

# CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

June 23, 2025

The Legislative Meeting was called to order by Mr. Furry, President of Council, at 7:00 p.m. in the David J. Cook Council Chambers.

Council Members Present: Mr. Hunt, Mrs. Gallagher, Mr. O’Boyle, Mr. Shipp,  
Mrs. Morris, Mr. Sindelar, Mr. Furry

Administration: Mayor Bobst, Mr. Thomas

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

## MOTION:

Moved by President Furry seconded by Mr. Hunt that the reading of the minutes of the June 9<sup>th</sup> Legislative Meeting be waived and that the minutes be accepted as presented.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Gallagher – abstain	O’Boyle – aye	Shipp – aye	
	Morris – aye	Sindelar – aye	Furry - aye		
	6 – ayes	1 – abstain	0 – nays		<b>PASSED</b>

Moved by President Furry seconded by Mr. Hunt that the reading of the minutes of the June 16<sup>th</sup> Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting be waived and that the minutes be accepted as presented.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Gallagher – aye	O’Boyle – aye	Shipp – aye	
	Morris – aye	Sindelar – aye	Furry - aye		
	7 – ayes		0 – nays		<b>PASSED</b>

## MAYOR’S REPORT:

The Mayor said that the “Summer of Fun” kicked off this past weekend. There was very good attendance considering how warm it was outside. The “Hilliard Hustle” had ninety participants finish which is incredible given the temperature outside. The pool had 1,500 individuals entered on Sunday. Four hundred of those were daily passes and eleven hundred were membership pool passes.

City Council is aware that the Civic Center and Recreation Center was used as a cooling center over the weekend. The city did not lose power so the Mayor is unsure how many individuals took advantage of the cooling center. The charging stations in the lobby of the Civic Center get a lot of use. The Mayor will provide updated information at the next meeting.

The Senior Center continues to check up on the seniors by calling and asking if they have everything they need. Again, the administration hopes there are no power outages.

The Mayor received a confirmation notification of a great award from the City of Cleveland Water Department regarding the waterline on Buckingham, Argyle Oval and Arundel. The City of Cleveland Water Department will be paying for that waterline through the Fabrizi Contract that is before Council which will be a little more than \$682,000. The Mayor said that they also have a commitment to replacing residential lead lines and estimating an additional \$10,000. This partnership has been extremely meaningful and has saved millions of dollars for the city. They have been a good partner and it was in Council’s wisdom to enter into the Asset Transfer Agreement with the Cleveland Water Department. Thank you to the City of Cleveland Water Department. They also reviewed the Fabrizi contract to be sure those numbers met their numbers so that they then forward the dollars for their part of the project to the city. The city receives the full check and after the project the city will return dollars that went unused.

The Mayor said that the State Budget process continues. The Mayor does not have an update currently, but there is a Mayors and Managers Legislative Meeting tomorrow morning. If the Mayor has more detailed information she will forward that to City Council.

The Mayor reported on a letter she had received from a young resident, approximately twelve years old, who noticed some graffiti at the Hilliard/Wagar intersection on the poles and signage. The young lady went to the Police Department with a letter for the Mayor saying that this is not good, there is graffiti on the sign and that it should be removed. The police went out and confirmed the graffiti and they asked the Service Garage to remove the graffiti. The Mayor stresses the power of one individual. The Mayor talks about this with students all the time that you don't have to be old enough to vote or be an adult. If you have a good idea or see something that can be improved within the community, say something to City Council, to the Mayor or administration. This young resident did just that and the city improved something thanks to her. The Mayor gave a big shout out to Ella for coming forward with her observations. Thank you too to the Police Department and Service Department for their quick action.

This Saturday there will be a funeral procession throughout the City of Rocky River in honor of Chief Wagner, who served the Rocky River Police Department for forty-five years. Chief Wagner retired in 2011 and in early January, passed away. Chief Wagner's son David is the department's ESA and a Lieutenant currently in the Police Department. The procession will stage at City Hall and begin at about 9:15 a.m. and will travel to Smith Court where Chief Wagner grew up. The procession will continue to St. Demetrius Church where he helped with the festival and any other big events there, then process back past City Hall on Wagar to Detroit Road and then on to Lakewood Cemetery for a private ceremony with law enforcement being included in that. The Mayor said Chief Wagner served the city proudly and built the department that we see today.

**LAW DEPARTMENT:** Law Director O'Shea echoed the Mayor in her comments about Chief Wagner. He was Mr. O'Shea's mentor and an integral part of how Mr. O'Shea became the Prosecutor for the City of Rocky River and they were close friends. They had a lot of mutual respect and resolved a lot of crime here in the city.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 34-25** **BY: DAVID W. FURRY**  
**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AXA EQUITABLE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY GOVERNMENTAL 457(B) PLAN ADOPTION AGREEMENT FOR A DEFERRED COMPENSATION PROGRAM FOR THE BENEFIT OF CITY AND MUNICIPAL COURT EMPLOYEES AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> READING**

Mr. Furry stated that 34-25 is authorizing an updated employee deferred compensation plan agreement. The city offers three different deferred compensation plans for employees through the following three organizations: the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Program; VOYA (formerly known as ING); and Equitable (formerly known as AXA). The Equitable plan document needs to be updated to align with legislative changes and IRS regulatory changes including the CARES/SECURE Acts, Miner's Act and portions of SECURE 2.0. There is also some restructuring of the agreement since certain legislated and regulatory changes impact safety forces only.

**RESOLUTION NO. 35-25** **BY: DAVID W. FURRY**  
**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CERTIFICATION OF UNPAID STATEMENT OF CHARGES AMOUNTS TO THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER FOR COLLECTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF OHIO WHEREBY THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER PAID ALL EXPENSES AND LABOR COSTS OUT OF CITY FUNDS FOR SIDEWALK RECONSTRUCTION, REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT AND AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> READING**

This is like the annual sewer bill ordinance that certifies unpaid sewer assessments. Resolution No. 35-25 is to certify assessments of sidewalk maintenance costs for the period from 2022 to 2024. After citing the sidewalks that needed to be repaired or replaced, residents had the option of finding their own contractor. Where the city incurred maintenance costs, residents have been billed and there remain some unpaid accounts. Similar to the sewer assessments, Mr. Furry anticipates that Council will amend by substitution to reflect any payments received. Also similar to the sewer maintenance, the County charges a 1% administrative fee for processing.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 36-25**

**BY: DAVID W. FURRY**

**A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE ALTERNATIVE TAX BUDGET INFORMATION OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER, OHIO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2026 AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> READING**

Mr. Furry said this is to submit the Alternative Tax Budget information for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026. This is not the final budget that will be addressed at the end of the year, but a procedural item that needs to be submitted to the County. The full budget will be addressed later this year. This only includes known fixed expenditures and cost of living adjustments in the various Collective Bargaining Agreements.

### **ORDINANCE NO. 37-25**

**BY: JEANNE GALLAGHER**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO PURCHASE ONE (1) NEW 25 CUBIC YARD LEACH REFUSE COLLECTOR FOR THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT UNDER A SOURCEWELL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING CONTRACT FROM BEST EQUIPMENT COMPANY, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$279,950.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> READING**

Mrs. Gallagher said that the 2008 truck that the city currently has, the frame is bad, hopper and blade are rotted, the engine needs a complete overhaul and brakes and hoppers need replaced. The truck has 15,743 hours on the engine and 140,262 miles on the chassis. In other words, the truck needs to be replaced. The cost of this truck is not to exceed \$279,950. These funds shall be paid from the equipment fund, refuse and recycling vehicles and large equipment under the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Agreement. On a typical day in the summer, the city uses one truck for recycling, they fill 2.5 packers with refuse and two trucks for lawn refuse. With the purchase of this additional packer, the fleet will consist of only two trucks that are nine years old or older. This will have one more read.

### **ORDINANCE NO. 38-25**

**BY: JEANNE GALLAGHER**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO PURCHASE ONE (1) NEW VACTOR TRUCK MOUNTED SEWER CLEANER FOR THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT UNDER A SOURCEWELL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING CONTRACT FROM A & H EQUIPMENT COMPANY, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$642,585.08, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> READING**

Mrs. Gallagher stated that this truck will replace a 2017 Van-Con truck with 5,139 hours on the engine and 2,320 on the vacuum engine and 22,966 miles on the chassis. The past three years, the city has had significant issues with this truck including electronic, compressor issues, fan issues, counter for the hose and it currently needs a debris tank which would cost an estimated \$100,000. This equipment is used almost daily by the sewer division. In 2024 they cleaned over 47 miles of sewer main within the city. The sewer jet is the most important piece of equipment in the sewer division. It opens sewer laterals for homeowners, cleans the mains and laterals for the camera truck and it can flush lines. The stainless-steel components on the debris tank and vacuum unit on this truck will make this last much longer than the one the city currently has and hopefully will be sold on Gov.deals. Avon Lake, Strongsville

and Amherst are all very happy with their Vactors. Mrs. Gallagher is waiting for Director Snyder to get back to her regarding how long the warrant will be for this truck.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 39-25**

**BY: DAVID W. FURRY**

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER TO ADVANCE TAXES FROM THE PROCEEDS OF ALL TAX LEVIES FOR THE TAX YEAR 2025 PURSUANT TO THE OHIO REVISED CODE**

**1<sup>st</sup> READING**

Mr. Furry said this is an annual request the city has made which allows the city to obtain the city's money quicker from the County prior to the final reconciliation settlement and disbursement. The city will receive the 2025 property taxes in mid-January with a second payment in February rather than waiting until the final reconciliation in late March or early April. This also applies to the last half of the 2025 cycle which is basically six months later.

**RESOLUTION NO. 40-25**

**BY: DAVID W. FURRY**

**A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER**

**1<sup>st</sup> READING**

Mr. Furry said this is a resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Cuyahoga County Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the Cuyahoga County Fiscal Officer. The State Constitution authorizes each taxing authority up to 10 mills which is "inside" millage of which the city receives 3.93 mills. Outside millage is voter approved of which we have 5.97 mills. When the city paid off the debt millage in 2024, the city had it below 10.0 mills.

**ORDINANCE NO. 41-25**

**BY: THOMAS J. HUNT**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO PURCHASE A DRIVE TEST SCANNER AND SOFTWARE FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM LEXISNEXIS RISK SOLUTIONS, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$236,939.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"**

**1<sup>st</sup> READING**

Mr. Hunt said there was some introductory discussion about this last week. Mr. Hunt also forwarded supplemental documentation from the Police Department from Director Snyder that was provided regarding some of the details of the grant. This Ordinance would authorize the Mayor and the Safety Service Director to purchase a Drive Test Scanner and software for the Police Department. The cost will be \$235,939.00. That amount will be awarded as part of a grant from the Ohio Criminal Justice Services Violent Crime Prevention Grant. There would be no funds for the initial purchase of the Drive Test Scanner. The drive test scanner and geolocation analysis would utilize available technology to assist law enforcement in investigating violent crimes involving cellular detail records and geolocation analysis at the time of a crime. There was some discussion last week regarding the timing of this. Mr. Hunt requested clarification from Director Snyder and hoped to speak to him about that this evening. Director Snyder spoke with Detective Asbury who said it did not need to be expedited but Mr. Hunt is not sure if it could be done on two reads or a full three reads.

- President Furry said it could be passed in three reads, but he would not have a problem with passing it in two readings. Mr. Hunt said that in as much as this is a grant and the funds will be reimbursed he does not have a problem. This will be discussed further but he would not have any opposition to seeking a rules suspension if need be.

**RESOLUTION NO. 42-25**

**BY: DAVID W. FURRY**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CERTIFICATION OF DELINQUENT SANITARY SEWER ACCOUNTS TO THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER FOR COLLECTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF OHIO AND AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"**

**1<sup>st</sup> READING**

Similar to how Mr. Furry referenced the unpaid sewer bills and certifying special assessments to real estate taxes for the sidewalks referencing 35-25, this is the original poster child that Council does annually. The attached exhibit represents all those accounts with outstanding balances. A letter went out on June 15, 2025 stating residents had until July 17<sup>th</sup> to pay before unpaid balances went to the Cuyahoga Fiscal Officer. Mr. Furry expects three full reads and at the July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting, Council will amend by substitution. The rolling five-year average of initial sewer bills eligible for assessment was 525 and the rolling five-year average of bills certified was 321.

**RESOLUTION NO. 43-25**

**BY: BRIAN J. SINDELAR**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CROSSROADS ASPHALT RECYCLING, INC., FOR THE 2025 STREET REPAIR PROGRAM, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$856,580.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"**

**1<sup>st</sup> READING**

Mr. Sindelar said that because of the length of information tonight he will give a brief summary. The title says it all but this is a contract with Crossroads Asphalt Recycling, Inc. for Phase II of the 2025 Street Repair Program. As Mr. Sindelar said before, the administration does a great job in ranking the streets and then getting to them before they become major issues in the city. This will have three full reads.

**ORDINANCE NO. 44-25**

**BY: BRIAN J. SINDELAR**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH FABRIZI TRUCKING AND PAVING, INC., FOR THE SEWER, WATER MAIN AND PAVEMENT REPLACEMENT PROJECT FOR BUCKINGHAM, ARGYLE OVAL AND ARUNDEL ROAD, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$4,884,679.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"**

**1<sup>st</sup> READING**

Mr. Sindelar said similarly as the title describes, this is for water main, pavement and sewer work. Sewers have been a top priority for roughly the last 18-20 years and the city has done a good job at that and spent a large amount of resources on that and continues to upgrade and bring the system into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and more environmentally sound. The Mayor has already spoken this evening about how the water mains have worked and how the city has given over title of those to the City of Cleveland and that has saved the city an immense amount of money. Again, with the pavement replacement for these streets, on top of that the city within its ranking will not do a street if it is on the plans for a major overhaul like this. Rest assured, the residents of these streets will be getting new trees and new pavement.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 29-25**

**BY: DAVID W. FURRY**

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF COUNCILMEMBERS OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER FOR THE YEARS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2026 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2027**

**3<sup>rd</sup> READING**

President Furry explained that every new term, the current Council needs to set the compensation for the newly elected Council. Filing deadlines have been reached. Some may be sitting in the same seats and some may not. The previous two cycles have had a cost-of-living adjustment and President Furry did not think any further adjustments were necessary.

**ORDINANCE NO. 30-25** **BY: DAVID W. FURRY**  
**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF THE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER FOR THE YEARS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2026 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2027**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> READING**

President Furry said that similar to Ordinance No. 29-25, every new term the current Council needs to set the compensation for the Council President who is elected by the newly elected Council. Like Ordinance No. 29-25, the previous two cycles had a cost-of-living adjustment and he did not think any further adjustments were necessary.

**AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 31-25** **BY: DAVID W. FURRY**  
**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF LAW FOR THE YEARS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2026 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2027**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> READING**

President Furry said this Amended Ordinance No. 31-25 provides for the compensation for the Director of Law commencing January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027. Again, Council sets this. This position had a good bump last cycle and will remain the same. However, Council has amended the hourly compensation to get closer to a market rate of \$150.00 an hour from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026 and \$175.00 an hour from January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2027 keeping the \$50,000 ceiling.

**ORDINANCE NO. 32-25** **BY: DAVID W. FURRY**  
**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER FOR THE YEARS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2026 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2027**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> READING**

President Furry said this ordinance is providing for the compensation of the Mayor with the term commencing January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027. Similar to the prior three ordinances, Council sets this. This also had a bump with the longevity piece and no further increase for the cycle was added.

**RESOLUTION NO. 33-25** **BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS**  
**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THAT ROCKY RIVER CITY COUNCIL SHALL RECESS DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST IN 2025**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> READING**

President Furry said Council has historically recessed during the month of August. Council will meet if need be during an emergency but hopefully will not have to.

**MOTION:**

President Furry move to pass Ordinance Nos. 29-25, 30-25, 32-25, Amended Ordinance No. 31-25 and Resolution No. 33-25, seconded by Mrs. Morris.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Gallagher – aye	O’Boyle – aye	Shipp – aye
	Morris – aye	Sindelar – aye	Furry - aye	
	7 – ayes	0 - nays		<b>PASSED</b>

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: NONE**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE**

**COMMUNICATIONS: NONE**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

The next meeting will be a Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting on July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Next Monday is the fifth Monday of the month and City Council will not meet.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

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David W. Furry  
President of Council

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Susan G. Pease  
Clerk of Council