

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

November 16, 2020

Mr. Moran, President, called the meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Civic Center Community Room.

Council Members Present: Mr. Shepherd, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Furry, Mr. Moran

Absent: Mr. Hunt, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Klym

Administration: Mayor Bobst, Director Snyder

The meeting was opened with a Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor thanked the police, fire and service departments for all their hard work as yesterday's windstorm took down trees, wires and branches. Lakeview and Cottonwood were closed today due to downed trees tangled in with wires.

The Mayor reiterated that there is not a regular schedule for leaf pick-up. The Service Department continues to communicate through Facebook with residents regarding leaf pick-up as much as possible. Residents may call to get an estimated time frame for their leaf pick-up. The crews will be working this Saturday to catch up with the heavy leaves that came down during this weekend's storm.

Residents did a great job of calling the Illuminating Company to let them know their electricity was out. There are current outages in the city between Lake and Detroit east of Wagar and between Center Ridge and Hilliard west of Wooster, as well as other neighborhoods.

The Mayor stated that the city has experienced a few positive COVID cases with participants and employees. Last week, an instructor at "Learn to Skate" tested positive. The "Learn to Skate" program is on a two-week hiatus. An assistant coach of youth hockey tested positive also, so two of the teams were suspended for two weeks. A facilities custodian also tested positive. The Civic Center was sanitized and disinfected yesterday and this morning. The focus of the city is keeping residents and employees safe and healthy. As this virus progresses, staff will be transitioning into work groups, programs and classes may be modified or suspended all together, as well as access to some of the facilities. The Recreation Department is working on creative ways to assist the residents in continuing their fitness goals.

The city continues to take temperatures frequently. The WWTP takes employee temperatures three times daily, frequency of disinfection, hand washing and social distancing. There was an incident on the construction site with a crewmember testing positive and one of the city's employees had been with him. The city is responding and trying to stay ahead of it, but it has been a challenge as it is highly contagious.

The Bradstreet's Landing deck has been demolished and this week the steel sheeting will begin. The Mayor stated that large sandstone blocks were discovered adjacent to the pier. SmithGroup, JJR will find out how far out these blocks extend.

A construction update was sent out on Friday with a notation that the police station construction crews will not be working the Friday after Thanksgiving in observance of the holiday. The wording on the notice was misleading, but work on the police station will commence again after the Thanksgiving Holiday weekend.

Dave Conley, the city's liaison with First Energy has been keeping the administration in the loop regarding the storm clean up. First Energy had 90 poles down along with 220 spans of wire in the Cleveland area.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Finance Committee – Mr. O'Donnell reminded Council of the Finance Committee Meeting on December 4th from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Please take time to meet and/or talk to your Directors to prepare for the meeting. A Special Meeting will be held just prior to the Finance Committee Meeting on the 4th to read legislation.

COMMUNICATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS: President Moran addressed the COVID situation and the next City Council meeting will be conducted next week via zoom. President Moran will re-assess prior to the Finance Committee Meeting on December 4th.

The Mayor mentioned that if council needs tech support to support a virtual meeting, please contact Chris Grau for assistance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 79-20: Mr. Moran said this ordinance authorizes the Safety-Service Director to purchase gasoline, fuel oil and allied products on the Open Market at the best prices possible. The difference in cost is substantial and close to a 20% savings. This will be placed on the consent agenda for next week's meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 80-20: Mr. Moran said this authorizes the city to purchase tires on the Open Market at the best prices possible. The city could go back and purchase from the State bid for a better price, if necessary. This will be placed on the consent agenda for next week's meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 81-20: Mr. Shepherd said this resolution authorizes the Safety-Service Department to submit an application for a grant to the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and Local Transportation Improvement Program for repair of sanitary sewers on Spencer Road. This will be placed on the consent agenda for next week's meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 82-20: Mr. Moran stated that this authorizes the Mayor to enter into a supplemental agreement with Sitetech, Inc. for completion of the remediation site work for the police station in the amount of \$163,019.35. As discussed, there was an agreement and release entered into between Sitetech and Bowen and potentially the city if this legislation is approved. This will be read for a third time at next week's meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 83-20: This is an annual ordinance setting the salaries and hourly rates for all the employees of the city including the collective bargaining units. Traditionally this is not a controversial ordinance and Mr. O'Donnell is not anticipating any issues this year. This will have three reads.

ORDINANCE NO. 84-20: This is an annual ordinance to provide health benefits that are negotiated by the collective bargaining units for the organized employees and also to provide these benefits to the full-time employees. This was renewed at no additional contribution to the employees, but there is an increase of 2.8% for the city, which is one of the lowest increases in the Westshore communities. There are not any substantial design changes to the policy. This will be read for a second time next week.

ORDINANCE NO. 85-20: This is an annual ordinance that fulfills the responsibility to the collective bargaining employees and to other full time employees for dental coverage. There is a zero increase in cost to the city and the employees. There are not any substantial design changes to the policy. This will be read for a second time next week.

ORDINANCE NO. 86-20: This ordinance is for life insurance and is a negotiated benefit for the unions and full-time employees. This is a three-year contract at a .06% increase and is locked in for three years. This will be read for a second time next week.

ORDINANCE NO. 87-20: This ordinance is to enter a contract with Quality Control Inspection, Inc., as a Construction Management Service for the Bradstreet's Landing Waterfront Improvement Project. This will be read for a second time next week with a third read at the Special Meeting on December 4th.

ORDINANCE NO. 88-20: This ordinance is for a one-year renewal of an agreement with James Diaz for the removal of digested sludgecake at a cost of \$30.50 per ton. This is a renewal of last year's contract at the same price for 2021. In 2019, two bids were received, one from James Diaz for \$30.50/ton and one from Quasar Energy Group for \$49.33/ton. This is an increase of \$8/ton but is still the least costly alternative during the non-winter months. This will have three full reads and non-emergency language is being utilized.

ORDINANCE NO. 89-20: This ordinance is for a one-year renewal with Bonded Chemicals Inc. for the purchase of sodium hypochlorite at the current price of \$0.769/gallon. Sodium hypochlorite is used in three different application points, effluent, pre-chlorination and primary sludge. The first stage is effluent or disinfection, the second or pre-chlorination is odor control and the third or primary sludge is a thickener to settle the sludge. It was bid out last year with three bids within a range of \$.769 to \$1.255/gallon. This is slated for three reads and will not use emergency language. This is necessary to comply with the NPDES permit.

ORDINANCE NO. 90-20: This ordinance is for a one-year renewal with PVS Chemical Solutions, Inc. for the purchase of sodium bisulfite. Sodium bisulfite is added to the final effluent and excess flow to remove chlorine in the plant effluent. This is a one-year renewal with the current provider PVS Chemical Solutions at the current rate of \$1.26/gallon. This was last bid out in 2019 with four bids received with a range from \$1.26 to \$2.1273/gallon with PVS Chemicals Solutions, Inc. being the lowest and best bid at \$1.26/gallon. This is slated for three reads and also uses non-emergency language and is necessary to comply with the NPDES permit.

ORDINANCE NO. 91-20: This ordinance is for a one-year renewal with PVS Technologies Inc. for the purchase of ferric chloride. This product has had some volatility over the last five years with a low of \$336 and a high of \$578 per dry ton. Two bids were received with PVS Technology Inc., the current supplier, being the lowest and best bid at \$578/dry ton which reflects a price increase of a little over 3.5%. Operationally, they will continue to investigate ways to use their chemicals more efficiently and will see if there is a more appropriate chemical to use along with streamlining the ferric dosing strategy for phosphoric reduction. This is slated for three full reads, utilizes non-emergency language and is necessary to comply with the NPDES permit.

ORDINANCE NO. 92-20: Mr. Moran stated that this ordinance authorizes the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company to have an underground easement to provide an underground power line from the Hilliard right-of-way to the permanent source of power entering the police station upon completion. Director Snyder asked for this to be placed on the Special Meeting agenda for December 4th. Mr. Moran will talk to Councilman Hunt.

- Mr. Furry noted that MacKay Engineering prepared the legal description of the easement. Does CEI pay MacKay for that service? Director Snyder stated that there is no additional charge from MacKay Engineering in preparing that document.

RESOLUTION NO. 93-20: Mr. Moran stated that this resolution makes an application to the Cuyahoga County Community Development Block Grant Program for the Shoreland/Wooster Neighborhood Park Project. This was discussed in two Public Hearing Meetings. Councilman O'Donnell stated that Ward 3 thanks Council and the administration for considering this resolution.

- Councilman Furry asked what the likelihood is of this being awarded. The Mayor said there are a lot of positives. It is now an ITA, and there has been investment on Wooster, the waterline and the pedestrian crossing. There are interested partners that have written letters in support of this project. The Rocky River Public Library, the Historical Society, the Green Team and the Land bank are all in support of this project. The Mayor feels it has a very good chance.

ORDINANCE NO. 94-20: This ordinance authorizes the Mayor to enter into a mutual release and settlement with AECOM Technical Services over AECOM's design and construction administration service for the 2017-2020 Capital Improvements Project regarding various upgrades in the primary clarifier and final clarifier. Special Counsel Matty of the WWTP provided a lengthier memo to Council, detailing the omissions and errors alleged by the city against AECOM. As part of this settlement, AECOM denies liability but the parties have reached a proposed settlement with two parts. First is a monetary settlement of \$100,000.00, which will pay for two pumps in the clarifier building and in addition will provide \$60,000.00 of engineering services at no charge for installation of the pumps. An independent third party concurred with the cost estimates of in-kind services to be provided.

AECOM is no longer the consulting engineer for the WWTP as Hazen & Sawyer fills that role now. AECOM was completing the capital improvements project based on their expertise and knowledge. With the assumed passage of 94-20, AECOM will be done at the WWTP.

Councilman Furry prefers not to use emergency language and utilizes three full reads, but this time he will ask for a rules suspension next week. Based on the engineering flaws, the WWTP is not running at full capacity. The WWTP has redundancy in the event of equipment failure, however, there is not much

redundancy left. It is fine now with rotation of pumps but with any equipment failure, this could be jeopardized. The pumps take approximately 6-plus weeks to arrive after ordering.

ORDINANCE NO. 95-20: This is the 2021 Budget. This will be discussed in significant detail in the next five weeks. There will be a Finance Committee Meeting on Friday, December 4 from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Please meet with your directors to prepare for this meeting. Mr. O'Donnell believes that this is the single most important ordinance that is approved by Council every year. Please give it the attention it deserves.

ORDINANCE NO. 96-20: The Cleveland Clinic rents a section of the Civic Center to provide rehabilitation services to children. The lease is up at the end of this year. This ordinance authorizes a three-year extension with two one-year extension options thereafter. The base rate for the first year will remain flat to replicate the 2020 lease amount with approximately a 2.5% increase for each additional year beginning in 2022. Mr. Shepherd asked that the second whereas on the cover ordinance should add two optional one-year extensions to that sentence.

ORDINANCE NO. 97-20: This is an amendment to the 2020 Budget. The biggest change relates to the CARES Act as laid out in Exhibit A. The Mayor has reported that the city received about \$1.4 million in funds from the Federal Government for Corona Virus Relief. Currently about \$500,020 of this amount is allocated towards expenses related to Corona Virus response. The CARES Act continues to be modified so the rules and regulations seem to be getting less restrictive. Mr. O'Donnell anticipates the exhibit to be amended prior to passage with three full reads. The Mayor added that the dividend distribution from the Bureau of Workmen's Compensation will be received on December 11th. The auditor stated that any dollars received from the Bureau of Workmen's Compensation need to reinstate the amount paid for the premium and anything in excess of that can go into the General Fund unrestricted. This will be reflected in the supplement and will have three full reads.

ORDINANCE NO. 98-20: Mr. Moran spoke with Mr. Klym prior to the meeting and the last fee increase ordinance for the Recreation Center was on July 13, 2015 under Ordinance No. 33-15. Mr. Holub will discuss these increases at the Finance Committee Meeting on December 4th. This will be read for the first time next week.

- The Mayor said that these increases were reviewed by the Recreation Commission prior to submitting this legislation to City Council.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: Mr. Moran stated that next week's meeting will be virtual beginning at 7:00 p.m.

As there was no further business by members of Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

James W. Moran
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council