CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

November 2, 2026

The Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting of Council was called to order by President Shipp beginning at 7:03 p.m. in the David J. Cook Council Chambers following the Safety Committee Meeting.

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

Absent:

Administration: Mayor Bobst, Law Director O'Shea, Director Lindow

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR REPORT:

Mayor Bobst shared that there was a significant water main break on Wagar Rd last Thursday which was caught fairly early. Cleveland Water mobilized very quickly to repair approximately 15' of main line. She clarified that this break had nothing to do with the construction of the fire department, noting that their tie is here on the campus. There was no water pressure here at City Hall, but Cleveland Water quickly repaired the break so that they could continue operations. She expressed thanks to the street department for their repair.

Mayor Bobst advised that the budget ordinance will be in their packets next week and the budget books will be at their seats upon arrival at the meeting. She noted the hard work of Director Lindow and the Finance Department to get them to this point. They've completed all their work with the directors and are waiting on a few things from the court and the judges, but otherwise it's all set. She thanked all the directors for their hard work and their awareness that capitol projects exert pressure on the rest of the budget. They're excited about the upcoming year and look forward to sharing their upcoming projects at their meeting on December 4th. She advised that the following meeting, December 7, will be a public hearing for the budget.

She noted that the Planning Commission just had their second meeting regarding the new development code. They have two more meetings scheduled, one in mid-November and one in early December. Following these meetings, the legislation will come to Council with the requirement to send it back to Planning Commission for a public meeting. Following that meeting it will come back to Council who will schedule their own public hearing and then it will be ready for passage.

- Ms. Morris inquired if they expect to pass this legislation in January '27?
- Mayor Bobst advised that they had hoped to get it to them earlier so it could be in effect January 1st, but it seems that it will be later than that perhaps in February. Throughout this process they've been trying to look at the new development code in the context of current projects and how that code might change that project. The code that we have today stands, but they are trying to test it when possible. There is a lot of work that has been going on for at least a year.

Mayor Bobst shared that they've started to pick up leaves last week. Everything north of Lake Rd. is completed and everything north of Detroit is almost completed. They will continue to move south and then they'll come back and start over. If residents are interested in when they may be getting to their neighborhood they estimate as best they can on their social media site or residents are welcome to call city hall or the service garage.

Mayor Bobst advised that UH Urgent Care on Center Ridge is going to start seeing patients on Monday. Additionally, next week council and residents will see mobilization of barrels and other materials on Northview. Director Snyder, along with the engineers, are going to fashion temporary chicanes so people can see how they would react and how traffic flows. People want traffic calming and they seem to like the idea of the chicanes, but others feel it may disrupt traffic, so their hope is to get constructive feedback.

She shared that they received the 3rd quarter report and the renewal for 2027 from the Heritage Home Loan Program. She shared numbers through the end of September: 167 homeowner contacts, 23 that requested technical assistance only, 28 technical assistance site visits (project value $1.8 million), 15 loans signed ($1.166 million), and 13 projects currently under management ($1.1 million). She noted that the residents are taking advantage of the program and each year more homes are in that cohort of 50 years or older. The renewal on the program will be $15,120. They do have a relationship through PNC Bank for that lower interest product which is .5% lower and borrowers receive Heritage Home loans/escrow services including the contractual projects detailed estimate reviews, payment guidelines to ensure all the project requirements are met. It will be renewed in January, but it won't be passed until you've considered and passed the 2027 budget.

Mayor Bobst shared that tomorrow is election day and the polls will be open 6:30 am – 7:30 pm. There are three polling locations in Rocky River. The Civic Center has several precincts, The Presbyterian Church has four precincts, and the United Methodist Church on Detroit has five precincts.

She shared that our undefeated High School football team will be competing at home against Canal Fulton Northwest at 7:00 pm on Friday. Additionally, the high school will host a breakfast and program for the veterans of our community and encourage all their veterans to attend. She advised that The Joint Veterans Council will hold their ceremony and retire flags in Lakewood Park.

Ms. Gallagher inquired, of Mayor Bobst, if she knew when Lake Clifton was going to be finished.

- Mayor Bobst advised that she asked the same question today of the county. They say it's on schedule and the project is moving along very well, but they've had two issues. The first being a water line issue that has primarily impacted Lakewood, and she doesn't know the full scope. The second is an Enbridge gas line. They were supposed to do some restoration, and they weren't moving fast enough, and they needed to hire a sub. She asked them for a revised timeline, and they've advised that it's still on time and it will be September 2027 before it's open. They've advised they now want to do some seating on that north side of the bridge, and they'd like Rocky River to share in that cost, but they are still exploring that and they will give more information once they receive the new cost analysis and ODOT information.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 52-25 & Ordinance No. 72-26: Mr. Hunt advised that both these ordinances were referred to safety committee for discussion. They met earlier this evening and 52-25 was on the backburner while they focused solely on 72-26 and the repealing and replacing of Chapter 373 of the code regarding bikes, eBikes, and scooters. These two ordinances will remain on hold, and he suspects they may need another committee meeting as they flesh out more of the issues.

Ordinance No. 73-26: President Shipp shared that this is an emergency ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Director of Public Safety Service to enter into a contract with OHM Advisors for Survey and Flow Monitoring for The Beaconsfield Boulevard Sewer and Rehabilitation and Roadway Reconstruction Project in an amount not to exceed $60,750. OHM and it looks like they're doing topographic surveys, collecting data on existing utilities, sanitary and storm sewers, rim and pipe elevations and structures, pavement contour elevation, coordinating letters with city staff and residents, and flow monitoring. He noted that

Director Snyder advised that this builds on a piece of legislation 65-26 which is the Ohio Public Works Commission application for the Beaconsfield Blvd. Project and this is the first phase of the design and engineering for that sewer rehab project.

Ordinance No. 74-26: Mr. Hunt shared that this ordinance proposes the purchase of a 2026 Ford Explorer from Statewide Ford for the Chief of Fire Department under the Cooperative Purchasing Act. In August of this year, the Chief was driving on I-90 and his truck was hit. Insurance determined the driver of the other vehicle to be at fault, resulting in a $23,320 total loss settlement for the vehicle that will go towards the purchase of a replacement vehicle for $58,871. The vehicle is available and they are hopeful for delivery this year.

Resolution No. 76-26: Mr. Moran advised that this resolution is for them to prepare and submit the application for them to participate in the capital improvement program for public works. This is to execute the contracts for the auxiliary clarifier. This is the second time they've applied for this and they're hoping they have more luck this time.

Resolution No. 77-26: Mr. Furry advised that this ordinance for the Law Director to obtain outside counsel services as needed from Roetzel in an amount not to exceed $25,000 for the ongoing police department personnel project. It outlines the hourly rates for partner, associates, and paralegal services billing. He expects three full reads, and emergency language is not being utilized.

Resolution No. 78-26: Mr. Furry advised that this is an ordinance authorizing the Law Director to also employee specialized outside counsel with Western Hurd regarding labor and employment services from Western Hurd and similar to 77-26 it stipulates hourly billing for partner, associates, and paralegals. He expects three full reads, and emergency language is not being utilized.

- President Shipp advised that he was previously employed by Western Hurd, but he has not been there for over one year, so he doesn't see any need to recuse and he has no interest.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 79-26: President Shipp advised that this is an ordinance authorizing an agreement with Mannick & Smith Group for professional consulting and engineering services for 2027. The cost will be paid from the capital improvement fund and sewer rehabilitation fund and a copy of it was provided. The services are listed which includes things like tabulating bids and recommending lowest and best bidders. Section 2 paragraph 1A advises that they are paid at a flat rate of $4,332.60 per month and for specific services listed under 1B are paid according to a schedule of hourly rates which were included. He believes that they're all familiar with Mannick and Smith Group as they've been a part of several of their public meetings and they see their reports quite frequently.

- Mayor Bobst shared that these used to be two-year contracts, but they're choosing only to renew a year at a time, and they've been aligning the engineering work with different engineering firms. Mannick and Smith is not doing all the engineering in the city. They have so many projects that need to be engineered that they're going to do RFQs and RFPs as needed. This goes along with the increase that all the employees are getting.
- Mr. Furry inquired if that was the cost-of-living adjustment?
- Mayor Bobst advised that it's tied to the collective bargaining agreement and it's 4% next year. She added that she wants Council to be aware that they don't have any concerns about Mannick and Smith, they have done a wonderful job, but they simply have a lot of projects happening at the same time. The amount of detail and special expertise that is needed on some of these projects, because of the infrastructure they may be replacing or upgrading, is why they are trying to match up individual firms with their expertise on these projects. They are very happy and continue to be very

happy with Kim Kerber, Brenda, and Dave Wager. Dave has done a wonderful job. He's the person that is out on each of these jobs working with the residents and taking care of all their needs and making sure resident needs are taken care of is most critical.

Ordinance No. 80-26: Mr. Hunt advised that is an ordinance to authorize the Mayor and Director of Public Safety Service to enter into an agreement with Ohio Desk for furniture, fixtures, and equipment to be purchased under the state's Cooperative Purchasing Act for the new fire station not to exceed $136,408.99. Ohio Desk was selected after the construction manager managed the bids that were obtained for the project and included our purchase price for office chairs, desks, and other kitchen furniture. He shared that he has received the specifics for the project which include: 9 office chairs, 14 dorm chairs, 6 reception chairs, 12 kitchen chairs, 12 counter stools, 8 desks, shelving, filing cabinets, conference tables, meeting tables, work surface in the watch tower, 15 training tables for the classrooms, 30 chairs for the classroom, and 8 chairs for the conference table.

- Mr. Furry inquired if because they're a part of the State Cooperative, they don't do an unresolved finding check?
- Mr. Hunt advised he could inquire.
- Mr. Furry noted that they bought a bunch of furniture from Ohio Desk 5 years ago and they were very good at setting up, timely, and if there was an issue they resolved it quickly.
- Mr. Gallagher noted that they use them as well and they're good.
- Mr. Hunt noted that he was advised that the items selected were not the cheapest or the most expensive, but they felt they would be durable and easy to clean.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Mr. Hunt thanked members of council, not only the safety committee, and the Mayor, for being present at the Safety Committee meeting tonight to discuss pending ordinances 52-25 and 72-26 regarding some very important legislation that they will continue to pour over.

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

President Shipp advised that next week's meeting Monday November 9th 7:00 pm will be a Legislative Meeting. As there was no further business, President Shipp adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Paul Shipp
President of Council

Lauren Oley
Clerk of Council