

**Rittman City Council Met in  
A Regular Meeting  
on Monday, May 23, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Richard Lapehn, Darrell Carey, Glen Russell and Rick Hanlon

**Members Absent:** Lynn Beaumont

**Presiding:** Mayor William Robertson

**Special Notation:** Council Member Bill Workman passed away May 22, 2011 at his home.

Invocation was given by Barbara Brooks, clerk followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

**Approval of Minutes – May 9, 2011**

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

**Workshop**

**a. Discussion of Detaching from Milton Township**

Boggs advised Council requested this issue be placed on the agenda again to hear from the township trustees and he turned it over to hear their concerns.

Ben Imhoff of N. Hickin Ave. and a Milton Township Trustee advised it was brought to his attention concerning the (Sterling) water lawsuit (that the township was a part of), which was actually started off before he was on (the board of the township trustees) so, he was not exactly sure what happened at that time. He advised he knew that as an employee of Chippewa Valley Bank he made loans every year the six years he was there for wells that were dry and people had to drill new wells at an average cost of \$3-\$5,000 per loan. Imhoff advised regarding the spreadsheet that states \$45,000 for ½ mill that goes to Milton Township (from Rittman taxpayers), which those funds are used for our (township) roads. He advised as you guys (Rittman City) were suffering loss of revenue therefore you were proposing this (detachment), but they (Milton Township) were also losing revenue between this (possible) loss and the tangible personal property and local government funding they could lose approximately \$95,000 on a budget that was just a little over ½ a million dollars. Imhoff advised out of that budget they pay the City of Rittman a fire contract to cover the immediate areas around the city at a faster response time than they (township) could provide. He advised he believed that you (Rittman) derive some income from those response times although he didn't have the figures as yet, but it was being looked up and he should have it within the next several days. Imhoff advised he knew there were 33 billable (although he understood may not have collected on all those) runs in 2009 and 2010. He advised he wasn't saying they (township trustees) would move that contract, but he thinks if they lose that large of a portion of their budget that they were going to need to look at alternative sources. Imhoff advised if the best thing for their (township) residents was for you guys to continue to cover that then he certainly wanted to do that as he wanted to do what was best for their (township) residents. He advised he would also state that yes he is within in the city (Rittman) and he would move (outside Rittman city limits should the detachment happen) and he knew some on Council have expressed some surprise at that, but he has been a trustee for 24 years and it was a major part of his life. Imhoff advised the contacts he has established through the township, county and state level have helped him to serve the people of his township better and with all the experience he has in this and other areas and the reason he wants to remain a township trustee. He advised yes, he is in the city and has provided service to the city over the years as he was sports booster treasurer for five years. Imhoff advised he has made some of his own repairs at different times and different places around the city. He advised he has always felt that Rittman and Milton Township were one and the same. Imhoff advised he never really saw the division although he knew there was division with the water way back when and he tried to patch that. He advised he does feel that if this (detachment) occurs it would create a separation with future annexations. Imhoff advised he didn't know if they (Rittman) were planning on remaining the size they are now, but he felt if this (detachment) goes through and they (Rittman) wanted to annex more land in Milton Township and maybe none of them would be on (Council), but they (township trustees) were going to be hesitant to do so (agree to annexation). He advised he believed the road contracts currently in place between Eastern Road and Blough Road would continue, but as far as working together in the future he felt would put a wall between them (township and city). Imhoff advised he was asking them to look at the larger picture and he felt right now there was such a small window that was getting looked at and they needed to look down the road when they were not Council Members any more. He advised the actions he votes on in the township for the residents of the township was for the benefit of those residents that could affect people 10, 20, 30 years down the road. Imhoff advised he was asking them as Council Members to look at the larger picture.

Dennis Hartzler a Milton Township Trustee advised he would like to agree with everything Tom and Ben have spoken and he agreed he would like to see them work together a little better in these tough economic times versus not at all. He advised \$40,000, or whatever this figure is, may not seem like a lot of money to your (Rittman) budget as it is to ours (township) so, he would like to see them reconsider and research it and make sure something 20 years down the road wasn't (negatively) impacted by this decision.

Tom Leatherman of DeCoursey Rd. and a Milton Township Trustee advised he has taken enough of their (Council's) time over the last couple of meetings, but he would like to know what were Council's feelings on the issue at this point. He inquired as to what direction they were going to go. Leatherman advised if they (Rittman Council) were going to go forward with the seceding process they (trustees) were going to have to make some adjustments over there (township). He advised obviously (if Rittman detaches) he would go away and Ben says he's going to move and that was fine and dandy, but they were still going to have to make arrangements because there was a lot of things they were going to have to do in the financial area and of course to replace him and so forth. Leatherman inquired as to what their direction was and what was their feeling at this point and he advised they would like to know so they can do some planning.

Hanlon advised he was glad they (trustees) came (to the meeting) and his feelings were that he didn't want to do anything that would hurt Milton Township per se, but everything they do is going to have some effect on someone. He advised he was glad to hear that Ben (Imhoff) would move as it shows a lot of dedication. Hanlon advised one of his biggest concerns was, if we were to secede from the township, how they could do that with the least amount of impact to Milton Township. He advised an example was that they (trustees) would need time to budget the loss and time to find a replacement for Tom (Leatherman) and time for Ben (Imhoff) to move. Hanlon inquired as to what they (Council) could do along those lines to help if they go with the secession. He inquired if they made this effective January 2012 would that be enough time to work with the budget and moving and finding a replacement.

Imhoff advised he felt that would certainly be enough time if they do decide to do it (detach) although obviously he wished they wouldn't. He advised he tries to make the best decisions he could for the best interests of the city and he realizes they were trying to do the same and he appreciated that. Imhoff advised that effective date would be a big help and give them time to their budget and time to find a new trustee and give him time to move. He advised his term was up this next time and by that time the election would have occurred and if someone ran against him he could be defeated, but hopefully his past record would mean something, but it was not a sure thing of course.

Hanlon advised he was elected by the people of Rittman and he wasn't looking at it to hurt Milton Township, but it was a great benefit when looking at Chippewa Township and the way the fire levies were done. He advised if their levies were done the way Milton's were, his opinion may have been changed. Hanlon advised he couldn't see anyone paying a tax for something they were not getting.

Imhoff advised our (Sterling) fire chief was insightful at the time when they (township) formed a separate fire district. He advised this really wasn't so much about him or Tom, but was more about Milton Township and our budget. Imhoff advised local government funding was going to be cutting and they didn't know how much yet and it would certainly be a help if it (detachment) did not take place until the end of next year.

Carey advised the big thing with Chippewa Township was they are being double taxed. He advised the workshop says detaching from Milton Township, but it was really both (Milton and Chippewa).

Hanlon agreed and advised they can't secede from one without the other.

Lapehn inquired if it was determined regarding the ½ mill if the residents would continue to be taxed for that half mill when this would go into effect. He inquired if that ½ mill disappears off the tax rolls of the residents or does it roll into the city.

Rissland advised it wouldn't automatically go to the City of Rittman. She advised they would have to request the Wayne County Budget Commission give them those free mills, but once they were two separate entities the county could not legally collect taxes for Milton Township from people that are not part of Milton Township. Rissland advised the first step would be separating and the second step would be request the budget commission to give us the ½ mill of the free inside millage.

Lapehn advised the ½ mill that he pays on his tax bill says Milton Township tax. He inquired as to what would happen to that (tax).

Rissland advised it would not be collected for Milton Township.

Lapehn advised but it would be collected.

Rissland advised it would be her intention and she believed Larry (Boggs) would concur that if that inside millage became free millage that they would ask for it for the City of Rittman.

Lapehn inquired if it wouldn't need to be voted on again.

Rissland advised inside millage does not need to be voted on.

Mayor Robertson advised it was up to the budget commission to decide where that ½ mill goes.

Lapehn inquired if the county budget commission were the county commissioners basically.

Rissland advised the auditor, the treasurer and the prosecutor comprise the budget commission on the county level.

Mayor Robertson advised he didn't know what their (budget commission) other options would be.

Boggs advised they could either not collect it or they could send some portion of it possibly to the schools. He advised he felt they were going to have a hard time justifying giving it to Wooster all these years and then not to someone else who requests it was his opinion.

Hanlon inquired as to what happens if the tax is uncollected.

Rissland advised taxes would go down (for homeowners).

Hanlon advised so if the City of Rittman doesn't petition for that ½ mill their (taxpayers) taxes would go down. He inquired if someone else could put their hand out and ask for it.

Rissland advised they are supposed to keep millage equal among the districts. She advised for example the county couldn't have it because you couldn't pay 2 mills from all the other districts in the county and 2 ½ in Rittman because that wouldn't be equitable to the people of Rittman as there was no reason for them to pay more. Rissland advised there were overlapping districts with the Rittman school district where they were in different districts and she felt in order to equalize their taxes among the district they couldn't ask for it either. She advised that leaves the City of Rittman as the other "person" that could request it.

Mayor Robertson inquired if there was a voted Milton Township tax that we were paying in the City of Rittman.

Rissland advised no, just inside (millage).

Imhoff advised as far as the ½ mill per average homeowner it was maybe \$20-\$30 a year.

Rissland advised she didn't have that figure, but she could bring it next time.

Hanlon advised he believed the intention would be for the City of Rittman to request that money.

Lapehn advised so the possibilities are that if the tax is not collected the homeowner would pay less on their property taxes. He advised the second possibility would be the money is collected and the county would send it to the City of Rittman.

Rissland advised yes.

Lapehn advised they would petition in hopes that the county prosecutor, auditor and treasurer would say yes this is going to be Rittman's money.

Rissland advised correct.

Lapehn inquired that the City of Wooster has done the same thing.

Rissland advised she didn't know how they (Wooster) actually implemented their change as it was done before she was here, but currently there is no township tax being paid within the City of Wooster.

T. Leatherman advised so, if you don't get the money and they don't collect the money everybody loses. He advised that is what they were saying.

Lapehn advised the homeowner gains.

Leatherman advised the homeowner gains, but you (Rittman) don't get the money and we (Milton Township Trustees) don't get the money either.

Lapehn advised that is right.

Leatherman inquired if that made any sense; if it made any sense at all, folks. I mean, think about it. He advised you (Rittman) have no guarantee, no guarantee at all that you (Rittman) were going to get that money and if the Budget Commission tells you they were going to reduce the taxes then you aren't going to get the money and we (Milton Township) are going to lose the money as well.

Hanlon advised there would be people in Chippewa Township not paying an unfair tax by being taxed twice because they were paying for two fire levies. He advised he felt that was what this was about.

Leatherman advised he felt they (Council) needed to think about this carefully as to what they were going to do here because once they make the decision they didn't really know what they were going to get yet. He advised they were making a decision not knowing what they were going to get and basically that was what was going to happen.

Lapehn advised a lot of decisions were like that, Tom.

Mayor advised there was no way to know.

Rissland inquired (of the Milton Township Trustees) as to how much money was spent on the Milton Township residents that reside within the city limits of Rittman. She inquired as to how much money was spent inside of Rittman. Rissland advised if they were one and the same then this (Rittman city limits) was Milton Township too.

Leatherman advised the comeback on that is they (Milton Township) have 34 miles of road to take care of that the citizens of Rittman use. He advised so basically yes, they were using that money for the benefit of the citizens of Rittman.

Rissland inquired inside of Rittman.

Leatherman advised not inside the City of Rittman, no. He advised as he stated at the meeting before take into consideration that everybody in Rittman uses that road, everybody uses that road. Leatherman advised and that helps them to be able to take care of that situation.

Boggs inquired as to how many people of Milton Township use the roads in the City of Rittman. He advised the road argument to him was kind of absurd although he understood his point.

Leatherman inquired as to what he meant by absurd.

Boggs advised in a nutshell he felt they (township) were asking the citizens of Rittman to pay for roads in the (township). He advised so they were supposed to maintain their roads here in the city as well as pay a portion to maintain them in the (township). Boggs advised it doesn't make sense.

Hanlon advised we pay a road use tax when we get our license plates and basically every citizen who gets a license plate was paying a road use tax, which was kind of like being given permission to drive on those streets because they were helping to pay to maintain it.

Boggs advised it seemed to him that was the only argument was the roads, that they needed to fix roads and we (Rittman) do too.

Leatherman advised that was their job, it is what they do as a township trustee. He advised besides the fire department they take care of roads. Leatherman advised that was what they were elected to do.

Boggs advised they have to do the same.

Imhoff advised their funds were also going to the fire and EMS contract.

Leatherman advised those funds were not in question.

Boggs advised that was a service provided (by contract).

Imhoff advised he understood, but it does enable you to cover outside of your (Rittman) city limits and it could become a mutual aid situation.

Boggs advised he didn't think anyone has said that if Council decides to do this (detachment) that it would affect any mutual aid agreements. He advised those were specific contracts and that would be up to you (Milton Township). Boggs advised Milton Township wants the contracts for the areas they can't cover very well with response times.

Imhoff advised right, right.

Boggs advised he wasn't trying to belittle them, but he had a hard time accepting the fact that the only thing he has heard was roads. He advised it just seems like now they (Rittman) were expected to pay for repairs out in the township when the township hasn't paid anything to the city for road repairs.

Hartzler advised he didn't know how many other cities or villages were doing this same thing. He inquired if anyone knew if there were a few. Hartzler advised apparently there must have been a reason for them to be set up initially, he didn't know, but he understood times change.

Boggs advised he doesn't know the history.

Russell advised he saw a newspaper article from the state auditor's office that said they were going to encourage cities to do this exact thing they (Rittman) is considering.

Tom Leatherman advised he hasn't heard anything from anybody as to what direction they going to go.

Mayor Robertson advised he didn't know if they would know for sure until legislation was presented and voted on. He advised that was where the rubber hits the road.

Leatherman inquired if they were going to put together that legislation, if that was what they were going to do.

Robertson advised he wasn't sure if Council would be requesting that.

Leatherman inquired if they were not to that point.

Robertson concurred and advised they were not to that point (in the meeting).

Russell advised they wanted to hear what you (township trustees) had to say tonight.

Leatherman advised fair enough. He advised they appreciated it being put off a little bit until they had a chance to express their concerns.

Law Director Kevin Bower inquired (of the trustees) if they would be willing to enter into an agreement stating all the money you (trustees) collect from Rittman would be given back to Rittman or was Larry (Boggs) right that it was all about dollars to fix township roads.

Leatherman advised he didn't understand his (Bower's) point.

Bower advised if they collect \$45,000 from property tax from the residents of the City of Rittman he inquired if the trustees would be willing to enter into a written agreement with the city to each year give \$45,000 to the City of Rittman. He advised give back to the people of Rittman the money collected from whence it came.

Imhoff advised or a portion thereof possibly.

Bower advised \$45,000 is \$45,000.

Imhoff advised he understood that, but there were factors they needed to look at.

Bower advised if not, then Larry (Boggs, City Manager) was right that it all comes down to money, your budget and township roads.

Imhoff advised that would be something they would have to entertain in one of our (trustee) own meetings, he believed.

Bower advised frankly, with all respects to Barbara (Rissland, Finance Director) he was not sure it would even go to the budget commission as he was not sure by statute that the budget commission has that authority. He advised he met twice with Jarra Underwood (county auditor) on that (issue) and she disagrees. Bower advised his thought was that Rittman would detach and form its own township like Wadsworth, Wooster and Canal Fulton. He advised he felt in that way it takes it away from the budget commission.

Imhoff inquired if he (Bower) knew when Wooster did that (formed its own township).

Bower advised no and Wooster doesn't even know as he asked them. He advised it was up to Council as he works for them. Bower advised he was the Second Lieutenant, he takes orders and if they tell him to draft legislation then he was going to draft legislation. He advised he was just laying it right out front for them (township trustees) and he was being honest and he had no punches to pull and if those were his orders he was going to carry out his mission and he was going to create a separate township for the City of Rittman. Bower advised as he reads that statute it was mandatory like a type 2 annexation, but in reverse.

Imhoff inquired that they (Rittman) would form a separate township.

Bower advised yes.

Imhoff advised since he (Bower) is an attorney and such and looking in the Ohio Revised Code and he understands a lot of the ORC was subject to interpretation, but to form a new township they were supposed to have 22 square miles.

Bower advised they were exempt from the 22 mile requirement in that situation. He advised he believed it was Title 308 of the Revised Code off the top of his head. Bower advised Wadsworth did it, Canal Fulton did it and Wooster did it. He advised Wooster and Wadsworth get the inside millage, it goes to the cities. Bower advised Canal Fulton cut a deal to give some to the schools and keep some in the town.

Imhoff inquired if he (Bower) happened to know as far as annexation and exclusion from the township regarding of payment of lost taxes. He inquired if he knew if that was immediate or retroactive.

Bower advised those title section 7 annexation statutes he believed would be inapplicable because this was not an annexation.

Imhoff advised he understood, but he was talking about previous lands that were annexed.

Bower advised then they get to the practical issue of when do you cut off previous lands that were annexed and inquired 100 years ago.

Imhoff advised he knew what he was saying and again it doesn't really...

Bower advised coupled with the fact the statute you (Imhoff) alluded to he (Bower) refers to those payments as reparations and that (statute) deals with commercial and industrial property and he was not so sure it deals with farmland or simple residential. He advised he could be wrong he has been known to be wrong. Bower advised only Jesus was perfect.

Lapehn advised amen.

Imhoff advised just to reiterate that Mr. Hanlon had possibly suggested that waiting on this until the end of the year or making it effective at the beginning of next year. He advised that would certainly give them more time as they were facing (other budgetary cuts as well).

#### Citizens Forum - None

#### Old 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. Third Reading** Res. No. 7640 was read on third reading. Carey moved to adopt, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried**.

#### New Business

a. **Ord. No. 7644 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties, Ohio, Authorizing the Municipal Manager to Accept the Proposal of Engineering Associates Wooster, Ohio for the Douglas Drive Waterline and Street Improvement and Declaring an Emergency. First Reading.** Ord. No. 7644 was read on first reading. Lapehn moved to place on second, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried**.

b. **Res. No. 7645 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Declaring it Necessary to Proceed with the Sidewalk Improvement Project from DeCoursey Along W. Sunset to N. Metzger (south side), N. Metzger (west side) to Rittman Avenue, Rittman Avenue to Pleasantview (north side) to Rittman Avenue, Rittman Avenue to Pleasantview and N. Hickin by Replacing Sidewalks in Disrepair or Installing Sidewalks Where Necessary All Together with the Necessary Appurtenances Thereto and Permitting Participation in the Project for Those Who Choose in**

**Other Parts of the City and Declaring an Emergency. First Reading.** Res. No. 7645 was read on first reading. Lapehn inquired regarding section 7 it says the property assessed may pay the special assessment within 30 days after passage. Bower advised that was after the work was complete and we know the final costs of everything and an invoice notice was sent giving them 30 days to pay directly. Bower advised if not paid then it goes on the tax duplicate and he discussed with (City Manager) applying it over three years to minimize the sting. Bower advised that (time frame) could be changed according to whatever (Council) wants. Lapehn advised last year he believed they were all paid within that window. Rissland advised there were 2 that would be applied to the tax duplicate. Lapehn inquired as to how long those (from last year) would be spread out. Rissland advised one year she believed. Lapehn advised they were easing the burden by making it over a period of three years. Bower advised last year was the voluntary program. Bower advised he has to assume that some of these (property owners) who do not have walks and have some decent frontage could come (to the City or Council w/their complaints) so he wanted to minimize the sting. Hanlon inquired if they could pay w/ cash, check or credit card. He was advised yes. Lapehn advised with regards to the volunteer participation (this year) practically speaking if you wish to be included and are not a part of the mandatory areas he inquired if it was up to a certain dollar amount. Bower advised until the \$50,000 was allocated. Lapehn advised 3/5 of those funds were being used for the mandatory phase. Boggs advised it is anticipated that there was still \$23,000 available for volunteers on a first come first serve basis. Carey advised the money was already set aside (in the city budget) to cover this cost initially and he inquired if those three years would be at no interest. Rissland advised she believed we assessed the interest last time. Carey advised the ordinance talks about interest on the rate of the bonds that issued and if we don't issue any (bonds) then he inquired if the interest rate would be zero. Rissland advised they could add the clause or an imposed interest rate. Carey advised he felt they could put that in there. Rissland agreed. Bower advised we issue notes to ourself on one account and he believed they paid it from another. Rissland advised we have on some of the larger projects although they probably would not do it on one this size, although they could. Bower advised we internally fund it by basically selling notes to ourselves. Rissland advised we have, but we did not with the other sidewalk program (last year). [Note\* last year was a voluntary sidewalk program with signed contracts]. Bower advised if we chose we could do it this way and in the note put in a prevailing interest rate for notes assuming we would sell bonds the rate for the note on that bond we would put on our in-house notes. Rissland advise yes, they could. Bower advised it would be the same interest rate as if they were to go out and get a bond or promissory note for our internal in-house notes. Carey moved to place on second, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

c. **Ord. No. 7646 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties, Ohio, Authorizing the Municipal Manager to Accept the Lowest and Best Bid of Mid-Ohio Concrete of Holmesville, Ohio for the Sidewalk Improvement Project and Declaring an Emergency. First Reading.** Ord. No. 7646 was read on first reading. Lapehn inquired if Mid-Ohio Concrete was the same company as last year. Boggs advised no, but Dave (Service Director) is familiar with their work and said they have done work for the city before and he was happy with this company. Hanlon moved to place on second, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

d. **Ord. No. 7647 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. First Reading.** Ord. No. 7647 was read on first reading. Carey moved to place on second, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

#### **City Manager's Remarks**

City Manager Larry Boggs advised with one of our Council Members passing away section 3.02 of the Charter states that City Council has 60 days or 3 meetings, whichever is greater. He advised tonight's meeting counts as one so, they have 2 meetings left to make an appointment. Boggs advised if (Council) fails to do so in the specified time then the Mayor makes the appointment. He advised there were only 4 members present tonight as Councilman Beaumont was on vacation, but they might want to consider how they wanted to approach this (situation). Boggs advised he believed the last time (a member of Council died while in office) there was such a vacancy Council received applications and conducted interviews. He indicated it was not a requirement to do it that way they could present names and appoint whoever they choose or decide whatever way they wanted. Boggs advised they do have a specified time frame to be within.

Boggs advised he was happy to announce the light was finally up (and operational) at the recreation center. He apologized for the delay.

Boggs advised at the next meeting Council needed to award the waterline project on Salt Street. He advised the bids were just received that from the engineer. Boggs advised this was part of a grant they applied for almost a year ago and they were behind schedule due to problems at section of the street close to Morton Salt where some lines needed identified that we did not know existed.

He advised there were also delays with the engineer's office and Morton Salt and the engineer's and the city. Boggs advised needless to say they would need approval as quickly as possible. He advised the Public Water Works Commission was not really happy this project has not even started yet and they did not want to lose the grant money.

Boggs thanked the trustees for coming although he was hopeful they would have a discussion that included something more than roads. He apologized and advised he wasn't trying to belittle anyone, but he felt as a citizen of Rittman that his money would be better here in Rittman for the roads versus elsewhere. Boggs advised he understood they had other issues to solve and he thanked them for coming.

Carey inquired if they needed to call a special meeting in order to get the Salt Street Waterline Project approved.

Boggs advised they should be okay if they have all five members present at the next meeting.

Hanlon advised as they were done with all the workshops regarding the township (detachment) and if they were going to proceed he felt they should have legislation at the next meeting and if Council agrees he would like to see an effective date of not sooner than January 2012.

Mayor Robertson inquired if that was a directive for Kevin (Law Director) to prepare legislation.

Hanlon advised it was a request.

Council Member Glen Russell called for a moment of silence in remembrance of Council Member Bill Workman who passed away.

#### **Finance Director's Remarks**

Finance Director Barbara Rissland advised she would like to echo Larry's (City Manager) comments (to the township trustees) and she thanked them for coming. She advised they were all in the same spot and the city was losing tangible personal property taxes and local government funds the same as they were (losing funds).

Rissland advised she hoped to have their tax budget ready for the next meeting. She advised to keep in mind it had to be passed by July 15<sup>th</sup>.

Rissland advised the second thing to remember was that property taxes run a year behind and if any detachment would be made effective January 1, 2012 those taxes would not be paid (to the city) until 2013.

#### **Council Remarks**

Council Member Glen Russell thanked everyone for being here and he appreciated the people from Sterling (township trustees) for being here and at least hearing what they have to say. He invited everyone to come back. Russell inquired of (City Manager) as to where they were with the DeCoursey Rd. stop signs near the church (Life Tabernacle).

Boggs advised they posted signs about a week ago that around the first of June it would become a 3-way stop.

Russell inquired if they would be doing some mosquito spraying soon.

Boggs advised he would talk to the Service Director and he knows they have a set schedule, but he would do his best to see if they could spray before the weekend.

Council Member Richard Lapehn had no remarks.

Council Member Rick Hanlon thanked the trustees and everyone else for coming. He advised they were still ironing out the bugs with the property maintenance code and it might be on a workshop in the near future June or July.

Council Member Darrell Carey thanked everyone for coming. He advised there was a tax committee meeting this Wednesday to iron out some things and he hoped they would have something before Council soon.

Mayor William Robertson advised Memorial Day weekend was coming up and there would be a service at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday at the Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman. He advised it was always an impressive service and he hoped some of them could attend. Robertson advised the local parade would be gathering at 10:00 am on S. Main St. at Erie St. and would begin at 10:30 and march north on Main Street to the shopping center. He advised there would be a ceremony at the Rittman Cemetery (DeCoursey) following the parade. Robertson invited all who were interested to attend.

**a. Approval of Vouchers 55183 thru 55281 Including Then and Now Certificates** Carey moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

**Motion To Go Into Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing the AFSCME Union Contract and Invite the Law Director, the Finance Director, the Mayor and the City Manager: 8:04 p.m** Hanlon so moved, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

**Motion To Come Out of Executive Session: 8:20 p.m.** Hanlon so moved, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

Boggs inquired as to how Council wanted to proceed on looking for someone to appoint to the vacant Council seat.

Discussion included whether Council wanted to advertise.

The Daily Record reporter advised he would be doing a story on Mr. Workman and would mention that Council was accepting letters of interest. It was noted, a resume was not necessary.

Discussion included that the letters could be sent to Rittman City Hall at 30 North Main Street, Rittman, OH 44270 to the attention of the Clerk of Council. It was noted, the letters of intent should be received in time to go out in the next Council packet for the June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Carey inquired (of Rissland) regarding the date for the township detachment that if it is made effective January 1, 2012 that the city would not see a change in revenue until 2013.

Rissland advised that was right 2013 because property taxes were a year behind.

Carey advised if we were to do it sooner, he believed it would still not be until 2013 or the end of 2012.

Bower inquired what if he made it effective December 31, 2011.

Rissland advised no, because it would be the tax year 2012 and that was not paid and collected until 2013. She advised they would need time for the budget commission to come up with the different rates and such and they will be meeting next month and getting the estimated millage and such for 2012.

Carey advised he was looking at giving them (trustees) the opportunity to budget the loss in, but we were looking at 2 years and not a three month window anyway.

Rissland concurred.

Carey advised he felt they (trustees) were making it sound like it was immediate.

Hanlon advised if they make it effective whenever the three readings were passed there were 2 trustees out of a job in (who live in Rittman and work in the township) leaving them with 1 trustee so, it wasn't about the money.

Russell advised he read where the state auditor was going to encourage the whole state to have the townships merge with the cities. He advised this would save the state work and money and save the cities money.

Bower advised he agreed advised they were encouraging townships to merge or townships to incorporate and levy income taxes. He advised townships can merge fire districts if they want to talk about cooperating and saving money and the economy being the scale although he didn't believe Dick Glessner or his son or nephew would want that.

Lapehn advised it would cut the number of elected officials in half.

Bower advised if the economy was the scale for purchasing asphalt, hot mix all that stuff.

Boggs advised they could solve all their problems just by annexing.

Several agreements were heard.

Bower advised and last but not least road levies. He advised they could get on the ballot in August.

**Adjourn: - 8:30 p.m.**

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

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**Mayor**

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**Clerk of Council**