

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Rossford City Council Meeting
Held December 8, 2008

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 November 24, 2008. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda for regular council meeting of December 8, 2008 was presented to council. Report from the Judiciary committee was added to the agenda. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. All ayes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Marquette presented the Judiciary committee minutes of November 24th, 2008 (see attached minutes). Mayor Verbosky noted that a number of the duties previously performed by the treasurer have been shifted to the Finance Director and that at next years election the city could consider placing a charter amendment on the ballot to remove the position. Mr. Richards said a few years ago he was opposed to doing that since he thought the treasurer position was important in maintaining a system of checks and balances. He now feels that the members of council and the finance committee members are serving in maintaining that system and he would now be in favor of changing the charter. Mayor Verbosky noted that the finance committee meets on a more regular basis now. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Kovach seconded the motion to accept the committee report as given. All ayes. Motion carried.

***Mr. Marquette moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to authorize Mr. Ciecka to seek bids for reroofing the police station in 2009. All ayes. Motion carried.

REPORT OF MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR

Mayor Verbosky thanked the street department for doing an excellent job on leaf pickup this fall. He also thanked Sue Yoder and Mary Kay Scott for organizing the tree lighting ceremony which was attended by over 60 people on a cold and rainy night. He said the planning commission will meet on December 10th at 7pm. and that the Toledo Symphony will be in concert at All Saints Church on December 21st at 4:00pm.

Mr. Ciecka said all leaves should have been at the street by December 5th as the last round for pickup is being done this week. He said the city used its first salt of the season on the 6th and is looking at using a brine solution. He noted that the Rec Center received some nice publicity last week and said the first annual Rossford Recreation Reindeer 5KRun will be held on December 20th with 47 runners registered so far. Mr. Richards asked about the status of the dredging project and was told that the engineering consultant is to conduct an independent review but may not have completed before the marina iced over. Mr. Ciecka said the pipe has been delivered and the two hot spots worked on. Mr. Oberdorf said he is excited by the 5K Run and likes the fact that Mr. Kovasevic has built a fundraising aspect into it by asking for company sponsors. Mr. Hermes wanted confirmation that if the engineering study on the dredging project comes back showing the contractor took out material to a lower depth than authorized we will not have to pay for the additional. Mr. Ciecka said that is correct. Mr. Hermes noted that the HVAC unit has been placed on the roof of the Rec Center without council authorizing the additional cost of the crane. Mr. Ciecka said the contractor assumed the risk that it might not be authorized but wanted to get it done.

CORRESPONDENCE

The acting police chief notified the clerk that he had no problem with Aldi Inc. obtaining a liquor permit. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to not request a hearing. All ayes. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES

#2008-60 - AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF ROSSFORD, OHIO FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2009 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2009; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. THIRD READING.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka restated that this is the annual operating budget for 2009 and that the concerns he mentioned previously still stand. If events take place that affect the economic situation further this will have to be amended. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2008-61 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ENTRY INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN R.I.T.A., A REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR INCOME TAX COLLECTION AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES. THIRD READING.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mayor Verbosky said this ordinance originated from the administration and finance committee and that a presentation had been made by the company at the last council meeting. Mr. Michaels said he had spoken directly to Mr. Hawk from R.I.T.A. since he was absent from the last meeting and also contacted the cities of Ottawa and Fremont. He does not like the tax forms they use and would like more time to review this and visit the office of R.I.T.A. and thus would like to table. Mr. Hermes said the budget committee had again discussed this ordinance at their meeting this evening and reaffirmed their unanimous support for it. He stated this has had three readings and that council has had 6-8 weeks to investigate this, the ordinance is written so as to not exceed \$65,000 in cost, the tax forms are not a big deal, R.I.T.A. has offered to do training seminars for tax preparers, and that he fully supports passage of this ordinance. Mrs. Eckel asked about the timing and was told by Mr. Ciecka that they would gear up to start tax collections for us in July of 2009. Mrs. Eckel asked about the \$65,000 not to exceed number as related to the 2-3% estimated and was told that the contract will spell out the formula but that the ordinance was written with a cap of \$65,000. Mr. Richards believes the sooner adopted the better, that this was not approached lightly but discussed for some time by the budget committee, that contracts were examined, legislation reviewed, and a lengthy presentation made to council. He said any underestimate of cost would mean more tax revenue for the city based on the 3% expense for every dollar collected. Mr. Michaels asked if the \$65,000 was a solid number and was told it was based on the formula. Mr. Kovach said without knowing the additional amount we may collect this seem too big of a risk to take and he cannot justify spending \$65,000 when we don't know how much additional money we are looking for. He thinks it would be more prudent to hire a part-timer to assist the tax department. Mr. Michaels moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to table this ordinance. Vote on the motion was Richards, Eckel, Marquette, Michaels, and Kovach aye; Oberdorf and Hermes no. Motion to table passed 5-2.

#2008 – 62 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH INDUSTRIAL POWER SYSTEMS, INC; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING

Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Hermes said the work has already been done and that he intends to vote no. Mr. Hermes moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to suspend with the third reading. Audience comments were requested and none received. Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said he was speaking on behalf of the contractor in asking council to consider this request. Mr. Hermes moved and Mr. Michaels seconded the motion to adopt. All members voted no. Motion voted down 7-0.

#2008 – 63 - AN ORDINANCE COMBINING FUNDS FOR FINANCIAL RECORD KEEPING, REPORTING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Hermes said this will have to be done as an emergency in order to be done by year-end and apologized for not noting it needed to be passed without three readings in order to avoid the emergency clause. Mr. Richards said this has been on record and no comments have been received from the public. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to suspend with the third reading. Audience comments were requested and none received. Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2008 – 64 - AN ORDINANCE COMBINING GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBTS INTO ONE (1) FUND FOR FINANCIAL RECORD KEEPING, REPORTING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING. Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Richards stated the explanation for this ordinance is the same as for Ordinance #2008-63. Mr. Kovach asked if there would be an audit problem because of combining these accounts and Mr. Ciecka responded no, that the notes would still be broken down individually. Mr. Richards 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. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Michaels seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2008-67 - AN ORDINANCE MAKING CERTAIN ADDITIONS TO THE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES AND AMENDING THE 2008 ESTIMATE OF REVENUES FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2008, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2008, AMENDING ORDINANCE 2007-46; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Hermes asked this be given a first reading as it has been reviewed by the budget committee and will have a couple more changes. He stated this is the annual clean-up of accounts. Mayor Verbosky said there are very few changes and that this needs to take effect before year-end. He asked that anyone with questions contact Mrs. Freeman before the next meeting. This was given a first reading only.

RESOLUTIONS

#2008 -26 – A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MAYOR’S APPOINTMENT OF BARBARA MONTAGUE TO THE ROSSFORD COMMUNITY RECREATION ARTS COMMISSION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mayor Verbosky noted that Mrs. Montague has been serving on the commission for a number of years and has been very active and encouraged her reappointment. Mr. Oberdorf complimented her as an outstanding individual. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards 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. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Richards seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Mrs. Eckel said she attended the Rossford Fire Association Christmas Party and that it was a very nice event and she wanted to recognize the officers and men who do such a great job during the year. She also thanked Sue Yoder and Mary Kay Scott for organizing the Tree Lighting Ceremony and scheduled a Public Works committee meeting for December 22nd at 5:30pm.

Mr. Oberdorf thought the attendance at the Tree Lighting ceremony was tremendous considering the inclement weather. Mayor Verbosky said the crowd estimate was 60-65 people. Mr. Oberdorf encouraged everyone to check out the new equipment and cardio center at the Recreation Center.

Mr. Richards said he will be scheduling an economic development committee meeting in January.

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

