

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Rossford City Council Meeting
Held October 13, 2014

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

ROLL CALL: Staczek, Oberdorf, Marquette, Ruse, Wagner, and Minarcin all present. Mrs. Eckel is expected shortly.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of regular council meeting minutes of September 22, 2014. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Wagner seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda for regular council meeting of October 13, 2014 was presented to council. Committee report from the Zoning Regulations & Technology committee was added to the agenda. Mr. Wagner moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to accept the agenda as amended. All ayes. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION

Rossford School District superintendent Dan Creps gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the upcoming school operating levy (see written copy). *Mrs. Eckel entered the meeting at this time.* Mr. Creps said the levy is needed due to the loss of \$1 million in property value, \$400,000 in tangible property tax revenue, and unfunded state mandates. He outlined the reasons passage is imperative saying we receive one of the lowest amounts per student from the state and are in the bottom portion of schools in our area for school taxes per \$100,000 value home. He said there has been no levy request for operating funds in 12 years and that passage of the levy will offset a projected deficit. He also outlined things done to generate savings such as closing Indian Hills and said the 4.49 mill levy will cost the owner of a \$100,000 home \$13.10 a month. He asked for support on November 4th. Mr. Wagner suggested he be prepared to answer the question "How will those on fixed incomes be affected if on a Homestead Exemption".

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Zoning Regulations & Technology committee minutes from October 7th were presented by Mr. Marquette (see written report).

Parks & Recreation committee minutes from September 22nd were presented by Mr. Oberdorf (see written report).

Finance & Insurance committee minutes from September 22nd were presented by Mr. Minarcin (see written report). Mrs. Eckel asked if we are collecting payroll income tax on those contractors working in the city and Mr. Ciecka said if they work here five days or more the information is submitted to RITA. Mr. Oberdorf said he did not hear Mr. Minarcin say the increase would be 7.5% and that is important. Mr. Wagner said he sort of sides with Mr. Oberdorf saying that a 7.5% increase is not the right thing to do when workers only received 3%. He said that is not the right message to send to employees. Mr. Staczek said he agrees with Mr. Oberdorf and Mr. Wagner that the 7.5% is not justified. Mrs. Eckel said a performance audit for the city was done years back and she would like to see the cities used in that audit for comparables. Mr. Ruse said the finance committee was given a salary comparison with some numbers and also requested additional information and that the 7.5% was based on significant differences. He is willing for the finance committee to look at other comparables but is not saying it would or would not change the numbers. Mr. Oberdorf said he would be against tabling the ordinance. Mr. Minarcin said this had been assigned to the finance committee and he thought they did their homework to the best of their ability by including surrounding communities. Mr. Oberdorf said he is against tabling this ordinance and that others should have known about the comparables used in the performance audit. Mrs. Eckel said checking other comparables might help decide this issue. Mr. Marquette said who's to say other comparables might not make the % go higher and that 3% is what it should be.

Public Works committee minutes from October 9th were presented by Mr. Ruse (see written report).

REPORT OF MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Ciecka informed council that Colony Rd. was opened to traffic just this evening and that Hillside Drive is on target for completion shortly. He said Habitat for Humanity will be constructing another home on Bacon St. in partnership with the Penta building program and that a wall raising is scheduled for Friday October 17th at 1:00pm. He said the city is seeking bids for solid waste collection and that the Haunted Trail will be held on October 26th from 4:30 to 6:30pm and October 30th from 7:00 to 9:00pm at Island View Park.

Mayor Mackinnon reminded everyone that the world's greatest Halloween Parade is coming up on October 26th and encouraged everyone to vote for schools and to vote no on the TARTA issue on November 4th. He swore in two new firefighters John Hart and Trent Morelock.

CORRESPONDENCE

Council was informed of three items of correspondence 1) a thank you to Mayor Mackinnon from the Rossford Drama Department in regards to the DWTS evening 2) a new liquor permit request from the Hampton Inn 3) a request from DECA to hold the Halloween parade on October 26th at 2:00pm.

Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Minarcin seconded the motion to approve the Halloween parade request. All ayes. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES

#2014 – 62 - AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING COMPENSATION FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES (NON-BARGAINING) OF THE CITY OF ROSSFORD, REPEALING ANY PORTIONS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. THIRD READING.

Mr. Staczek moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Minarcin seconded the motion to table this ordinance for thirty days. Vote on the motion was Eckel, Minarcin, Wagner, Ruse and Marquette aye, with Oberdorf and Staczek voting no. Motion carried 5-2.

#2014 – 66 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CHANGE ORDER WITH THE MANNIK SMITH GROUP, CONSULTING ENGINEERS, FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES REQUIRED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HILLSIDE DRIVE WEST ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING

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

Mr. Staczek asked if this dealt with the contractor screw up on compaction on the water/sewer lines on Hillside. Mrs. Eckel said no this is for the compaction testing for the new road on Hillside Drive. Mr. Staczek said since Mannik Smith did not include this cost in the original contract should they not pay for this. Mr. Ciecka said no, we asked for this. Mr. Ciecka said this is our own independent testing request. This was given a second reading only.

#2014 – 67 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF A CONTRACT WITH THE PUBLIC DEFENDERS COMMISSION OF WOOD COUNTY FOR THE REPRESENTATION OF INDIGENT DEFENDANTS IN “ORDINANCE ONLY” CASES FILED BY THE CITY OF ROSSFORD; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Minarcin moved and Mr. Wagner seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Heban said this is an annual ordinance that can go three readings. He explained that when a defendant is charged on a Rossford ordinance case and is considered indigent that the public defender represents him/her for a cost of \$100. This was given a first reading only.

#2014 – 68 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2015 STAKE BODY TRUCK WITH SNOW PLOWING ACCESSORIES FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Wagner moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said this is recommended by the public works committee and that Mr. Kolb had secured a quote from Brondes Ford for less than the state cooperative purchasing program price. He recommended this be approved this evening. Mr. Ruse said this purchase was in this year's budget. Mr. Wagner asked if ordered today when will we received the truck and Mr. Kolb said December 1st. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Ruse 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. Eckel moved and Mr. Ruse 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

#2014 – 21 - 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. Ruse moved and Mr. Minarcin seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said the State of Ohio provides grants for purchase of navigational aids and that we have used in the past. He said we need to replace four no wake buoys and asked for approval tonight so he can submit the application. Mr. Kolb said two buoys were damaged and two lost. Mr. Minarcin moved and Mr. Ruse 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. Minarcin moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Minarcin moved and Mr. Ruse seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Mackinnon complimented the Miller Pipeline contractors for doing a good job.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Mr. Staczek said he concurs with the Mayor and said he has received a lot of compliments on Miller Pipeline. He congratulated Chief Drouard on a successful Fire Open House, thanked the community for their support of the VFW Oktoberfest, and encouraged the community to vote yes to get out of TARTA. Mr. Oberdorf said the Chief and his entire department did an excellent job on the Fire Open House. Mrs. Eckel thanked Chief Drouard for a great open house and encouraged the community to support the Halloween parade and the Haunted Trail. She wants the contractors to get everything cleaned up before the parade and thanked Miller Pipeline for their fast clean up. She encouraged a no vote on the TARTA issue saying we need to stay in TARTA referencing a FDR quote "The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much it is whether we provide enough for those who have little" and adding that getting out of TARTA and leaving people without other options is not the right thing to do.

Mr. Ruse said he echoes Mrs. Eckel on TARTA saying it would be a step backwards to leave TARTA. He said the committee spent a significant amount of time analyzing this and concluded it would cost more to replace TARTA with something else. He had three Notre Dame high school students attending as part of a government class introduce themselves. He said the RCVB had a meeting this week and said the city will be taking over in its entirety at the end of the year.

Mr. Wagner congratulated Chief Drouard on the Open House and said it gets better every year. He encouraged the voters to educate themselves and research the issues before they vote.

Mr. Minarcin said he appreciated council's comments regarding Ordinance #2014-62.

AUDIENCE REMARKS

Don Montague, 106 Rossway, questioned the data compiled by the consultant on TARTA ridership and said he does not oppose public transit but does oppose the endless agreement with TARTA.

Greg Ryan, 210 Jennings, encouraged a yes vote to opt out of TARTA. He said the \$36,000 Clearview study is rife with errors saying there has never been an accurate way to count riders, that ridership is only estimates. He said he is not against public transit but that it is a myth that public transit is an economic

development tool for the community and that the Citizens Choice committee says there is a better way to provide public transit than TARTA.

Dick Goeke, 121 Harbor Point Rd., said he went through the consultant's report and the numbers are wrong for the 10L route and he disputes the numbers of the report. He said we do need to provide for people who need public transit.

Bob Densic, 107 Birch Dr., disagreed with the cost referenced in the report to duplicate the TARTA service and the value provided by TARTA. He also disagreed with the costs numbers given for the 2.5 mill levy. He is hopeful that citizens will vote to withdraw from TARTA.

Mayor Mackinnon said he keeps hearing about other options to TARTA and referenced a list of 26 other options that was provided by the Citizens Choice committee. He said he had called all 26 companies on the list and asked four questions 1) do they serve Rossford 2) how far will they go 3) what is the charge 4) what is the lead time. He then went through the answers he received from all 26 saying none were better than TARTA and that one of the names provided on the list was TARTA Call-a-Ride and at \$1.00 a ride with one hour lead time it was the best.

Roger Gluckin, 401 Eagle Point Rd., said that the Rossford School District is at the top in Wood County for tax revenue per pupil at over \$13,000 with that level of spending per student also while Perrysburg spends \$10,000 per student. He said the fact the school district is projecting a deficit did not happen overnight and the school also had a performance audit done which came back with ways to save which the school board has not done and in fact questioned the data.

Mayor Mackinnon said he was for the school performance audit and that Mr. Creps has done many things that the audit suggested be done.

Pam Simenski, 194 Hannum, thanked council for passing the snow plow ordinance saying the street department does a great job. She said in April she witnessed an accident at SR795/Lime City Rd. and when called 911 got Maumee dispatch and thanked Chief Drouard for helping to fix that problem. She says she has heard numerous complaints about the work being done in the city but that she could not be more pleased and that Miller has done a wonderful job. She also said she is fed up with cleaning up after cats that she does not own and the city needs to hire a part time animal control officer and license cats.

Don Montague, 106 Rossway, said he never represented the list of 26 options to TARTA as an end all to public transit.

Mr. Staczek said the mayor talked for ten minutes and in all honesty this is a council meeting and he is the proctor and past precedence allows someone to talk a second time but he originally did not allow Mr. Montague to speak a second time. The mayor explained he did but only after everyone else that wanted to speak had their chance. Mr. Staczek then apologized.

Mr. Ruse moved and Mr. Minarcin seconded the motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing purchase of property. All ayes. Motion carried.

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

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

Neil Mackinnon, III
Mayor

Robert P. Watrol
Clerk of Council