

**Rittman City Council Met in
A Regular Meeting
on Monday, April 25, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Lynn Beaumont, Glen Russell, Richard Lapehn, Darrell Carey
and Bill Workman

Members Absent: Rick Hanlon

Presiding: Mayor William Robertson

Invocation was given by Dr. Richard Lapehn, Pastor followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes – April 11, 2011

Workman moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

Workshop - None

Citizens Forum

Nick Bostos of Douglas Drive inquired if there wasn't any grant for this project if the city would be doing this project to this extent.

City Manager Boggs advised they would eventually have to do the project and he assumed the project would be unchanged. He advised the waterline has been deteriorating for a long time and they have had a lot of water breaks in the area and with the water breaks the road has been deteriorating for a long time. Boggs advised when they applied for the grant they combined the projects. He advised he couldn't say if the projects would have been done together had there not been a grant.

Bostos advised he had some concerns about taking his recyclables across the street to the bin at the school and about the lawn service being able to access his property.

Boggs advised they haven't had the construction meetings or awarded any contracts as yet and discussed any of the logistics for this project and the potential problems. He advised he was hoping they would be able to keep one side of the street open at a time in order for the property owners to access their property.

Bostos advised he was also concerned with leaf pickup in the fall if his property was not accessible.

Boggs advise they would figure out something and try to adapt to each situation.

Bostos inquired about if an emergency situation should arise at his property with regards to fire, police or EMS. He advised these issues especially the EMS were of great concern to him and his wife as they are up in age.

Boggs advised that was the main reason he would like to keep one side of the road open at a time.

Tom Leatherman of DeCoursey Road and a Milton Township Trustee advised he was curious if there was more information available regarding seceding from the township. He advised he spoke with most of the Council Members and they knew what his feelings were and he didn't wish to belabor that issue. Leatherman inquired if there was any more information at all or any movement or if there was a timetable. He advised he was most concerned with if they (the township) lose those funds it would give them less money to do the roads although he wouldn't be a part of that because he would not be a trustee anymore (as he is a Rittman resident), but he asked they take that out of the picture completely. Leatherman advised he was concerned about that (funds for the roads) and he was also concerned that it would leave them with one trustee and he didn't believe there was anything in place as to how to replace two trustees and they wouldn't be able to conduct business. He advised they (the township) would have to do something so, any information they (Rittman Council) could give him to take back to their (trustee) meeting would be appreciated. Leatherman advised again he talked with most of them and they know how he feels.

Mayor William Robertson advised he believed (the city officials) were still gathering information.

Boggs advised he would try to answer as much as he could regarding that issue because the decision was totally up to Council. He advised he sent out a memo to the Ohio City Manager's Association asking for comments, concerns and problems. Boggs advised Barb (Rissland) and he were trying to get all the information they could for Council who possibly could vote. He advised he could tell them that it was a hot topic although there was not a tremendous amount of information shared with them, but his take on it was that most of the people who have done it (seceded in this manner) didn't have problems. Boggs advised they got a lot of good leads and he

would like to follow up on those and try to get as much information as he possibly could so he could pass it on to Council when the issue was discussed.

Robertson inquired as to when the trustees meet.

Leatherman advised we (trustees) meet the same time as you (Rittman Council). *Note-Milton Township Trustees meet once a month on the 2nd Monday. Leatherman inquired if this would be something that would be done within the next couple, three weeks.

Boggs advised he may have it in front of Council on the agenda for a workshop, but he didn't know (if Council would take action).

Leatherman advised he was concerned about us (trustees) even being able to do business if you guys (Rittman Council) take this action that kind of puts us (trustees) out of business.

Boggs advised Council could and he was just saying could put it for a specific date, but that was up to Council.

Leatherman advised that would be very helpful.

Robertson advised typically if it is a workshop in two weeks (next Rittman meeting) was their chance to discuss it and he recommended the trustees attend. He advised then if Council decided that was the way they wanted to go they would probably direct Kevin (law director) to draw up the legislation. Robertson advised so it would probably be another two weeks after that and then on an issue such as this he hoped they would not suspend the rules and have the three readings over three meetings. He advised that is how he would think it would go unless Council should decide to do it differently.

Leatherman advised that would give us (trustees) time to react as it would put them, Ben (Imhoff) and he, in a bad situation because with only one trustee and he (Hartzler) could not transact business by himself. He advised they were trying to find out if there isn't something already in place (to handle such a situation). Leatherman advised he just want to let (Council) know their (trustees) position.

Robertson inquired and Leatherman confirmed the trustee positions were non-partisan.

Workman inquired if the trustee meetings were the same nights as Rittman Council Meetings.

Leatherman advised yes. (The trustees meet once a month)

Workman advised it would be hard for them (Rittman Council) to get to one of their meetings (trustees).

Leatherman advised they could probably change the date of a meeting if they would want to do something like that (attend a trustee meeting) as they were pretty flexible as long as they were aware ahead of time. He advised it would really help them (trustees) if they knew what your (City Council) focus, direction was as that would really help and all he was really asking for (of Rittman Council) was to be kept informed. Leatherman advised they (trustees) were in a situation that was going to take funds away from the township that they use to repair the roads and if they have less money to do that...He advised one of their (townships) heaviest traveled roads was Rittman Road by Bauman Orchard and if they don't have the funds to repair that road and everyone in Rittman goes out that road and it was not like that would be a township problem, but it was...well, right now it was a township problem, but if you secede and the money goes away then there is less money to take care of those situations.

Old Business

a. **Res. No. 7639 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties, Ohio, Accepting the Recommendation of the Rittman Recreation Center Board to Increase Fees for Non-Residents of the City for Their Use of the Rittman Recreation Center. Third Reading.** Res. No. 7639 was read on third reading. Carey moved to adopt, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

New Business

a. **Res. No. 7640 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Declaring it Necessary to Improve Douglas Drive by Installing a New Asphalt Surface, All Together with the Necessary Appurtenances Thereto and Declaring an Emergency. First Reading.** Res. No. 7640 was read on first reading. Russell inquired as to how wide is Douglas Drive. Boggs indicated portions of the street were wider than the assessment range, but the city only assesses for a 24' wide street and rest of the cost is figured back into the project. Carey moved to place on second, upon roll call; Carey-Yes, Russell-Yes, Workman-No, Lapehn-Yes, Beaumont-Yes and **motion carried.**

b. **Ord. No. 7641 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Amending the Annual Appropriation Ordinance No. 7623, As Amended According to the Attached Sheet(s) and Declaring an Emergency. Three Readings.** Ord. No. 7641 was read on first reading. Rissland indicated she needed this passed right away. Carey moved to suspend the rules and have second and third reading, all Yeas on roll call

and **motion carried.** Ord. No. 7641 was read on second and third reading. Lapehn inquired regarding the purchase of 8 fire hydrants as to where they would be installed, if they were all on Salt Street and Terrace Drive. Rissland advised she wasn't sure although she knew they didn't have any (in stock) right now and (Metcalf) needed them for various replacement areas in the city. Boggs advised they don't have any spares if someone should hit one or something of that nature. Boggs advised they were previously on a replacement schedule, but haven't been doing that for quite some time and the Utilities Director wanted to get back on schedule and have some spares on-hand. Carey moved to adopt, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

City Manager's Remarks

City Manager Larry Boggs advised he would like to invite Mr. Bostos to the construction meetings with the engineer if he is available to address his concerns and make sure they were considering and looking at everything.

Finance Director's Remarks

Finance Director Barbara Rissland had no remarks.

Lapehn inquired regarding the quarterly refuse report from Waste Management if they were seeing a big flux in the fuel surcharges each month.

Rissland advised no, they did away with the surcharge on fuel, but it was starting up again and it would be much less than what it was last year. She advised last year was around 10%.

Boggs advised the surcharge doesn't kick in until gasoline reaches \$3.85 as the contract was changed late last year when they eliminated the school dumpsters and the 100 free pickups. He advised the Utilities & Refuse Rate Board of Review set policy for how to address the senior citizens on fixed income and those on disability.

Lapehn advised the numbers looked very good.

Council Remarks

Council Member Darrell Carey thanked everyone for coming and sharing their thoughts on issues they have coming forward and he hoped to see them come back again.

Council Member Bill Workman thanked everyone for coming. He thanked Mr. Leatherman, Mr. Bostos for coming and sharing their information with us. Workman thanked the Chiefs; police, fire and EMS for coming and he appreciated their attendance and advised if they have any issues they would bring those forward when they come.

Council Member Glen Russell had no remarks.

Council Member Richard Lapehn inquired regarding the structures on the Morton Salt property south of town with the big solar panels if those were pumping stations.

Boggs advised those were new pump houses and they obtained permits (for those located inside city limits) and in talking with the plant manager he (Boggs) was very interested in the solar power.

Lapehn advised absolutely if it was cost effective at all they were interested.

Boggs indicated they are supposed to be very efficient, but since they were just installed they don't have any data yet to support that theory. He advised he was anxious to hear how those are working out.

Council Member Lynn Beaumont advised if he wasn't mistaken he believed those solar panels were battery operated because there was no electricity at that location. He inquired of Chief Burg as to how his dept. was doing in regards to citing junk cars.

Burg advised they have been receiving calls already and the officer in charge of that issue was compiling a list as well as check for high weeds.

Beaumont inquired if he could provide him of list.

Burg advised he could do that.

Beaumont advised the other thing he would like to discuss is the recreation center. He advised they all know there were financial issues with the recreation center and in doing his own little survey and while he generally goes in the morning he has been trying to go during the evening hours. Beaumont inquired as to how they generally go about checking people into the recreation center. He advised the last three times he has been to the recreation center in the evenings there has been no one at the front desk and he has watched at least 20 people come in the door and just go right on in and he had no idea of they were members or non-members. Beaumont advised approximately 2 weeks ago there were probably 15 or 16 high school kids who just walked in. He inquired if there was a program where the high school students were allowed to get in for free. Beaumont advised he didn't want to make accusations, but he could almost guarantee they were not members. He advised for whatever reason there seem to be a lot of people at the center especially on the weekends and he was interested to know how many were members or have actually paid their participation fee. Beaumont advised there was nobody at the desk it was a total honor system. He advised the three times he was there, there was no one at the front desk. Beaumont advised maybe it was just one of those times when they were in the restroom or something, but he would like them to consider moving the (check-in device) or have an employee sit at the door and check people. He advised the only way they were going to know if the members were the ones using the

facility or if people were just walking in was to check them and he felt if people were there on a regular basis he felt it would (curb such unwanted activity). Beaumont advised he felt there were others who would agree with him that there were so many people who just walk-in who are not members. He advised they could not afford to be the YMCA where people could attend for free and he felt they needed to be proactive with checking memberships. Beaumont advised he felt it was also a disservice to people who pay their membership dues. He advised he didn't know how they would ever know how many people are using the facility for free because people were just walking in. Beaumont advised he would like them to really look at that to see if there was some way to change the process. He advised they want people to use the facility as he has stated before it was the crown jewel of Rittman and the realtors could tell you the first thing they show people was the recreation center and the soon to be opened new school, as that was a selling point for the city. Beaumont advised he felt it was really unfair for those paying a membership to have to subsidize those who come in and use it for free.

Boggs advised he spoke with the recreation director after this was mentioned to him last week. He advised the person at the desk said they knew who was coming in, but people should still be scanned so they could track who was coming into the center.

Beaumont advised the scanner was clear on the other side of the desk and if someone just walks in and goes and plays basketball they would have no idea if they have a membership. He advised he felt there could be a better way to check people as they come in the door and there are times in the evenings when the center was very very busy. He advised there things they couldn't change, but there were young people using the facility and he didn't know if they were members, but they needed to be very conscious of making sure those using the facility have paid.

Russell inquired if they didn't allow sports teams to use the facility.

Lapehn advised he has seen occasions where the middle school or high school track team might be using it on a rainy day or warming up, but there always was an adult or a coach with such a group.

Carey advised he agreed that sometimes the facility was so busy you can't do anything as far as use the equipment.

Beaumont advised and if they were all members, that was great. He advised he just wanted to bring it up and see if they couldn't get that issue resolved.

Russell inquired if there was a photo id system they could use when they come in the door.

Boggs advised the membership card is scanned, but it has no photo.

Robertson advised if there was a meeting in the community room, those people wouldn't be scanned for their membership.

Beaumont advised that was understood.

Robertson advised sometimes they have the guide to direct people as they come in the door to the front desk.

Beaumont advised he didn't see any need to retrofit a new system, but he felt there needed to be more control over who was using the facility. He advised there was some really expensive equipment and the director has done a good job and acquired a grant not too long ago and there was some new equipment, which was terrific and he felt it was their responsibility to make sure it was taken care of. Beaumont thanked Tom Leatherman for coming and advised he understood the situation he was in and he didn't feel any on Council has made up their minds yet and it was something they really needed to discuss.

Mayor William Robertson thanked Dave Leatherman, Bobby Warren and Ken Park for being there as they were the only ones not mentioned. He advised he wanted to make people aware of a new Goodwill program where you can recycle computer equipment. Robertson advised the program is just starting up and it was called Dell Connect and Goodwill personnel were employed to take apart computer components and they'll accept corporate and personal equipment. He advised those donating were responsible for the data on the hard drive as it would be best to remove such before donating. Robertson advised this was a way to responsibly recycle computer equipment and they accept computers, monitors, printers, modems, whatever people wanted to recycle. He advised people could take their donations to the Goodwill store here in Rittman or any of the Goodwill stores in Wayne and Holmes Counties. Robertson advised it was a good program and a good way to keep that stuff out of the landfill.

a. Approval of Vouchers 55043 thru 55052 Including Then and Now Certificates Workman so moved, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

Adjourn: - 7:37 p.m.

Russell so moved, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

Clerk of Council