

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Rossford City Council Meeting
Held September 28, 2020

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

ROLL CALL: Staczek, Oberdorf, Marquette, Ruse, Heban, and Densic all present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of September 14, 2020 regular council meeting were presented to council. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Densic seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda for regular council meeting of September 28, 2020 was presented to council. Economic Development committee report was added to the agenda. Mr. Densic moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to accept the agenda as amended. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Eckel entered the meeting.

PRESENTATION: Race for Recovery/Clint McCormick from Dave's Running Shop requested approval for the race to be held in Rossford on October 24th with a 7:30am start. This will be the second year the race is held in Rossford and the course route will be totally in Rossford. Chief Kitzler reviewed the route and said some streets will be need to be closed such as the Colony and Eagle Point Rd. for about two hours. Mr. Oberdorf asked how they justify holding this run when most events are being held virtual and Mr. McCormick said they decided it was time to get back to normal. Mr. Oberdorf asked if this was a for profit and part of the 12-step program and was told no it is not part of the 12-step program and is a non-profit. Mrs. Eckel noted that the Rudolph Run didn't require closing streets and Mr. McCormick said that was 150 runners versus the 1200 expected for this run. Mr. Marquette asked if the Eagle Pt./Colony intersection is at the beginning or end of the race and was told the race route which puts this towards the beginning. Mr. Oberdorf said this should have gone through council and again reiterated that most races are virtual. Mr. Marquette said it's time to start living. Ms. Murray said the plan was approved by the Wood County Health Dept. Mr. Ruse said his concern is not because of COVID but the Colony being shut down for two hours. Mayor Mackinnon said it was held last year and seemed like a fun event. Mrs. Eckel said she takes issue with that many runners inside our bubble. Mr. Oberdorf agrees, saying this year is a totally different situation and why should this be an exception. Mr. Densic said he is favor of a return to normalcy but we need to look at a route that does not cause a two-hour shutdown. Mr. Staczek said he agrees with Mr. Marquette but also sees Mrs. Eckel and Mr. Oberdorf's concerns and thinks the route need to be changed so as not to close down for two hours. Mr. Heban said this should have went to safety committee first but agrees it is time to return to normalcy.

Mr. Heban moved and Mr. Densic seconded the motion to allow the Race for Recovery to use Rossford streets on October 24th Vote on the motion was Heban, Densic, Marquette, Ruse aye and Staczek, Oberdorf, and Eckel no. Motion carries 4-3.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Safety committee report from September 24, 2020 was presented by Mrs. Eckel (see written report). Mr. Staczek questioned why parking is being limited to two hours on the highway as it hasn't been an issue and will have an effect on Moe's and Danny's. Mrs. Eckel said the students take up all the spots between 7:30am – 3:30pm and businesses need these spots. Mr. Staczek also said the day we need police cameras at the park is the day we have failed. Mr. Densic said we need to look at regional cooperation for fire and rescue as well as the fire boat based on our limited waterfront. Mayor Mackinnon said he has talked to the mayors of our neighboring communities about cooperative ventures and there is no interest in sharing a fireboat.

Recreation committee report from September 14, 2020 was presented by Mr. Oberdorf (see written report).

Mr. Marquette said he has a major problem in not allowing basketball at Veterans Park asking why should we punish our citizens because of some lawbreakers. Mayor Mackinnon said the city is not going to eliminate basketball, that the recreation committee does not have the authority to do that, only the administration. Mrs. Eckel said we need a safe environment for younger children that go to the park. Mr. Staczek said the exterior basketball courts would still be there but it would be tennis/volleyball only inside the fenced in area. He said the neighbors have complained for several years about loud activity at the park, primarily by non-citizens, and we need to protect our citizens. Mayor Mackinnon said the recreation committee does not have authority to do that and Mr. Staczek said then they will come back with legislation for council. Mr. Oberdorf asked why have a recreation committee if not going to follow their recommendations. Mayor Mackinnon said Rossford is a basketball town and he sees what goes on down there and he knows some of the neighbors have some personal feelings he does not agree with. Mr. Marquette said Veterans Park is also funded by state and federal money and everybody should have a right to use. Mr. Ruse questioned where we are going, with us saying we should allow basketball, but we cannot deny all the people who have contacted council about the issues they have seen down there. Mayor Mackinnon said we have beefed up enforcement and patrols and there have been no incidents since. Mr. Heban said the safety committee has talked about this and we don't need to take away basketball but we need to make it safe. Mr. Marquette said it is our responsibility to fix the problem not take away basketball. Mrs. Eckel said she has no problem with keeping basketball if we step up and handle the problem and keep the parks safe for our kids. Mayor Mackinnon said we have already done that and it is not being ignored and he is on top of this issue.

Economic Development committee report from September 16, 2020 was presented by Mr. Heban (see written report).

Mr. Densic said he agrees with Mr. Ruse that we need to move forward with the O'Brien Master Plan and to try to plan after economic development occurs is not master planning. He said he is concerned that we have paid O'Brien over half of the project cost and in terms of deliverables have next to nothing and the sooner we can get them here the better. Mayor Mackinnon said he is in charge of economic development, he and his team, it's not going to be run by committee, and the job being done right now is unprecedented and that's the way it's going to be. Mr. Densic said were not talking about economic development but the master plan of which council approved the contract and expense. Mayor Mackinnon said the plan will be here when he says it's going to be here and when it's supposed to be here and he is in charge of the timeline and economic development. Mr. Densic said council is asking to see the deliverables of anything they have done per the contract after two years of work and \$300,000. Mayor Mackinnon said he talks to the economic development committee all the time and that the master plan will be done by the first of the year. Mr. Ruse said tying COVID into this is ridiculous, the mayor says he's in charge of economic development but yet we just went out and spent \$100,000 on an ED Director, and that this needs to get done because doing a master plan after the fact and approving site plans that would not have fit the master plan does not give us any guidance. He said at this point we have nothing to show for the money expended and he is tired of hearing it's coming. The mayor reiterated it will be here by the first of the year and be something we can take to the market nationally and internationally. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Densic seconded the motion that no further money be expended until O'Brien comes to council with an update. Mr. Marquette said didn't we ask O'Brien to pull back when Amazon announced their plan and Mayor Mackinnon said yes. Mr. Staczek said he disagrees with the mayor's comment that he is economic development and sees the mayor infringing on the legitimacy of the committees and noted this is the first committee report received from economic development in two years. Mr. Staczek said we need to work together as a team not just use outsiders. Mayor Mackinnon said economic development is done in private not public. Mrs. Eckel said we should not have to ask O'Brien for updates, they should be providing them to us. Mr. Ruse said if we had a master plan, he could look at it and see if it supported a truck stop at the corner of Crossroads Pkwy./SR 795. Mayor Mackinnon said we don't own that property and master plan or not we could not stop it if it meets zoning code and that the plan is coming. Mr. Densic

asked Attorney Heban if he saw any legal issue with the motion on the floor and Attorney Heban said yes, a contractual issue, but council could still vote on it while he checked further. Mr. Densic withdrew his second to Mrs. Eckel's motion.

Mr. Densic moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion that O'Brien/Gateway present to council the work completed thus far and the path forward. All ayes. Motion carried.

REPORT OF MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. Murray thanked Mr. Kolb and the public works department for a successful brush pickup and said all the employees are doing a great job during the COVID crisis. She said the roundabout should get a second coat of asphalt this week weather permitting and will have temporary lighting put in until the permanent light fixtures arrive at the end of October. She said the multi-use path should be completed shortly.

Mayor Mackinnon asked council to approve trick or treat to be held on October 31st from 1-3pm.

Mr. Marquette moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to have trick or treat from 1-3pm on October 31st. All ayes. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ORDINANCES

#2020-62 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO DISPOSE OF CERTAIN SURPLUS PROPERTY NOT NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Mr. Densic moved and Mr. Heban 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. Mr.

Densic moved and Mr. Heban seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Densic moved and Mr. Heban seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2020 – 63 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES FROM THE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FUND 290, THE CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND (CRF) AS A SECOND INSTALLMENT, BEFORE DECEMBER 28, 2020 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Staczek moved and Mr. Densic seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes except for Mr.

Ruse who abstained. Motion carried. Mr. Densic said this was reviewed today by the finance committee

and was recommended to move forward. Mr. Marquette moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to

suspend with the second and third readings. Audience comments were requested and none received. Vote

on the motion all ayes except Mr. Ruse who abstained. Motion carried. Mr. Marquette moved and Mr.

Staczek seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes except Mr. Ruse who abstained. Motion

carried. Mr. Marquette moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes except Mr. Ruse

who abstained. Motion carried.

#2020 – 64 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR THE PICKLEBALL COURT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

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

Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Heban 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. Heban seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2020 - 65 - AN ORDINANCE MAKING CERTAIN CHANGES TO THE EXPENSE APPROPRIATION AND ESTIMATE OF REVENUES FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2020 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020 AMENDING ORDINANCE 2019-74.

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

Densic said this was discussed in the finance committee today and will fund the economic director position

to the end of the year. Mr. Densic moved and Mr. Heban 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. Mr. Densic moved and Mr. Heban seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2020 – 66 - AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE ROSSFORD WATERFRONT PARK AND MARINA IMPROVEMENTS PLANNING AGREEMENT WITH THE SMITHGROUP OF ANN ARBOR MICHIGAN, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Densic seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ruse asked why we didn't have to do a quality-based selection such as an RFQ to select a firm. Attorney Heban said council can waive this by adopting the ordinance but council can always go out and get RFQ's. Mr. Ruse does not want it to be perceived that when a firm writes a grant, they will be awarded the project. Mr. Densic moved and Mr. Staczek 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. Mr. Densic moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Densic moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

#2020 – 19 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR NAVIGATIONAL AIDS GRANT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF WATERCRAFT; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Densic moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Staczek asked who put this on the agenda and Ms. Murray said this was a housekeeping endeavor. Mr. Staczek said the marina committee decided not to accept this grant as the buoys are a hazard to navigation as not lighted and there is no way to enforce the no wake zone and we would be the only community to have these. He said boaters know they are responsible for their own wake. Mr. Ruse asked if these buoys are the same ones installed by citizens this year by the recommendation of the marina committee and Mr. Staczek said the marina committee did not recommend and they don't know how they got there. Mr. Densic said this should be referred to the marina committee for another use area. This was given a first reading only.

#2020 – 20 - A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.

Mr. Staczek moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Densic said this is a housekeeping resolution and is a statement of our existing tax levies. Mr. Densic moved and Mrs. Eckel 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. Mr. Densic moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Mr. Staczek said if we were doing what we should at the parks we wouldn't have citizens complaining and a committee looking at using blue light cameras so obviously something is not right. He takes umbrage at the mayor not respecting the committees. He said the work and effort of the committees should be appreciated and the work of the council team is just as important as the mayor's team. He said council has legislative powers and asked the mayor to reconsider his position on how he views committees and council.

Mr. Oberdorf asked if anyone saw a need for a committee of the whole meeting in October.

Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to dispense with the committee of the whole meeting on October 5th. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Eckel asked for an update on the Eagle Point Rd. lawn restorations. Ms. Murray said this will be done by NWWSD but she does not have a date yet. Mrs. Eckel said in the past few months we have heard about decisions that committees cannot make and questioned why, if committees and the decision they make are not valid, why they are wasting time having committee meetings if committees are constantly overruled and that this level of disrespect bothers her.

Mr. Ruse said he echoes Mrs. Eckel's comments regarding committee decisions. He asked about the status of the temporary school structures which were to be removed in mid-September. Mayor Mackinnon said the non-profit from Defiance backed out of the deal last week and we have gone out and gotten quotes to have removed. Mr. Ruse also asked about the status of the sidewalk at Glenwood Elementary and Ms. Murray said it is out for bid to be opened on October 12th.

Mr. Densic said he echoes the comments of Mrs. Eckel and Mr. Ruse and that we are co-equal branches of government and we need to work together. He said the problems with the parks is we have active parks and passive parks and hybrids and that needs to be part of the master plan.

AUDIENCE REMARKS

None

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

Neil A. Mackinnon III
Mayor

Robert P. Watrol
Clerk of Council