

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Rossford Committee of the Whole Meeting  
Held May 13, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President of Council Larry Oberdorf followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Staczek, Oberdorf, Marquette, Ruse, Heban, and Densic all present. Mrs. Eckel is expected shortly.

Mr. Oberdorf said the purpose of this meeting was primarily to discuss road funding.

Mr. Ciecka presented council with a written summary of priorities, funds available, and debt capacity (see written report). He explained that of the \$5.8M of reserve funds \$3.3M is restricted.

Mr. Marquette asked about the question mark for the amount listed for the Buck/Lime City roundabout and Mr. Ciecka said that there is some right of way acquisition cost in court right now that will affect expense but not delay the project.

Mr. Densic asked what the additional \$1M available in debt capacity every four years is based on and Mrs. Freeman said comes from paying off existing debt.

Mr. Oberdorf asked if the committees had prioritized items and the response was not necessarily.

*Mrs. Eckel arrived at this time.*

Mr. Ruse said public works had looked at capital improvement priorities but those are four years behind schedule now He said the Colony project keeps getting pushed back behind smaller projects because the dollar amounts are smaller and now has been broken down into three phases with either a 2019 or 2020 start and the phases are based on how the contractor would stage the project in view of there being only one way in and out of the Colony and trying to lessen the impact on the residents. Phases do increase the overall cost but preserve some debt capacity by spreading out the expense. Mr. Densic said the challenge is to look at some of these priorities as recurring issues and also some with low priority now but a higher priority later.

Mr. Oberdorf wants the committees to prioritize the needs in specific time periods.

Mrs. Eckel said when looking at keeping money available for emergencies at what point do we decide that getting a new fire truck is an emergency. Chief Drouard passed out an information packet on the city ISO rating and the need for an additional pumper or we could see our ISO number go up affecting insurance rates (see written report).

Mrs. Eckel said the Safety committee has been looking at the fire truck issue for a long time and is also still looking at the district idea.

Mr. Densic said we need to look at our debt capacity and what amount we are comfortable keeping in reserve. Mrs. Freeman said currently we have a six month reserve based on our financial policy.

Mr. Ciecka reminded council that the current 3.5Mill levy is up for renewal next year.

Mrs. Eckel said the Public Safety committee will meet and prioritize but that the number one priority will be a fire truck.

Mr. Marquette said our duty to the community is public safety as in fire and police, sewers, and roads.

Mrs. Eckel said the safety committee is reviewing whether to repair the old (21 years) fire truck or purchasing new.

Mr. Oberdorf said that the amount of roads that need to be repaired amount to millions of dollars and questioned what the important priorities to people in the city are.

Mr. Staczek said he would like to see us move toward purchasing new equipment versus used.

Mrs. Eckel pointed out that a portion of a new fire truck would be paid by the fire levy.

Mr. Densic suggested when looking at the priority of items we use a five year time period and a scale of 1-3 with one being need now and three being like to have.

Mrs. Eckel said we also need to look at recurring items like police cars.

Mr. Densic said we need funds for the maintenance of our buildings.

Mr. Oberdorf suggested rank of priorities be given to the committee chairman by the members.

Mr. Ciecka thought this was a great discussion.

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

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Larry Oberdorf  
President of Council

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Robert P. Watrol  
Clerk of Council