

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

July 19, 2021

The meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole was called to order by Mr. Moran, President, immediately following the Special Meeting.

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

Administration: Mayor Bobst, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Snyder

Assistant Law Director: Mr. O'Shea

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor mentioned that the administration is working on budgets. The Mayor has scheduled mid-year reviews over the next couple of weeks. Thank you to Director Thomas for putting together the information for Directors to view six month of actuals. Every month the directors monitor their budgets. The Mayor meets with each director individually and go through their budget for the last six months and the projection for the final six months of 2021. Discussions then begin about the 2022 Budget. In September, directors will begin drafting their 2022 Budget that is due by the end of September. Director Thomas has about a month to work on the budget, put all the numbers together to see where the city is at and during that time, the Mayor is working with individual directors again to prioritize and put the budget together. It is a very deliberate process, reviewed by City Council month in and month out. Director Thomas forwards a Financial Summary and Narrative to Council for the last 15 years and the Mayor hopes it is helpful for Council as it frames what the city is doing. The city has been a part of the Ohio Treasurer's Transparency Project because it aligns with the administration's desire for transparency and accountability. Council receives the 2022 Budget the first part of November and before the end of the year the budget will be passed.

The Mayor discussed that the Rockport Independent Living had a large explosion and fire a few weeks ago. About 150 residents of Rockport came to the Civic Center for a few hours. The Mayor thanked Director Snyder, Chief Lenart, Chief Lichman, Mike Balla, Bob Holub and the recreation staff and the Senior Center staff. A pharmacy was set up so all residents received their medications in a timely fashion. Many compassionate residents dropped off bags of treats, snacks and coolers of water. At the Independent Living, residents being evacuated were carried down so the fire fighters had a big job. Many business community members went over to help transport the residents. Beautiful handmade thank you notes from residents were received. They are planning a get-together in August to thank the first responders and other individuals. The staff and administrators from Rockport were so steady and took care of their residents like each of us would like our loved ones cared for. Other Rocky River Senior Living Facilities also offered to help with extra rooms and staff. They are all very supportive of our seniors.

The Hilliard Blvd. Reclamite Project will begin on Wednesday. Residents on Hilliard will be notified and maintenance of traffic will happen throughout the project. Interior lanes will be first followed by the outer lanes.

The Mayor announced that the Thistle Nationals will be held on July 31st through August 8th at CYC. 150 boats will be at the Yacht Club and many visitors will be in the city. Chief Lenart, Chief Lichman and the Marine Patrol have been working closely with CYC making sure this is a safe and positive event.

There is a lot of beach debris on the beaches due to the large amount of rain from recent storms. The Parks Department and the Chamber of Commerce will be there to help clean the debris. There are piles of driftwood for anyone who may want some.

The “Summer of Fun” takes the place of “River Days”. Events are as follows:

- July 24th is a Movie in the Park at City Hall. The movie is Raya and the Last Dragon.
- July 25th is Christmas in July at the outdoor pool with holiday festivities
- July 25th at 7:00 p.m., the “Back to the Future” Band, an 80’s tribute band, will be performing at Rocky River Park.
- August 6th is a free concert at the Senior Center by the “Spider Stompers”.
- August 7th is a Beach Party at the outdoor pool.
- August 11th is “Touch a Truck” at the Service Garage.
- August 13th is Backyard Gardening with many groups joining in: Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District, the Community Garden Members, the Chamber of Commerce, River Sprouts, and possibly the Green Team.
- August 14th is the “Memory Lane Antique Car Show”.
- August 24th is the “Tom and Jerry Movie” at dusk at City Hall Park.

The “Taste of Rocky River” will be brought back by the Chamber of Commerce at some point. The Mayor hopes the community will enjoy all these efforts to stay connected to one another.

The Mayor announced that the Recreation Center will be closed during July 26th to August 1st for maintenance and the indoor pool will be closed for maintenance August 2nd through August 8th.

- Mr. Moran added that Councilman Shepherd’s band will be performing at Rocky River Park on August 8th while the rest of Council will be serving hot dogs to residents in attendance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 46-21: Mr. O’Donnell stated this is regarding the delinquent sewer accounts but is not on the Committee-of-the-Whole agenda this evening as we thought it might be passed during the Special Legislative Meeting held earlier. This was put on hold as the exhibit has not been revised as more payments may be received tomorrow.

ORDINANCE NO. 55-21: Mr. O’Donnell said this was discussed earlier at the Special Meeting. This ordinance designates certain financial institutions as public depositories.

RESOLUTION NO. 56-21: This resolution requests the proceeds from the tax levy from the County delivered to the City of Rocky River more quickly and timely.

RESOLUTION NO. 57-21: This is a companion resolution to No. 56-21. This requests that all Special Assessments that the County has collected on the City of Rocky River’s behalf be advanced to the city along with the tax levies identified in 56-21.

- Mr. Furry asked why the exhibit on Resolution No. 46-21 could not be updated for this evening’s meeting. Mr. Thomas explained that he wanted to be sure the Finance Office had received all the payments postmarked prior to the due date. The deadline was Friday, with some payments made today and he is anticipating more may come in tomorrow.

- Director Thomas also said he reached out to Ohio Savings regarding Ordinance No. 55-21 by letter on July 15th and the legal notices have been posted. Mr. Moran asked if this could be passed prior to the August due date for application. Mr. Thomas said it would be interesting if the Ordinance designating an institution as a public depository passed but the institution has not made application. Mr. O'Donnell asked if Ohio Savings is added, will the ordinance need to be amended. Mr. Thomas said he would like it to be added.

Mr. Moran confirmed that there will be a Legislative Meeting next Monday on July 26th and Council will then be in recess the month of August. The first meeting in September will be September 13th. Mr. Moran looks forward to seeing everyone on August 8th, at Rocky River Park.

As there was no further business by members of Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

James W. Moran
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council