

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Rossford City Council Committee of the Whole Meeting  
Held July 10, 2017

Meeting was called to order by President of Council Larry Oberdorf and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Mr. Oberdorf said this is a committee of the whole meeting and no audience participation would be allowed. He said a lot of material will be presented and council needs to keep an open mind and ask questions.

PRESENTATION: Mr. Scott gave a power point presentation (see written report). He said assumptions used in the presentation were the public works committee numbers, borrowing all money as voted debt, a 5% simple interest rate for debt payments, and a holdback of \$1.9M for emergencies. He said the estimated costs are from the public works committee and there is a 20% contingency and 10% override built into the cost. *Mr. Marquette entered the meeting during the presentation.*

Mr. Marquette asked why shows road construction only going out for five years and Mr. Scott said that is all the public works committee has went out too.

Mr. Staczek asked if we can extend payback farther out than 15 years and Mr. Scott said yes, this could be reworked to go further out but then the question becomes what roads to you wait to do. Mr. Scott did say there will be current debt dropping off over the next four years which would then become available for other debt.

Mr. Oberdorf said that seeing no other questions he would council to give their thoughts on the various options with these thoughts passed on to the finance committee. He said it is time to move on and that we have been talking about this for a long time and the roads need to be fixed. He suggested Mr. Scott contact absent members Wagner and Minarcin to review the options. Mr. Scott said council should not look at the options as one versus another as there could be a combination of options.

Mr. Marquette questioned if an income tax increase would be in perpetuity or for ten years and Mr. Scott said that would be up to council. Mr. Marquette wondered when do we get to the point that we get enough in the reserve to be on a road maintenance program and Mr. Scott said in fifteen years using the income tax, reserve, TARTA option. Mr. Marquette asked if we are looking at cheap roads or better construction. Bob Williams from Mannik & Smith said the choices are 1) mill and fill with two inches off and two new inches added saying this is the lowest cost and about a ten year life expectancy, 2) reclamation with the road being ripped out, ground up with additives, and then repaved, and 3) reconstruction which is the most costly of the three as all old material is hauled away and all new materials laid. He said different roads would need different methods based on the condition analysis and life expectancy. These were priced using ODOT construction standards for residential streets. He said it would be wise to look at the conditions of the storm sewers before any new paving so as not to have to rip up the road and do later. Mr. Staczek asked what the life expectancy for reclamation versus reconstruction is and Mr. William said the estimate is 15 to 20 years for reconstruction and they have been told the life expectancy for reclamation is the same although this is a fairly new process.

Mr. Scott said the cost as shown in the presentation is based on a mixture of all three methods and adding storm sewers and curbs to streets that do not currently have them.

Mr. Ruse said the dollar costs are conservative on the high side as based on reconstruction and taking all unimproved streets to improved and that cost would go down if there are areas we did not have to do that. We would have to look at these on a case by case basis. Mr. Scott noted that assessments for improvements are not built into these estimates.

Mrs. Eckel thinks the idea of projection out further than fifteen years is good and that we need to take the money from reducing the reserve to get started. She said we need to add curbs to streets that do not have them citing as an example Hannum Ave. which has curbs and has always been milled and filled because the curbs prevent damage. She thinks the storm water utility fee is a good idea probably at \$4 per ERU as are assessments for improvements. She said the 3.5 mill tax levy versus increasing payroll income tax to 2.5% for everyone is a tossup. Mr. Scott explained that the TARTA money would come from the fact that state law requires TARTA to go out for a .25% increase although that is above what they need. He said they would then refund 1/3 of that back to the city general fund.

Mr. Marquette said he is not a fan of increasing the payroll income tax as he feels is someone can live elsewhere and save that .25% why wouldn't they. He said we should look at the storm water fee and a 3.5 mill levy.

Mr. Staczek said he agrees with Mr. Marquette and said he likes to see end dates on property levies and payroll tax increases. He wants to get more input from the community before deciding. He is not ruling out assessments but wondered how properties like his that front on an improved street but back up to an unimproved street would be handled. He wants to know if would be assessed for improvements to the unimproved street. He said he is against the TARTA sales tax proposal; we should abandon the idea of a roundabout at SR65/Colony Rd, said no to mill and fill as the life expectancy is to short, and said we need to look at everything on a case by case basis.

Mr. Oberdorf said he is taking a proactive, positive approach recognizing the need to move on and saying he was elected to make the decision for the people and he cannot go back to the people for every decision and that this should go to the finance committee. He is in favor of all of option that incorporates all three methods and said Mr. Scott and Mrs. Freeman did a fantastic job in putting this information together. He will talk to people he meets who want to discuss this but he is making a decision that is best for the entire community, not just one person or one segment. He said this plan incorporates flexibility for different needs and that he disagrees with Mr. Staczek on the roundabout as he thinks in the long run it will be good for the city.

Mr. Ruse agreed that we take a long time to make decisions and that something needs to be done. He said we need to put the roundabout issue behind us as that decision has already been made noting that cost on that project may come down as the design proceeds. He agrees with Mrs. Eckel on assessments and said that the storm water utility fee is a no brainer. He did say that this fee is based on a per ERU and that commercial users like the school and Pilkington would be paying more and we need to keep that in mind. He said we need to look at using the reserve and look at the big picture. He said if we look at the numbers presented and combine them with the drop-off of debt in 3-4 years we will see this is doable.

Mr. Staczek asked Mr. Ruse where is the criteria for the assessment policy and Mr. Ruse said by law we cannot assess everyone with a blanket number for roads, that we have to have a defined area and scope of the project and then assess by frontage, area, or value. He said council would mandate and define the assessment guidelines with public hearings.

Mr. Ruse said assessments would be defined on a street by street basis.

Mr. Oberdorf asked Mr. Scott to bring Councilman Wagner and Minarcin up to speed.

Mr. Scott said we would need an ordinance for the next meeting if going out for a ballot issue.

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

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Larry Oberdorf  
Chairperson

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Robert P. Watrol  
Clerk of Council