

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Rossford City Council Meeting
Held December 18 2006

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 December 11, 2006. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Hermes seconded the motion to approve the minutes. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda for regular council meeting of December 18, 2006 was presented to council. An executive session to discuss contract negotiations and pending litigation was added. Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. All ayes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

REPORT OF MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Ciecka informed council that overtime in the public works department has been reduced due to no snow and thus no plowing or salting.

Mayor Verbosky said he will be presenting plaques to outgoing department heads Chief Foy and Finance Director Sabin. He informed council that the December meeting of the downtown revitalization committee did not take place and the next meeting will be the second Tuesday of January. He also wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was one piece of correspondence, a Christmas card addressed to council from the Rossford Board of Education.

ORDINANCES

#2006-55 – AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF ROSSFORD, OHIO FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2007 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2007; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. SECOND READING.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Hermes seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mayor Verbosky said this ordinance came out of the finance committee has been explained by Mr. Ciecka, reviewed by council, and that no public comments were received. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Hermes 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. Hermes seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Hermes seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2006-56 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT WITH THE OHIO GOVERNMENTAL RISK MANAGEMENT (THE OHIO PLAN); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka explained that this ordinance is a result of a review of insurance schedules where some vehicles were not included and the receipt of some appraisals on fixed assets which changed the policy premium. He said the majority of this increase comes from vehicles not included on the original schedule. Mr. Richards asked if this suggested that the previous insurance schedules did not include things like the fire truck and Mr. Ciecka said no, that it was just an error on his part in the most recent schedule. Mr. Hermes asked for further explanation in view of the increase. Mr. Ciecka explained that it was his mistake that the aerial

ladder and about fourteen other vehicles were not included in the original schedule for the current policy. Mr. Richards said that the administration is asking council to fix something that slipped through the cracks that needs to be done before year-end. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf 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. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf 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.

#2006-57 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH HULL & ASSOCIATES INC. FOR THE WALES ROAD LANDFILL PROJECT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka said the original contract did not provide for lab testing of the water in the wells and the city had intended to go out for bids. This did not get done therefore Hull continued to test using the previous lab firm and covered the cost under the current contract. Some of this additional cost was absorbed by Hull moving unearned consulting fees to cover lab costs and this ordinance covers the remainder. Mr. Ciecka said the city will go out for bids in the next few weeks for lab service covering the next contract year that begins in March 2007. Mr. Marquette said he has spoken to Hull & Associates today, discussed the scope and cost of these tests, and in comparing costs with another firm the city is not being overcharged. Mayor Verbosky explained that this is a continuing cost of closing the landfill over twenty years ago that will continue for another twenty years. Mr. Richards asked if this needs to be done this year and is there room in the budget for it and was told by Mr. Ciecka yes to both questions. Mr. Hermes wondered if the other bids that were higher than Hulls included lab testing and was told by Mr. Ciecka no. Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to suspend with the second and third reading. Audience comments were requested and one received from Jeff Appelhans, 177 Hannum Ave., Rossford. He said that council had just approved an additional \$33,000 in costs in the last two ordinances and wondered where is the money coming from, how did Hull miss the lab testing fee, and why is the city catering to Hull. Mr. Ciecka responded that there is money in the budget in various line items to cover the additional cost and that it was he, not Hull, who missed the lab fee. Mr. Marquette said that Mr. Appelhans may have misunderstood and proceeded to explain that in the past Hull had done the testing and analysis, that it had been the city who took this out of the contract because the city intended to bid this separately, that the city had failed to do so and thus Hull had to perform this required testing and analysis and had done so at cost. Mr. Appelhans still continued to blame Hull for not including in their original bid. Mr. Michaels tried again to explain and clarify for Mr. Appelhans saying that the public works committee had made the decision to not include the testing and analysis in the contract. The intent was to bid the testing and analysis as a separate contract which was not done. However money was allocated in the budget for the cost of this testing and analysis. Vote on the motion was all ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Richards moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

#2006-58 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MODIFICATION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2006 BUDGET TO RECLASSIFY CERTAIN BUDGET AND EXPENSE ITEMS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to read by title only. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Ciecka explained that this is the year-end cleanup ordinance allowing for transfers of funds. Council was provided with an exhibit outlining the transfers requested which Mr. Ciecka explained by individual items. Mr. Hermes that these transfers were planned for and in fact not all the transfers planned for had to be made thus this is a good news thing. Mayor Verbosky said the city also continues to make an effort to pay down on debt. Mr. Richards did not understand how the Wales Rd. collection of assessments was under budget and Mr. Ciecka said he is still looking at. Mr. Hermes said if someone was delinquent that could be a reason. Mr. Michaels wondered how sewer tap fees exceeded the budget but money was still being transferred in. The finance director explained that the fees collected still were not enough to cover the cost of paying the debt on the note. Mr. Hermes spent some time explaining the conservative nature of the budget revenue estimates and its effect on these transfers. Mr. Marquette asked about the transfer for street

lighting and was told that we pay First Energy to maintain the streetlights and provide electricity and in turn assess the taxpayers annually. The unused assessment money is being placed in a separate fund to cover any potential future shortfall. Mr. Hermes alerted council that in February 2008 there will be a major deregulation in Ohio that could dramatically change electrical costs and that is why Mr. Ciecka is looking for ways to reduce electricity cost. Mr. Richards said that the clarity of the legislation is exactly what council asked the administration to do so that council would be totally clear on what was being done. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Marquette 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. Richards moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to declare an emergency. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to adopt. All ayes. Motion carried.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Mr. Marquette asked about brine versus road salt and inquired if that was something new and more efficient. Mr. Ciecka said he did not know and that he would check with ODOT. Mr. Marquette also wished the City of Perrysburg the best of luck in their efforts to change the rules regarding TARTA. Mrs. Eckel said she thinks that brine may be slightly more efficient but ineffective below certain temperatures. She asked council for their comments on the draft emergency plan and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mr. Oberdorf asked if there was a reason to hold a January Committee of the Whole meeting and seeing none Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to suspend with said meeting. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Oberdorf wished everyone a nice and relaxing Christmas which was seconded by the remaining council members.

The mayor thanked Boy Scout Troop 43 for their work for the community.

Mrs. Eckel moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to change the meeting time for January 8th to 5:30 p.m. so as not to conflict with the national championship football game in which OSU is participating. All ayes. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE REMARKS

None

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Oberdorf seconded the motion to go into executive session. All ayes. Motion carried.

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

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Michaels seconded the motion to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried.

William Verbosky Jr.
Mayor

Robert P. Watrol
Clerk of Council