

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

February 1, 2016

The Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting was called to order by Mr. Moran, President of Council, at 8:00 p.m. in the David J. Cook Council Chambers.

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

Administration: Mayor Bobst, Mrs. Costello

Law Director: Mr. Bemer

Press: Ms. Botos

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor announced that Cuyahoga County is reimbursing communities for materials used on specific projects through the Department of Public Works. The two projects in Rocky River that the city will receive reimbursement for are the Hilliard Road Project, from Northview Road to the western corporate limit and Wooster Road from Wooster Park Drive to the south corporate limit. The County has approved these two roadways and will be reimbursing the city for materials only. The Mayor extends her thanks to the County.

The Mayor shared statistics with City Council regarding website usage at the request of Council President Moran. There were more than 210,000 unique visitors to the city's website last year with almost a half million page openings meaning that website users are delving past the city's homepage. The content area that is most popular is the homepage; followed by Recreation and the Recreation Guide; followed by the Finance Department and then the Building Department.

The Mayor has discussed communication with the Community since June regarding the transition from C.C.A. to R.I.T.A. for income tax collection. There was also an e-update sent out in the middle of October regarding the conversion to R.I.T.A. This e-update received a mailing score of 9.9 out of a possible 10 points. This indicates that 62% of the 3,000 recipients opened it with a 100% delivery rate. On Tuesday, January 26th, an e-update received a mailing score of 9 out of a possible 10 points indicating that there was a 98% delivery rate to more than 3,100 subscribers with a 52% opening rate. This statistic shows a slight decline due to residents having accessed that information already from the website. The Mayor is very pleased that residents are reading messages being sent to their email.

The Residence Reference Guide was delivered this weekend. Extra copies are available at City Hall. The Mayor again extended her thanks to Cleveland Magazine for their help from start to

finish. Cleveland Magazine helps write the articles for the magazine and secures the advertising at no cost to the city. A shout out also to Mary Ellen Umerley who has worked very closely with Cleveland Magazine and the Directors to ensure meaningful information is included in the Residents Reference Guide.

The Mayor discussed recent grant applications including the resolution in front of Council this evening.

- The city provided a letter of support for the Community Garden in applying for the Fiskars' Orange Thumb Grant that is also supported by the Senior Center and River Sprouts. River Sprouts is a young lady, Samantha Manoloff, who is working to secure dollars to build a greenhouse at the Community Garden. The purpose of this grant is to expand the Community Garden and add trough gardens along with waist high gardens to aid seniors and those with disabilities.
- Elle's Enchanted Forest applied for a Grant and the city provided a letter of support for this grant also. This is a Recycle Ohio Grant for \$25,000 along with a match that would come from the funds already donated for Elle's Enchanted Forest. This is for a safety surface made from recycled materials. It will be a demonstration project used for educational and outreach programs.
- The Safe Routes to Schools Grant has been a yearlong process of planning and evaluation leading to the opportunity to apply for the grant. The first grant is for safety protection for the school crossing guards and other safety items that will be used at each of the schools. The second grant, which is the resolution in front of Council, is an infrastructure safety grant with a number of aspects. The crossing lights at each of the intersections by the Middle and Kensington Schools will have ADA sidewalk enhancements and new pavement markings. This grant is at the maximum of \$400,000. There is a local architect and engineering firm assisting with this process and their efforts are very much appreciated.
- The Cuyahoga County Planning Commission applied for a TLCI Grant. The city has received a TLCI Grant for Detroit Road and is currently working on a TLCI Grant for Center Ridge Road along with the City of Fairview Park. This particular TLCI Grant through NOACA is for a Cuyahoga County Greenway Project. There is an eastside Greenway Project that is serving as a model and inspiration for this next project with trail and bikeway connectors. The Cuyahoga County Planning Commission reached out to 39 communities west and south of Cleveland. Each community was asked to provide a letter of support along with a commitment of \$2,000 to make this planning grant happen. The City of Rocky River stepped up to the plate for this very exciting grant.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 89-15: Mr. Hunt said that this ordinance has been referred to the Planning Commission and will be on hold until Council has received a report from the Planning Commission.

ORDINANCE NO. 5-1Mr. O'Donnell discussed this Ordinance with Safety-Service Director Costello last week. This is for the purchase of a 20Ford Interceptor for the Fire Department. This will replace the 2007 vehicle that the Chief is currently driving. The administration is purchasing this through the State's Cooperative Purchasing Act and is satisfied with the price. This will have three reads.

ORDINANCE NO. 6-16

BY: DAVID W. FURRY

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CUYAHOGA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER, ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT A

1st READING

This will be discussed more at the next Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting. This will have three full reads. Let Mr. Furry know if there are any questions regarding this Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 7-16

BY: DAVID W. FURRY

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CUYAHOGA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER, ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT A

1st READING

Similar to Ordinance No. 6-16, this will be discussed more at the next Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting and will have three full reads.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: President Moran said the Rocky River Residents Guide has so much information. Most questions resident have can be answered in this Guide. The Mayor mentioned that Elmwood Cabin is featured on the cover and in the Reference Guide. The Cleveland Magazine photographer captured the beautiful architecture of the cabin and what an asset it is to the City of Rocky River.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 8-16:

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Furry gave a shout out to Law Director Bemer for the great job he did at the 63rd Annual Football Appreciation Banquet for OSU last night. Mr. Bemer thanked Councilman Furry for his attendance and support.

President Moran thanked everyone for attending this evening. Mr. Moran mentioned that there are Residents Reference Guides available if anyone needed one. The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

President Moran announced that Council, Mayor Bobst, Law Director Bemer, Director Costello and Director Thomas will recess to Executive Session at 8:28 p.m. and thanked the audience for their attendance.

President Moran reconvened to the Regular Meeting of Council.

As there was no further business by members of Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

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James W. Moran
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council