

## CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

June 1, 2026

The Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting of Council was called to order by President Shipp beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the David J. Cook Council Chambers.

Council Members' Present: President Shipp, Mr. Moran, Ms. Havemann, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Furry, Ms. Gallagher & Ms. Morris

Absent: Mayor Bobst, Law Director O'Shea

Administration: Mr. Lindow, Mr. Snyder

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Ordinance No. 52-25:** Mr. Hunt advised that there is no new information on 52-25. He noted that they will continue to discuss proposed legislation on eBikes which they're viewing as companion legislation.

**Ordinance No. 30-26:** President Shipp advised that Ordinance No. 30-26 is a contract with SAM, LLC for professional GIS Mapping and asset inventory services in an amount not to exceed \$150,000. He advised that it will be up for a 3<sup>rd</sup> read and a vote at the next legislative meeting. On January 30, 2026, the City received nine (9) proposals in response to its Request for Proposals for GIS (Geographic Information System) mapping and asset inventory services. This mapping is a requirement for Ohio EPA municipal separate storm sewer system permit (MS4). The MS4 permit requires the City to develop maintain and update an accurate mapping of its stormwater system including outfalls, conveyances, and related infrastructure. Through the bidding process each proposal was evaluated using a comprehensive scoring rubric designed to assess qualifications, technical approach, experience, and cost effectiveness. Based upon the scoring results, the top three (3) firms were invited to participate in interviews conducted in late February 2026 by the Director of Public Safety Service and other members of the Department. Following the completion of the evaluation and interview process, SAM, LLC was determined to be the most qualified firm to perform the requested services. A search of the Auditor of State's findings for recovery database returned no results. The proposed agreement provides for the development and implementation of a comprehensive utility GIS program, including high-accuracy field data collection and mapping of the City's stormwater and sanitary sewer infrastructure. This will include locating and documenting structures such as manholes, catch basins, culverts, outfalls, and related sewer features. The work will also capture detailed attribute data for each structure, including location, condition, elevations, pipe characteristics, and connectivity, resulting in a robust and standardized geospatial database. The project timeline is approximately six months from commencement.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resolution No. 31-26:** President Shipp advised that 31-26 is an Emergency Resolution authorizing the Mayor to apply for and administer funds from the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission Community Planning Services Program for the Detroit Road Corridor Strategic Plan and Streetscape Design Standards Project. He received information, including the City's Application for the funds, from the Director of Planning and Community Development Kathryn Kerber which he recently forwarded to Council. They will also see an endorsement letter from David Lipinsky,

the Executive Director of the Rocky River Chamber of Commerce, endorsing Rocky River for funds. They are looking for assistance developing streetscaping standards for Detroit Rd. from Lakeview to Wooster. This is an important commercial corridor, but they do not have a cohesive plan for new development to make it a welcoming destination. A plan would provide guidelines for future improvements. The application shows their plan along with photographs which show the commercial investments on the Detroit Rd. corridor where there are some new businesses and remodeling of existing business, but there is not a cohesive feel to the area. This would help them get a plan in place for that moving forward. The Detroit Rd. corridor is an important commercial and mixed-use corridor. In recent years, the corridor has experienced substantial private reinvestment and redevelopment activity. However, despite this momentum this corridor lacks a cohesive visual identity and coordinated framework for future improvements. Streetscape elements, pedestrian amenities, parking areas, signage, and landscaping are inconsistent throughout the corridor creating a fragmented experience for residents, visitors and businesses. The City is seeking professional planning and technical assistance to prepare a comprehensive corridor plan and street scape design framework for Detroit Rd. between Lakeview and Wooster including old Detroit. The project area contains three distinct segments Lakeview Ave to Allen CT, Allen CT to West 192<sup>nd</sup> Street/Depot Street, and W 192<sup>nd</sup> Street to Wooster Rd., which would maintain cohesive design relationships while allowing for district specific character and identity. The scope of the work would include review of prior corridor studies and planning documents, analysis of existing conditions, stakeholder and public engagement, conceptual streetscape planning, and preparation of implementation-oriented recommendations. Key planning issues would include sidewalks and crosswalks, street trees and landscaping, pedestrian scale lighting, public art, wayfinding, street furniture, storm water management, parking strategy and traffic signal improvements. He encouraged everyone to review the information Ms. Kerber provided.

- Director Snyder added that one of the other things to consider within the Detroit Corridor is the Marion Ramp. Included in this process is implementation with and without the Marion Ramp and how that connectivity would work. Some preliminary conversations with ODOT had that scheduled tentatively for redecking in the 2031-2033 timeframe. So, he anticipates conversations about whether that ramp gets rehabbed or removed. They are trying to plan for that and take traffic into consideration.
- Director Snyder confirmed that they hope to incorporate some of the streetscapes with Center Ridge so that as future development occurs on Center Ridge it can be loosely tied to Detroit, so they have a theme overall in the community.
- President Shipp noted that the plan mentions the Clifton Lake Project which is just north of the Detroit Corridor. While that is going in, they will also want to make sure there is some uniformity to the way different districts are presented whether it's Lake, Detroit, or Center Ridge.
- Mr. Moran inquired whether Lakewood provided any interest in continuing that access going across that Detroit bridge. To have both a welcoming area on the Lakewood side and as you go across the bridge into Rocky River. He wonders if Lakewood applied for funding and it would give the entire project more credence. He would like to see both sides working together so it's not only cohesive to Center Ridge, but also to Clifton.
- Director Snyder advised that he would look further into that. He believes that he believes Lakewood recently completed a streetscape plan for that area. If he finds that information, he will make it available. He confirmed that the City of Rocky River is

responsible for half the bridge, but they do work together.

- Mr. Moran noted that they are making Clifton Bridge very accessible to foot traffic.
- Director Snyder advised that Detroit Bridge was brought up as part of the Community Confluence project in 2021 as an area in need of improvement for pedestrian access. So that is something a consultant or planning commission will incorporate into this plan.
- President Shipp advised that other efforts that they've done in the past will be considered as well like the Rocky River Master Plan (2018), Detroit Rd Traffic and Parking Analysis and Marion Ramp Study (2015), Lake Rd Corridor Enhancement Study (2008), Detroit Rd Commercial District Streetscape Workbook (2008). The application thinks about all the other studies that we've done and the surrounding connections to Lakewood on those two bridges would be considered especially since we're working with Cuyahoga County.
- Director Snyder advised that Lake Clifton was part of The Community Confluence plan and some of the stuff they are doing along Lake Rd. was part of that. If they are interested in a guiding plan for the next couple of decades that is something worth considering as they get into their short term, immediate term, and long-term planning
- President Shipp noted that there is some potential development coming along Ingersoll as well. There may be a mixed-use development happening there. Before those reinvestments come along the idea is to have some cohesive plan in place so it fits into the existing neighborhood.
- Director Snyder confirmed that they are trying to create an umbrella to create a cohesive feel.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

Mr. Hunt congratulated Gary Cintron on the reopening of Rocky River Brewing Company as of today following their fire last June. He encouraged everyone to go support them as he knows they worked very hard and it's become a community staple.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORT: NONE**

Ms. Morris shared the Community Calendar idea she's been playing around with noting that they don't really have one. There are so many different community events that people don't have any way to share like Green Team, Bike Rocky River, etc. She was thinking a centralized community calendar where perhaps Council could approve membership and then organizations could post their events. She doesn't think it needs to be on the City website, as they likely won't want to take ownership, but it could be linked. She doesn't want it to just be the Democrat or Republican Club but rather wants it to be a community thing. The baseball parade for example -- there are so many things that happen that no one knows about except from perhaps Facebook. Just a calendar -- nothing more than that. She's purchased the domain Rockyriverohio.org for such an endeavor. She thought that perhaps she could code it to aggregate things from different places. It's an idea she'd like to see so they could promote themselves as a city and she encouraged them to think about it. She felt it would be nice to require membership so they have a contact/name for each organization so that if, for example, the Chamber of Commerce wanted to post things they could because they'd have an account to do so. They could all participate in something that would benefit everyone.


President Shipp advised that the Memorial Day Ceremony went well and it was a nice ceremony. A lot of work went into it and a lot of volunteer hours. They put over 4,000 flags on graves at the cemetery, and it was quite a sight to see. It went off quickly and efficiently. It was his first time filling in as speaker and it

was a good experience, but he will be happy for the Mayor to be back.

President Shipp advised that their next meeting will be a Legislative Meeting Monday June 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

President Shipp added that Charter Review Commission has one more meeting this week where they will finalize ballot language and it will likely come to them next week. Council will essentially approve and send it on. Additionally, the Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) typically has a meeting in June and one of the matters they will need to attend to is nomination and election of officers for that Corporation. The CIC will be coming up on their agenda on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

As there was no further business, President Shipp adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.



Paul Shipp  
President of Council



Lauren Oley  
Clerk of Council