

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

March 21, 2016

The Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting was called to order by Mr. Moran, President of Council, after the Special Meeting 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 the Basketball Challenge Cup returned to the City of Rocky River! A very special thank you to Coach Andy Bemer and Councilmen Sindelar and Councilman Hunt who did a great job! Jason Frolo seated the team and was very successful. The Mayor said this is a great event benefiting Community Challenge and Recovery Resources.

The new Ventrac will have a new brush installed and it will begin to clean the sidewalks alongside the street sweeper which has been out already through the city.

The Bradstreet Landing Pier will be opening by the end of this week. The restrooms are still under repair and will remain closed.

The Mayor has received a few questions regarding the construction on Detroit Road causing traffic congestion. This is an AT&T underground vault that is being replaced. AT&T worked over the weekend. Hopefully this construction project will be completed soon.

The Police Station Renovation Project has received nine RFQ's, Request for Qualifications, on Friday. This effort is being lead by Director Costello and the city is pleased at the level of interest. Each submission will be evaluated and the administration will select a few which will need to present RFP's. The city hopes to have proposals within the next few months.

The Mayor received a letter from RTA. RTA is looking to either raise fares, cut back service or discontinue service. One of the lines in question is the #43 that drives from Triskett to Clifton, down Lake Road into Bay Village and back out on Wolf Road because ridership has been down. The Mayor wants residents to know that if that is a route they depend on, the administration wants to know. Residents, Business Owners, Employers can communicate to

RTA or the city's administration. There will also be community meetings which are listed on the RTA website.

Free tax preparation is being offered by the Regional Income Tax Authority (R.I.T.A.) this Thursday, March 24th from 12:00 noon until 7:00 p.m. at the Umerley Center. It is on a first come first served basis.

The Spring/Summer Program Guide for the Recreation Center will be out later this week. Copies will be available at the Recreation Center and digitally online.

This Saturday, Kiwanis will hold their annual Easter Egg Hunt at Elmwood Park beginning at 1:00 p.m. Children from 0 to 11 years old may participate. Bring your Easter baskets and look for treats all over the park!

This Friday City Hall Offices will be closed in observance of Good Friday.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 89-15: This Ordinance is still on hold.

ORDINANCE NO. 5-16: This Ordinance was passed at the Special Meeting this evening.

ORDINANCE NO. 6-16: This Ordinance was passed at the Special Meeting this evening.

ORDINANCE NO. 7-16: This Ordinance was passed at the Special Meeting this evening.

ORDINANCE NO. 8-16: Councilman Klym said this was read for a second time at this evening's Special Meeting and will be read for a third time and could be moved for passage at next week's Legislative Meeting. This ordinance increases the season pass rates for residents, seniors and non-residents, city employees and also corporate non-residents and family and friends. The increases are listed on the exhibit. Resident passes for the first member of a family increases \$4.00. The actual increases are increments of \$4.00 and \$10.00 for Season Passes only. These rates are comparable to neighboring cities. Activities will also be planned for children during rest periods.

- President Moran asked if there are figures over the last ten years if season passes are up. Councilman Klym will ask Director Mehling. The Mayor said that the outdoor pool has different passes now than in past years.
- President Moran asked if there was a certain level of non-resident passes last year. These passes are capped at 200 and the last two years have been close to 200. Director Mehling keeps a close count on that.
- Councilman Sindelar asked if there was a cap for non-resident and corporate passes. The Mayor will speak with Director Mehling and respond back to Council.

ORDINANCE NO. 9-16: Councilman O'Donnell said this is for the purchase of a 2015 CAT machine for the Service Department at a cost not to exceed \$123,417. Councilman O'Donnell said that all of Council should have received the detailed email from Director Costello regarding these bids and why the CAT bid is the best bid. Some of the tasks that this equipment will be required to perform may be too difficult for these other machines. Parts and service on some of the other products would be more expensive and hard to find.

- President Moran commented that in his travels for work on the turnpike, the construction zones he passes use a lot of CAT products.
- Councilman O'Donnell asked if the CAT machinery that the city purchased last year has been holding up. Director Costello confirmed that it has.
- Director Costello spoke with Mr. Scott Davis from Bay Village who has been looking at equipment also. He has looked at the Doosan Equipment and he said they are not as fragile as the Service Department thought, but Mr. Davis didn't think the Doosan Equipment would be up for the kind of work that is slated for this machinery. Parts for this will also be hard to find.

Mr. O'Donnell will seek passage for this after the third read next week.

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 10-16: This ordinance is for the purchase of three 2017 Ford interceptors for the Police Division. These purchases will be replacing other vehicles. The original ordinance was for the purchase of 3-2016 vehicles. Director Costello learned that the administration could purchase the 2017 vehicles at the same cost as the 2016 vehicles. There is no change in price for that. However, one bid spec was left off the original purchase which requires rear seat air conditioning for the canine unit for the safety of the canine. That was a cost of \$695.00. That is the reason for the slight change in the amount of money.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-16: This is for the purchase of a 2016 Dodge Charger for the Police Division. This vehicle is replacing a Charger with 120,000 miles on it. The administration is satisfied with the price. This will be purchased out of the equipment fund. Councilman O'Donnell will seek passage on this ordinance next week.

ORDINANCE NO. 12-16: This Ordinance was read for the second time earlier this evening. As Council recalls, this was the third year for the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Firefighters. This agreement called for a wage re-opener this year. The negotiations did go to Fact Finding and Arbitration. The Conciliator reported back giving a 2% increase retroactive to January 1st, 2016 along with a 1% increase on July 1, 2016. The Lieutenant rank differential moved from 12 to 13-1/2% along with the wage increases. This will be read for a third time next week.

- Councilman Furry is not happy with the rank differential. The spirit of negotiations didn't include that.

- Councilman Klym asked how many Lieutenants there are in the fire department. The Mayor responded that there are six Lieutenants and three captains. Mr. Klym echoes Mr. Furry's comments. The administration and the department should both be commended for going through this process. Both want to serve the citizens on the most difficult days those citizens will ever have. The administration and Council want to protect the firefighters and wants the Fire Department to have the best training and equipment at all times. What it comes down to is there has to be a tremendous amount of trust and respect between the two parties during negotiations. When the administration bargains for something and expects that there is just a wage opener on the table but then finds that the interpretation that everyone had agreed to is different, that affects the trust and respect for the individuals the administration is bargaining with. Councilman Klym would have liked the rank differential to be discussed at the next negotiations as opposed to being included in what was suppose to be a wage-opener. Councilman Klym commends both sides however for completing the process. Unfortunately the administration's interpretation and recollection were not adopted by the Conciliator. It is disappointing that this was not found to be within the contract by the Conciliator.

Mr. Hunt said the administration will be going back to negotiations with the Firefighters in October.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-16: Councilman Hunt said that this ordinance is the Patrolmen Agreement for a new three year CBA contract for 2016, 2017 and 2018. A lot of the changes were influenced by the 12-hour shift language for the patrolmen. Some of the language deals with the clarification of the shift bidding process. The administration was able to maintain some management rights so the Chief will have the final say in regard to where a patrolman will be placed on the 12-hour shift. Amendment language also clarifies grievances in regard to calendar days instead of workdays; uniform allowance has been amended increasing to \$650 in 2017 and \$700 in 2018. There is also language regarding the purchase of a Patrolman's service weapon at retirement. There is language for prorating that stipend if an officer leaves before year-end. The wage increase for each year is a 2-1/2% increase. This is in line with other communities. Healthcare components were amended in regard to the payment of premiums. The city will pay up to 4% of any premium increase, an increase after that will be split equally between members and the city and anything over 12% would give the city the right to readjust the plan design. For the length of the new contract, the members will pay 15% of the total premium cost. There is an increase in life insurance from \$25,000 to \$50,000 beginning in 2018.

- Councilman Klym asked what a Beck Day is. Law Director Bemer said that it has to do with Officers that are working one shift and change shifts and have to go right back to work. It is a substitution for overtime or time off. These are special days off. The law suit which settled the issue called for the allowed day off regardless of whether it caused overtime expense for officer coverage. It has been a contract provision for a long time. The police get the day off if they request the day off within a 10 day notice.
- Councilman Klym asked if Rocky River has officers that do work an excess of 24 hours. This all developed during an earnest reading of the contract last week. "What do we do after 16 hours?" Chief Stillman and Sergeant Flowers came up with this language with

the norm being 16 hours. It has happened in the past, so this gives a flexibility to the administration. The Mayor said the extra hours have to do with court appearances or training and has nothing to do with being on the road.

- Councilman Sindelar asked if the patrolmen have to have a reason to take off for a Beck Day. The Mayor said no. The Mayor also said when a patrolman uses a Beck Day it could create a need to bring in other officers on overtime.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-16: Councilman Hunt said that this ordinance mirrors Ordinance No. 13-16. Ordinance 14-16 is for the officers of the Police Department. This will have a third read next week.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 15-16: President Moran said that Council received a copy of the wage ordinance this evening. This is replacing Ordinance No. 88-15. This is for all the appointed positions. One employee from the Building Department is now under the Safety-Services Department. The base for this is a 2.5% police and non-bargaining unit employees and a 2% for fire increase with the exception of minimum wage which will stay at \$8.10. This will be read for a second time next week.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Happy Birthday to Councilman Shepherd!

The Mayor distributed the 2015 Annual Report for the City of Rocky River. Thank you to all the Directors for getting their reports in. The Board of Health Report is not included, but will be distributed when it is received. This Report can also be found online.

President Moran wished the audience a happy holiday this weekend. City Hall will be closed on Friday in observance of Good Friday. Refuse will still be collected this Friday.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

James W. Moran
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council