

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Rossford City Council Meeting
Held December 14, 2015

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

ROLL CALL: Staczek, Oberdorf, Eckel, Marquette, Ruse, Wagner, and Minarcin all present.

A short discussion was held regarding the format for voting on various items from the roll call to a voice vote. Council decided to remain with the status quo of a roll call vote on every item.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of regular council meeting minutes of November 23, 2015. Mr. Minarcin moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried. Approval of organizational council meeting minutes of December 7, 2015. Mr. Staczek moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried. Approval of committee of the whole meeting minutes of December 7, 2015. Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda for regular council meeting of December 14, 2015 was presented to council. Committee report from Economic Development was removed from the agenda and Ordinance #2015-63 was added. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Minarcin seconded the motion to accept the agenda as amended. All ayes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

REPORT OF MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Scott reported that the Colony Rd. pump station project continues and if goes as planned intersection at Lime City/SR 65/ Colony will not have to be closed. This work will continue until spring of 2016 and then move to the Colony Rd. side of SR 65. He said leaf pickup ends this Wednesday, that 49 trees have been planted throughout the city and that we have one public works employee retiring in May or June. He we are looking at hiring an additional public works employee and replacing one full time and one part-time police officer. The Rudolph Run will be this Saturday at 9:00 with 125 runners already registered. He noted that there was a billing error on the Waste Mgmt. yard waste invoices and that a letter will be sent by Waste Mgmt. to the effected residents. The Ford Memorial roofing project is complete and painting will be done in the spring and the Eagle Scout sign project for the Memorial is also complete. City offices will be closed December 24th and 25th and also January 1st. He also informed council of an upcoming meeting regarding Chautauqua. Mayor Mackinnon wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

CORRESPONDENCE

One piece of correspondence regarding an application for a Class A liquor permit by Staybridge Suites. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to not request a hearing. All ayes. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES

#2015-60 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF ROSSFORD AND ADOPTING A NEW ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF ROSSFORD.

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

#2015-61 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF ROSSFORD AND ADOPTING A NEW ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF ROSSFORD

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

#2015 – 62 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROSSFORD AND TO ADOPT A NEW INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR TAX YEAR 2016 AND THEREAFTER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Oberdorf moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Scott said this was brought forward by the finance committee and would allow a reduction of the income tax credit from 100% to 50%. He said workers in Toledo paying 2.25% now would then pay 1.125 again to Rossford. This was brought forth to help cover expenses for upcoming road work. He said we need \$4.2 million to projects upcoming with matching funds and that all the money would go to capital improvement projects. Mr. Minarcin said he did some research and that property devaluations have hurt us and that state law does not require this to go to a vote of the citizens. Mrs. Eckel asked about the City of Toledo and was told by Mr. Scott they may be asking to raise the 2.25% to 2.5%. Mr. Marquette said the three ways to raise money suggested are a levy, a storm water utility fee, and this tax credit reduction. He likes the option of a public safety or some other type of levy that could also be used for equipment or new employees and said that what is to be called a credit change is what he calls a tax. Mr. Staczek said a tax credit reductions is just a fancy way of saying that the taxpayer is getting an increase in taxes and coupled what is and may happened with school taxes could cost the average taxpayer \$1000 a year. He said this is a double tax for anyone who works outside of Rossford. He realizes the levy faces the challenge of competing with other levies but said that we should let the people vote if they want to be taxed more. Mr. Minarcin said the committee is looking for ways to fund road improvements and that we need to be more aggressive. Mr. Ruse said we have taken way too long to get to the point of funding and that he would like 100% of this money to go towards roads. Mrs. Eckel said if we take this drastic step that 100% of it should go towards roads.

#2015-63 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO AN AGGREGATED GROUP BETWEEN VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES INCORPORATED AND THE CITY OF ROSSFORD AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Scott introduced Bob Snavely of Palmer Energy and reminded council that we had this opportunity a couple of months ago and decided not to participate but now have another chance. Mr. Snavely explained that the Northwest Ohio Aggregation Coalition services most of NW Ohio and this agreement will reduce the base cost by 10% and that it will not interrupt contracts residents may already have with other suppliers explaining that only those residents currently paying through the utility will have the chance to move. Mr. Marquette questioned him regarding getting in and out of the plan and was told that residents will have two chances to opt out and there is no fee for leaving later if they do join. He said the annual savings will be between \$8 to \$23 annually. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to suspend with the second and third reading. Audience comments were requested and Jeff Appelhans, 177 Hannum asked if we are automatically signed up or we have the option and said we should not have to make the effort to get out. Mr. Ruse explained that there were two types of programs – the automatically in/opt out or opt in and that the city agreed to the auto in/opt out program back in 2004. . Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes except Mr. Wagner who voted no. Motion carried 6-1,

RESOLUTIONS

None

COUNCIL REMARKS

Mrs. Eckel said Mr. Kolb did a nice job in getting the 49 trees planted.

All the councilmen wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

AUDIENCE REMARKS

Don Leary, 335 Riverside Drive said he is the president of the Eagle Point Improvement Association and said he read an article that made it seem that improvements to the roads in the Eagle Point Colony were far down the list. He encouraged council to get a maintenance program for roads going that has a regular cycle saying it is important to have a plan. He said he wants to be able to tell his 104 members that their roads will be done in 2017 or 2018.

Bill Carroll, 418 Riverside said we will not be the only city not allowing full credit for income taxes paid to another city and he is in favor of doing this. He also said that the roads in the Colony are bad because of being tore up for sewer and gas lines and those they need to be on the schedule for improvements. He said all the money from the tax credit should go towards road improvements. Mr. Ruse said that the city is trying to schedule road improvements in conjunction with water/ sewer projects.

Mr. Wagner moved and Mr. Staczek seconded the motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations. All ayes. Motion carried.

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

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

Neil Mackinnon III
Mayor

Robert P. Watrol
Clerk of Council