mayor for the reason. Mayor Mackinnon said he thought Chief Goss deserved the benefit as he had twenty years in. Mr. Ruse said this only addresses a one year discrepancy. Mr. Minarcin said we are

trying to clean up the language and treat our administration and department heads fairly. Mr. Wagner asked if this is only affecting the last step and was told yes. Chief Goss said the department heads are a couple of years behind employees at all levels and Mr. Murphree said as drafted this only addresses the last step. Mr. Minarcin said this could be a work in progress and we could make further changes later as needed. In response to Mrs. Eckel's question regarding other steps Mr. Murphree said there are different benefits for the different bargaining units thus making it difficult to make totally consistent. Mr. Oberdorf thinks council needs more time to look at this and make sure changes are uniform. Mr. Murphree said he would need direction from council as to what they want. Mr. Ruse said this is just looking at vacation benefits and maybe other parts of the benefits are not uniform and this opens the door for further changes and where do you stop. Mr. Murphree said if council does not intend to act on this tonight he would suggest having some committee review and let him know what they want the legislation to look like. Mr. Minarcin said we only have five department heads, who are non-union employees, and we are only talking vacation benefits. Mr. Staczek said he is favor of sending this to the finance committee to work on with our legal staff. Mr. Minarcin questioned what he is supposed to look at and Mr. Staczek said to look at all the different contracts but probably look at the police contract and try to be in line with that. *Mr. Ruse moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to table this ordinance until after the finance committee reviews. All ayes. Motion carried.*

#2017 – 35 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MANNIK SMITH GROUP CONSULTING ENGINEERS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES REQUIRED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OVERSIGHT OF THE HARMON DEVELOPMENT ROADWAY PROJECT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. FIRST READING

Mr. Minarcin moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Eckel said she was not sure why this was written using the Mannik & Smith group as she thought public works committee had discussed with Mr. Scott to use TetraTech and she does not recommend passing this until we know what happened. Mayor Mackinnon said we asked Mannik & Smith to give us a proposal and he thought they were our engineering firm and council can hire whoever they want but the road is going in. Mrs. Eckel responded that they are but TetraTech has done an exceptional job on the roundabout project and are more responsive than Mannik & Smith and the committee thought they were a better fit for the roadway project. Mr. Oberdorf said he was at the same meeting and they had talked about TetraTech at the meeting and were supposed to have a proposal sent from them. Mrs. Eckel said she never saw the numbers that TetraTech was going to send to Mr. Scott. This was given a first reading only.

#2017 – 36 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROSSFORD AND TO ADOPT A NEW INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR TAX YEAR 2018 AND THEREAFTER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. FIRST READING

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

#2017-37 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING SIGNING OF A 5 YEAR CONTRACT FOR UNIFORM SERVICES FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. FIRST READING

Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Minarcin seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Freeman said we received three different bids for public works uniforms, soaps, and rugs. The low bid from Aramark is under the contract pricing from the State of Ohio which was the middle bid. Mr. Ruse asked if she is recommending the low bid and was told yes. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Minarcin 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. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Minarcin seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Minarcin seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

#2017 – 07 - RESOLUTION AMENDING CITY POLICY 1. 6 COMMUNITY USE OF CITY PROPERTY TO INCLUDE THE DIGITAL SIGN AND STREET BANNER POLES. SECOND READING

Mr. Staczek moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Wagner asked if anyone had spoken to the library regarding this policy as they partnered with us on the sign. Mrs. Freeman said this dates back to several years ago and they were aware them. Mr. Wagner said the board has changed and asked they be notified of this. This was given a second reading only.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Mr. Staczek said in regards to Ordinance #2017-36 that this is the wrong path to follow in going back to the tax credit reduction after he was soundly defeated at the last election. His own view is that we need a levy. He said the Colony roads have been bad for a long time and the roads have been bad back there since he lived there forty four years ago. Some on council may be upset that there may be an elitist movement back there talking about leaving the city but he does not see it like that and it would be a show of good faith to eliminate the Lime City Rd. roundabout and the bike path to nowhere.

Mrs. Eckel said that NWWSD is coming to the city Friday morning to meet with the public works committee and talk about their upcoming projects in the city and said the sport courts at Vets Park are amazing and thanked former recreation director Ivan Kovasevic who started the idea, Mrs. Freeman who helped, and Mr. Ledesma who finished. She also commented on the possibility of banners showing pictures of active duty military on the street poles.

Mr. Ruse echoed Mrs. Eckel comments regarding the courts at Vets Park and said we need nice roads to get there. He will be absent from the next meeting and wondered what are councils thoughts regarding #2017-36, to move forward and see what happens or look at other combinations. Mayor Mackinnon suggested another committee of the whole meeting to discuss.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to hold a committee of the whole meeting on June 5th at 6:00pm. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Wagner said he thinks #2017-36 is the most arrogant piece of legislation he has seen come to council in that it was just voted down 2 to 1 and we need to stop this ordinance at the next meeting and we need to listen at the next meeting as to what people want to do. WE are spending \$2.4M at the Colony Rd. roundabout and then later will tear it up to repave SR 65.

Mr. Minarcin said a street by street plan was completed in 2014 and he wants that given to each member of council and then we need to discuss all the options for financing available.

Mrs. Eckel will ask Mannik & Smith to update the 2014 plan with 2018 dollars and update for the roads that have been done.

AUDIENCE REMARKS

Erin Crawford, 544 Bruns, said she thinks the storm water fee is an excellent idea and wondered if something like a road usage fee or vehicle tax is something we could add to raise money for roads.

Bill Carroll, 418 Riverside, said it is not fair to call people in the Colony elitist and that the street in front of his house looks like a third world country and visitors come in can't believe they look like that. He said Perrysburg and Maumee have a reciprocity tax and said just because people

voted it down that council needs to step up and do what's best for the city. He questioned why should people who work outside the city at their choice not pay for fire and police as it their choice to work outside the city. We need to come up with a plan and said having a levy for roads will make our property tax like Ottawa Hills and that while he has lived in Rossford his taxes have increased from \$10K to \$17K because of all the levies. He said the city has the option of bonding and that he thinks we are levied out. He also said that all roads in the city are bad not just the Colony.

Sandy Couture, 116 Windsor Drive, said they have street problems also as the dome of the street makes water go onto the sidewalks and that beyond the aesthetics the real problem is the destroying of the infrastructure.

Amy Marshalko, 28051 Lime City Rd., agrees with Mr. Staczek's idea to abandon the roundabout project and table it to the future. She said she works in Toledo and pays 2.25% to them and does not want council to put the cost of the roads on only those people. She wants the citizens to have a choice such as a temporary tax increase rather than being in the hands of four council people.

Bob Densic, 107 Birch, said everyone here is looking for solutions and that Mr. Ruse has the right intent but is making the wrong choice with the tax credit reduction proposed. He would suggest to council they think about scope, budget, and schedule and that right now council is only talking at one of these, the money. He said he agrees with the thought of abandoning the roundabouts as that is a luxury and focus on roads. He said council should also reevaluate the policy of redoing all streets as improved (curbs, sidewalks) as that only increases the cost and look for ways to extend the schedule. We have the heads to get this done and that raising taxes is difficult as citizens are tapped out.

Xavier Baldonado, 1108 Dixie Hwy. said the roundabout at Colony Rd. is a waste of money. He said there are not a lot of accidents there and it would make it very difficult for him to back out of his driveway.

Katie Poiry, 507 Beech St. said she would like council to listen to its citizens and a reciprocity tax is punishment and it is wrong to fix thirty years of problems all at once, that two thousand of us paying for the whole thing is unfair and is taxation without representation, and this reciprocity would lose at the ballot again. She thinks the cost for this should be equal among all citizens and that council needs to listen to the people not just their buddies.

Mr. Staczek clarified his comment and said he did not say the Colony was elitist.

Mr. Staczek moved and Mr. Minarcin seconded the motion to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried.

Neil A. MacKinnon III
Mayor

Robert P. Watrol
Clerk of Council