

## CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

October 19, 2020

The meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole was called to order by Mr. Moran, President, at 7:00 p.m. in the Civic Center Community Room.

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

Administration: Mayor Bobst, Director Thomas, Director Snyder

Assistant Law Director: Mr. O'Shea

### MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor discussed the increase of positive COVID 19 cases in Cuyahoga County. It is becoming quite concerning as the cases continue to rise and the next 4-12 weeks will be a critical and challenging time. The Mayor and Directors are discussing slowing down on some of the programming, making sure people are wearing masks and are 6 foot distancing along with continuing to clean and sanitize all vehicles and buildings. The city is continuing to monitor and work with the Health Department as well as the state and may require masks to be worn continuously at the Rec Center. Event attendance will also be kept low and contained.

The bids for the landscaping of the police station were received last week. Four bids were received with two being under the engineer's estimate including the alternate, which is irrigation. The bids are currently being reviewed and Council should receive the results in their packets for next week.

The Mayor announced that the County is prepared to pay for the entire crack sealing project on Hilliard from Gasser to the Westlake line. Congratulations to Director Snyder for obtaining this agreement.

Law Director Bemer prepared a statement regarding political speech in the context of Supreme Court decisions and local case law in the city's code. This will be forwarded to Council.

Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Senior Center will be hosting their Fall Festival. Professional pumpkin carvers will be on hand, costume contests, a fall and Halloween trivia contest along with lots of treats. This will be held outside, but will be one of the last larger events at the Senior Center due to the increase of COVID 19. After this, small groups of nine or less or classes on zoom will only be available from now through the Christmas holiday.

The Mayor respectfully requested an Executive Session this evening under Article X, Section VI, Subsection III to discuss a pending legal matter.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Finance Committee – Mr. O'Donnell reported that a preliminary schedule for the first read of the 2021 Budget will be November 9<sup>th</sup>, second read on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, and the Finance Committee Meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, with a possible third read on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Mr. O'Donnell said this is a reminder of what is coming up. Councilmembers

should schedule meetings with their Directors between November 9<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss the budget. Mr. Hunt – Safety with Chief Lenart and Interim Chief Lichman; Mr. Furry – WWTP with Interim Superintendent Barille; Mr. Shepherd – Safety Services with Director Snyder; Mrs. Morris – Senior Center with Director Huff; Mr. Moran – Courts with Judges Fitzsimmons and Hagan; Mr. Klym – Recreation Center with Director Holub and Mr. O'Donnell – Finance with Director Thomas.

**COMMUNICATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS:** President Moran discussed the Notice to Legislative Authorities regarding Objections to Renewal of Liquor Permits that was received by the Administration and Council. Council confirmed that there are no issues with any permits issued for the City of Rocky River.

**MOTION:**

Moved by Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Furry that an Executive Session under Article X, Section VI, Subsection III to discuss a pending legal matter be held before the end of this meeting.

|                  |                |                 |               |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Vote: Hunt – aye | Shepherd – aye | O'Donnell – aye | Furry - aye   |
| Morris– aye      | Klym – aye     | Moran – aye     |               |
| 7 ayes           | 0 nays         |                 | <b>PASSED</b> |

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 75-20:** Mr. Hunt said this was read for the first time last week with an extended discussion. This ordinance will authorize the Safety-Service Director to purchase one ambulance for the fire division from PFund Superior Sales. The administration was disappointed that only one bid was received, however Chief Lenart received a price comparison through State Term Pricing for the cost of \$251,000 without graphics and paint included compared to PFund at \$255,000 that includes graphics and paint. One of the ambulances has been down with motor issues and ambulances need to be rotated in and out for service. This will be read a second time at next week's meeting. Chief Lenart forwarded a picture of a comparable ambulance to Council that shows the chassis to be sturdier than current squads.

- Mr. Furry asked if the fire department has all signed off on this purchase. Mr. Hunt has been assured that the fire department is on board and in agreement.
- Mrs. Morris asked if ambulances are more durable if it is one piece as opposed to two, i.e. the chassis and the box. Mr. Snyder said that one vender will be putting this one together. The Mayor clarified that this is still a chassis and a box, but it is only one vendor as opposed to two vendors.
- Mr. Moran asked about the \$2,500 trade in figure for the current ambulance. Mr. Moran asked if this ambulance did have a workable engine, if the city could get more money for it. Mr. Snyder will look into that. The Mayor stated that these vehicles go through a lot of specifications and qualifications and it would have to be inspected and meet emergency standards. Mr. Snyder said that this is a 13-year-old vehicle, but he will speak to an EMS Supplier to see if there is a market for that.

**ORDINANCE NO. 76-20:** Mr. Shepherd stated that this is scheduled for a second read next week. This authorizes the city to enter into a Public Health Service agreement with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health. Chapter 3709 of the Ohio Revised Code states that each city must provide health services either through a health district or by a valid contract or union with the county health district or an adjacent city health district. This contract continues the rate of \$5.45 per capita, which is the same rate as 2020. The Board of Health has been very helpful recently with COVID 19.

**RESOLUTION NO. 77-20:** Mr. Shepherd stated that this resolution authorizes the Mayor to submit an application to the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) for the Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative (TLCI) Implementation, to fund improvements for the “Beachcliff/Lake Road Pedestrian Crossing Improvement” Project. Mr. Shepherd said that a picture was distributed to Council to better identify the aspects of this project. Key features to this will be the installation of a specialty crossing at the top of Yacht Club Hill with a pause area in the center to create a safe stamped concrete crosswalk for residents to go into or come out of the Yacht Club Basin. This grant will be in the range of 80% being paid by NOACA. This will have three full reads.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 78-20:** This is a contract with A & J Cement Contractors for the 2020 Sidewalk Program. Mr. Shepherd may ask to pass this in one or two reads since winter is quickly approaching. This is to make sidewalk repairs where sidewalks have been damaged by tree root systems or sewer lateral fractures. If the sidewalks are damaged for other reasons, residents are responsible for the repairs but residents can take advantage of the bided price, if interested. Mr. Snyder stated that the city would like to get on a five-year program for the sidewalks that need repair with 20% being done each year. Mr. Snyder said concrete could be poured until the first week of December depending on the weather. There were four responsive bids and A & J came in under the engineer’s estimate of \$60,000. A & J has performed work for Fairview Park, Westlake and Mentor. There was a favorable reference from Bob Kelly from the City of Westlake and there are no unresolved findings on the auditor’s database.

- Mr. Furry asked if this is the start of the five-year cycle. Mr. Snyder said no, that these are sidewalks that have been brought to his attention from residents throughout Rocky River. This contract will allow the city to repair 180 blocks. Next year will begin the five-year cycle.

**ORDINANCE NO. 79-20:** Mr. Moran said this ordinance authorizes the city to purchase gasoline, fuel oil and allied products on the Open Market at the best prices possible. This will be read for the first time next week.

**ORDINANCE NO. 80-20:** Mr. Moran said this ordinance authorizes the city to purchase tires on the Open Market at the best prices possible. This will be read for the first time next week.

**RESOLUTION NO. 81-20:** Mr. Shepherd said this resolution authorizing the Service Department to prepare and submit an application in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and Local Transportation Improvement Program for repair of sewers on Spencer Road. The city has applied for this in the past, but has not been successful. Work has been done on the catch basins and the administration is hopeful for success this time around. This project will take care of the sanitary sewers. This will have three full reads. The deadline for this application is November 5<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Snyder will have more information concerning the overall cost by next week.

- Mr. Klym asked if the name of the road should be in the title of this resolution. Spencer Road will be added to the title.
- Mr. Moran asked if Spencer will be smoothed out when repaved. Mr. Snyder said that if this grant is not obtained, he is looking to systematically replace sections of Spencer and roll curbs with tight six curbs and adjust aprons along the way.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: NONE**

President Moran thanked everyone for attending.

City Council moved into Executive Session under Article X, Section VI, Subsection III to discuss a pending legal matter at 7:36 p.m.

As there was no further business by members of Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

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James W. Moran  
President of Council

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Susan G. Pease  
Clerk of Council