

## Citizens Comment on Curfew

*City officials are leaning toward a curfew for Rossford, but acknowledge that further steps need to be taken to combat growing criminal problems.*

Rossford City Council held a Committee-of-the-Whole meeting on Monday to take public input on the curfew proposal. Acting Police Chief Todd Kitzler did not attend the meeting but Sergeant Mark Marek told council that he favors the curfew, especially "if it holds parents accountable for repeat offenses." However, he cautioned council not to let the curfew mask the problems

"This curfew is not going to be a fix-all for all of our neighborhood problems." The sergeant said, "The fix-all is increased manpower."

Council has been considering the issue after several meetings where dozens of citizens have pleaded for more police officers to address the growing crime especially in the "tree street' neighborhoods.

Residents complained of increased drug dealing, gang activity, fighting and vandalism. They expressed support for the police department but questioned why Rossford has only 12 officers when, in the mid-1990's, the department had 18 officers.

-Article: Beth Church, Editor