

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
Minutes of Rossford City Council Meeting  
Held August 8, 2005

The meeting was called to order by President of Council Richards and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Kovach, Jakubec, Hermes, Marquette, Eckel, and Richards all present. Mr. Marquette moved and Mrs. Jakubec seconded the motion to excuse Mr. Oberdorf and Mayor Verbosky. Mr. Oberdorf's wife was recuperating from surgery and Mayor Verbosky was out of town on business. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of regular council meeting minutes of July 11, 2005. Mrs. Jakubec moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Marquette moved and Mr. Kovach seconded the motion to approve the committee of whole minutes of July 25, 2005. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda for regular council meeting of August 8, 2005 was presented to council. Resolution #2005-08 and committee reports from Public Works, Public Safety, and Budget to be added. Mrs. Jakubec moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. All ayes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Kovach presented the committee report from August 4, 2005. Items discussed were the Storm Water Phase II overview and Storm Water Management Plan. Mr. Hermes questioned what INI credits were for and was told by Mr. Ciecka they result when a city takes action that reduces storm water runoff into the sanitary sewer system. Mr. Marquette asked if detention ponds are part of the storm water management system and does city meet any of the minimal control measures now. He was told by Mr. Ciecka that the detention ponds do prevent storm water runoff into the sanitary system and by Mr. Kovach that Dave Jones is reviewing the minimal control measures to see if city meets any now. Mr. Hermes asked who created the plan and are there penalties for not doing anything. He was told by Mr. Kovach the former administration created the original plan and by Mr. Ciecka that there is no penalty until after the five year period is up. Mr. Richards stated the committee agreed that they were not in favor of a storm water utility fee and that any cost should be a general fund expense. Mrs. Eckel said a Storm Water Management Plan would be an evaluation and mapping of the city's current system, such as finding the sources of outflow into the river and creek, and that probably would need to consider a storm water utility fee in the future.

BUDGET

Mr. Hermes presented the committee report of July 28, 2005. Items discussed were top ten taxpayers in 1989 and 2003, expense cuts made in the last 18 months, known revenue/expense changes for the next 5 years, police department funding, city infrastructure, public works funding, and alternatives to placing a levy on the ballot. The committee unanimously recommended a 3.5 mill levy for the November ballot.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mrs. Eckel presented the committee report of July 14, 2005. Items discussed were a 1 mill police levy, need to replace police vehicles, and need for an animal control officer. Committee recommended that a 1 mill levy be approved for the November ballot or rolled into a larger levy request. Committee reported that 81 people took the Civil Service test and that the judiciary committee had suggested not having the prosecutor

in the office on Monday and Thursday. Officers in attendance strongly stated their disagreement with this idea. Mr. Kovach questioned when a prosecutor was needed in the middle of the night and was told by Mrs. Eckel this occurred during the latest drug bust. Mr. Marquette asked Chief Foy to inform council what the prosecutor does on Monday and Thursday and was told he spends about 1-1½ hours on those two days meeting with victims who need to talk to the prosecutor. Mrs. Jakubec asked why those two days and was told that is when the meetings are set up for. Mr. Hermes asked if this is a luxury or a necessity and Mr. Marquette said the judiciary committee felt it was Chief Foy's and Mr. Ciecka's decision to make. Mr. Kovach said he thought the judiciary committee had requested to eliminate this for one month and then review. Mr. Marquette said he didn't think the judiciary committee had the authority to eliminate. Mr. Ciecka said he had asked the prosecutor to reduce his hours as much as possible. Glenn Goss, a Rossford police officer, said the Monday, Thursday meetings allow cases to be reviewed prior to Perrysburg Municipal Court dates.

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

#### REPORT OF MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Ciecka reminded council that he has went out for proposals for liability and property insurance and health insurance coverage. He said the Building and Insurance committee will meet and review these proposals when received. He has also issued RFQ's (request for qualifications) for a consultant to write an application for a downtown revitalization block grant and for engineering on the Rec Center repairs. He reported that the library will break ground on August 13, 2005 for their new addition and he is working with them on vehicle parking during the construction period. In response to a question from Mr. Richards regarding the NIMS testing he stated that it is ongoing and Chief Verbosky is following up on.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk had one piece of correspondence regarding registration for the Ohio Municipal League Annual conference this fall and asked council to notify him if anyone interested.

#### INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE #2005-24 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ROAD SALT; AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$72,556.00; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING.

Mrs. Jakubec moved and Mr. Hermes seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said this ordinance is the result of joint competitive bid with other area communities and is the low bid. He sees no reason not to pass now. Mrs. Jakubec moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to suspend with the third reading. Audience comments were requested and none received. Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Jakubec moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Jakubec moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #2005-25 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF FOURTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$14,000) FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF SAME TO PURCHASE TURNOUT GEAR; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Hermes moved and Mrs. Jakubec seconded the motion to read by title only. Mr. Richards said in discussing with the fire chief he said there was no urgency to passing this now. Mr. Hermes said this is consistent with the fire levy passed last fall, is a better price than expected, and was one of the items recommended as part of the levy campaign. Mr. Ciecka said this requires council approval because of being over \$10,000 and recommended adoption now. Mr. Hermes said these

are items being used to fight fires now. Mr. Hermes moved and Mrs. Jakubec 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. Hermes noted that section 3 contained an error in the amount. Mr. Hermes moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to amend Section 3 from the number 11 to 14 pairs of turnout gear. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Hermes moved and Mrs. Jakubec seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Hermes moved and Mrs. Jakubec seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #2005-26 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION OF RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER SERVICE AGREEMENT AND GUARANTY WITH ROSSFORD DEVELOPMENT LLC, RAMCO-GERSHENSON PROPERTIES L.P., TO TARGET CORPORATION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mitch Meissner, attorney for the owners of the Crossroads Shopping Center, said this is part of the sale of the parcel of land leased by Target to Target Corporation. Mr. Ciecka said this does not change the city's position just makes Target the new owner of that parcel. Mr. Heban said basically Target is being substituted for Ramco in the service agreement the city has. Mr. Hermes moved and Mrs. Jakubec seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Hermes asked if there are any other documents that this assignment would impact and can it be confirmed that this sale will not affect the assessed value and taxes either increasing or decreasing. Mr. Heban said he is not aware of any other documents this would affect and Mr. Meissner said this document is neutral as to the value of the property. Mr. Ciecka said the Target would like this assignment completed and he would recommend this be passed as an emergency. Mr. Marquette moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to suspend with the second and third readings. An audience comment from Chuck Duricek, Jennings Rd., was that the service agreement was the TIF agreement and he then explained what he says the city gets out of this. Mr. Hermes asked what the 9.45 acres being assigned consists of and was told it is the Target Store, parking in front of the building up to the service road, and a loading area in the rear of the building. Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Marquette moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Marquette moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #2005-27 AN ORDINANCE UNDER SECTION 727.25, OHIO REVISED CODE, ASSESSING UPON THE LOTS AND LANDS WITHIN THE CITY OF ROSSFORD TO PAY THE EXPENSE OF LIGHTING THE STREETS, ALLEYS, WAYS, AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES IN SAID CITY AND FURNISHING ELECTRICAL ENERGY THEREFOR, DIRECTING THE CLERK TO CERTIFY SAID ASSESSMENT TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO BE PLACED UPON THE TAX DUPLICATE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Hermes moved and Mrs. Jakubec seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said the expected expense is \$155,000 and is assessed based on the valuation method. This is an annual ordinance and does not require approval today. Mr. Hermes said that this is not a new tax but is something that has been done for at least 30 years. This was given a first reading only.

#### INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #2005-06 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO FILE AN APPLICATION AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION (D.A.R.E.) PROGRAM; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING.

Mr. Marquette moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said the school is revising the DARE curriculum and will not be providing the \$20,000 as previously. In view of that the city will be

terminating its contract with Mr. Hamilton at the end of this year. Mr. Ciecka is still asking permission to apply for a DARE grant based on the number of hours in the curriculum and the school will fund a lesser amount. Mrs. Eckel asked if this means there will be not DARE program in 2006 and does the school realize they may have no DARE officer. Mr. Ciecka said the 2006 school term will be up school board and that they do realize there may be no DARE officer provided by the city. Mr. Marquette asked if Mr. Hamilton is due a payout at the termination of his contract and was told by Mr. Ciecka he is due the last 1/3 of his payout. Mr. Hermes said without this grant the city assumes 50% of the cost of the DARE officer. Mrs. Jakubec asked if this meant there will no longer be a police officer in the schools and was told by Mr. Ciecka yes, the school will no longer use Mr. Hamilton for in-school suspension and other areas. Mr. Hermes asked if Mr. Hamilton knew about this and was told that Mr. Ciecka and Chief Foy had both talked to him. Mr. Richards said when this was initially proposed it was known that school curriculum changes could affect this. Mr. Hermes says this decision in no way reflects on the performance of Mr. Hamilton. Mr. Hermes moved and Mrs. Jakubec seconded the motion to suspend with the third reading. An audience question was received from Judy Davenport, Eagle Point Rd., who asked if it is necessary to have a police officer in the schools and was told no by Mr. Richards. Chief Foy commended Officer Hamilton for his years of service and said it was the school that changed the program. John Folcik, Hannum Ave., asked if this will affect Safety Town for next summer. Mr. Ciecka said yes it will as Mr. Hamilton had conducted Safety Town and Chief Foy said he may look at a two week contract for that purpose only. Vote on the motion. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Hermes moved and Mrs. Jakubec seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Hermes moved and Mrs. Jakubec seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #2005-07 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF TWO NEW DEFIBRILLATORS UNDER THE STATE PURCHASING CONTRACT FROM MEDTRONIC PHYSIO-CONTROL FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mrs. Jakubec moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said this is part of the 1 mill fire levy and replaces two defibrillators with new Life Pack 12's and is lesser price than estimated. Mr. Ciecka said the fire chief would like to order these now and get people trained on, this was reiterated by Mrs. Eckel. Mr. Hermes explained that these are being purchased under the statewide competitive bidding pool. Mrs. Jakubec moved and Mrs. Eckel 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. Mrs. Jakubec moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Jakubec moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #2005-08 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE AMOUNT OF TAXES THAT MAY BE RAISED BY A LEVY AT THE MAXIMUM RATE AUTHORIZED BY LAW WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE ELECTORS IS INSUFFICIENT, AND DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF AN ADDITIONAL LEVY FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Hermes moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said he had provided council with a copy of 3.5 mills 5 year operating levy as a result of the budget and safety committee meetings. Mr. Hermes said that 40% of this levy would be used to replace the refuse fee and then gave a detailed explanation of how the money generated by the levy would be spent over the five years and what it would cover i.e. wages, police equipment, etc.

Mr. Marquette asked if 3.5 mills is enough and Mr. Cieccka said this proposal is a result of what the city heard from the public and council as far as what people said they wanted. He won't guarantee further cuts in manpower will still not be needed but hopes that future development and a resolution of the AA project will preclude this. He said there will still be tough decisions to make in the general fund. Mrs. Eckel asked if there are specific public works equipment purchases, spring and fall pick-up, and replacement of previous cuts contemplated with this levy. Mr. Cieccka answered no to all three but did say may need to purchase a snow removal truck. Mr. Marquette asked what a 3.5 mill levy cost the owner of a \$100,000 home and was told by Mr. Cieccka about \$110 a year. Mr. Richards said he thinks the budget committee did a fantastic job in putting this together, said while the projections show declines this is very conservative and presumes no one makes home improvements and no new businesses move in to Rossford. He would like to see of the request can be lower than 3.5 mills. Mr. Kovach is concerned and questions how can the city justify asking the taxpayers to accept increased taxes without the performance audit being done. He thinks this would be the prudent thing to do before asking for a levy. Mr. Richards said the difficulty with doing the performance audit prior to a levy request is one of timing. Mr. Hermes said a vote for the ordinance does not mean you agree with the proposed breakdown of spending and by putting on the ballot you give citizens an opportunity to tell us what they are willing to pay for. It also means citizens get to vote on rather than just council. Mr. Richards said on three occasions Mr. Kovach has reminded council that they should be moving forward with some sort of performance audit and it appears this is being neglected. Mrs. Eckel and Mr. Hermes discussed several scenarios regarding refuse pickup if this levy request failed.

#### COUNCIL REMARKS

Mrs. Eckel said she will be scheduling a public safety committee meeting with the fire chief. Mrs. Jakubec asked how much revenue the refuse collection fee is bringing in, how many jurisdictions were involved in the recent drug bust, how much money Rossford will get from this, and when is the library addition scheduled to be completed. Mr. Cieccka responded that he wasn't sure on the revenue realized from the refuse fee but would get that information and that the library addition will take about nine months. Police Chief Foy said that several jurisdictions were involved in the drug bust and the amount of money Rossford will receive is yet to be determined.

#### AUDIENCE REMARKS

Pam Simenski, 171 Maple St., Rossford, asked when the last time property was reassessed in Rossford and why the proposed levy was for five years rather than a shorter period to take advantage of higher values as property is reassessed. Mr. Cieccka said he believes a reassessment is scheduled for next year and is done every six years and that the length of the levy is up to council but it is typical to allow five years between levy requests. Mr. Hermes said property values also change as properties are sold and that the five year term is based on the difficulty of passing multiple levies.

Mr. Hermes moved and Mrs. Jakubec 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