

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

June 21, 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,
Mrs. Morris, Mr. Klym, Mr. Moran

Absent: Mr. Furry

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

Law Director: Mr. Bemer

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor thanked all of the administrative staff that assisted with the "Mayor for the Day". Lilly Owens was Mayor for the Day on Wednesday being sworn in at 10:00 a.m. Lilly reviewed and inspected every department in the city and had a wonderful time. Lilly is 13 years old and lives with her family in Rocky River. Her parents bid on an auction item for the Rocky River Education Foundation Benefit. Lilly and the Mayor discussed the three branches of government and several other things. Lilly had many ideas for change or improvement at many of the parks in the city. Her final act was to draft a proclamation, with the help of Mrs. Umerley, where she talked about her day and honored her family by naming the day after her family as the "Owens Family Day" in the City of Rocky River. Lilly is an incredibly energetic, bright young woman and the Mayor told her the future looked bright for us to have youth like Lilly interested in Government. Lilly also met the Judges and Clerk of Court and has her own personalized hard hat. Lilly received some special mementos for her day as Mayor. The Mayor deeply thanked Mrs. Umerley for planning this entire wonderful day for Lilly.

The Mayor stated that for the month of June, the city collected \$1,886,000 in Municipal Income Tax, which is above the five-year average. It is below June of 2019 but is outpacing the month of June in other years. The most notable in 2021, the city has collected \$8.8 million in Municipal Income Tax, putting the city slightly over 56% of the budgeted revenue amount from income taxes.

Director Thomas is the city's representative with the Regional Income Tax Agency. They had their annual meeting on June 11th. The Mayor noted that R.I.T.A.'s membership spans 77 counties out of 88 in the State of Ohio. 345 cities and villages and 43 JED and enterprise zones. Several members attended and elected new officers, three of which are from northeast Ohio. Thank you to Director Thomas for representing the city's interest well with R.I.T.A.

The Mayor has started to schedule the mid-year budget reviews. The Mayor meets with each Director and Departments to go over the first 6 months of actuals, then the next 6 months and if there are any unanticipated expenses and then begin to discuss the 2022 budget. Their drafts of the 2022 budgets are due the end of September. The Court will also be participating in the budget review.

Civil Service Entrance Exams will be this week. On Wednesday, the Fire Entrance Exam will be held with 52 applicants and on Thursday, the Police Entrance Exam will be held with 31 applicants. The Mayor is pleased with the turn out.

The City of Rocky River along with the City of Bay Village was ranked among the top Lake Beach Towns in the United States. The Mayor is very happy to receive this accolade.

This Sunday at Rocky River Park “Cheeseburger in Paradise” will be playing in the Pavilion beginning at 7:00 p.m. July 11th will be “Pie in the Park” with the band Revolution Pie, a Beatles tribute band playing. The city has received some inquiries about why concerts are not at the City Hall Gazebo. The first reason is there is a new pavilion that was built with the Summer Concert Series in mind; the second is Elle’s Enchanted Forest Playground construction will be commencing soon so the concerts would have needed to be moved if scheduled at this venue. Next year, concerts will alternate between the Gazebo and the Pavilion.

The Mayor respectfully requested an Executive Session this evening under Article X, Section 6, Subsection 3, for the purpose of a conference with our attorney to discuss a pending legal matter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Planning, Zoning and Economic Development – Mrs. Morris said that there will be a Planning Meeting this Wednesday regarding the proposed project next to the Hilroc on Hilliard Blvd. beginning at 4:30 p.m. The Mayor added that this is a joint meeting for the developer to receive feedback from the Architectural Review Board and the Planning Commission at the same time. Mr. Bemer stated that this is a Pre-Preliminary Hearing, with no notices going out and no public comment. This will be a working session to provide some guidelines.

MOTION:

Moved by Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. O’Donnell that an Executive Session under Article X, Section 6, Subsection 3, for the purpose of a conference with our attorney to discuss a pending legal matter, to be held before the end of this meeting.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Shepherd – aye	O’Donnell – aye
	Morris– aye	Klym – aye	Moran – aye
	6 ayes	0 nays	

PASSED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 39-21: Mr. Hunt stated that this has been read twice and will be read for a third time next week. Prior to this evening’s meeting, Mr. Hunt was pleased to receive from Director Snyder confirmation from Chief Lichman that the exhibit has been revised. Mr. Hunt will forward the revised exhibit to Council. This ordinance will need to be amended next week by substitution and include the new agreement. This ordinance is a yearly ordinance and is accepting funds from ODNR for the operation of the Marine Patrol up to \$30,000. Funds are used for the operation of the Marine Patrol as well as wages for the officers that make up that unit. The city was granted an extension until July 2nd.

- Mr. Bemer looked at the agreement and feels there are still issues with the revised exhibit. Mr. Hunt will review and make the necessary adjustments prior to next Monday’s meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 40-21: This ordinance was passed at the Special Meeting prior to the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting this evening.

ORDINANCE NO. 41-21: This is for the purchase of a 2022 Ford F-550 chassis with Lift body from Valley Ford Truck as part of the Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Act for an amount not to exceed \$151,860. This truck will replace the current lift truck for the traffic division that has been deemed unsafe for use by our mechanics. The current truck is a 1997 Ford with very little trade-in value. This will be read for a third time next week and placed on the Consent Agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. 42-21: This is to enter into a contract with Pavement Technology, Inc. for the purchase and application of Reclamite Pavement Preservation for Hilliard Blvd between Westmoor and the Westlake line in an amount not to exceed \$49,932.61. The use of Reclamite is a new application for pavement preservation and for the extension of pavement life. It is a liquid that is applied to the surface that seals the pores of the asphalt to prevent against water infiltration and extend the life of the pavement another 2-5 years. This will be placed on the Consent Agenda.

- Mrs. Morris asked how the product test worked on Middlepost. Mr. Snyder said the application was seamless. He has noticed a significant difference on Middlepost as it sheds water well. This process works by replacing the binding agent in the asphalt. The agent is a wax free base, petroleum malting base rejuvenating agent.
- Mr. Moran added that the City of Westlake has added the application to all of its resurfacing projects and Bay Village is in the process of applying this product to their recently paved streets. Mr. Snyder concurred. Part of the service provided is to guide the traffic during the application process. Mr. Snyder added that the cost is .92 per square yard, but with the Cuyahoga County Preventative Maintenance Grant, the County is paying for .20 out of the .92 per square yard for material.
- Mr. Shepherd asked if this process replace the Crack Sealing. Mr. Snyder said that if this works well, this could replace the Crack Sealing.
- Mr. Hunt asked when Westlake applies this product. Westlake incorporates this right into the bid. Mr. Snyder said that whoever wins the contract will mark it up and have Pavement Technology come in and do the application. Economically it makes more sense to have a contract with Pavement Technology for an extra sealant.

ORDINANCE NO. 43-21: RMH Concrete and Foundations, Inc. to complete the site work and install concrete curbs for Elle's Enchanted Playground in an amount not to exceed \$50,009.20. The site work performed by RMH will be for three location at City Hall Park in preparation of the installation of the accessible playground material and poured in placed rubber playground surface to be installed. Mr. Snyder said that if this is approved, there will be a preconstruction meeting. The contractor is ready to go when the city is ready to go. The playground will be very accessible for anyone who wants to use it. This will be placed on the Consent Agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. 44-21: Mr. Moran stated that this is for the purchase of 2022 Ford F-550 truck with plowing capability that will replace a 2007 truck that has over 88,000 miles on it. The back end of the current truck is loose and loud and is also rusted out. This will be placed on the Consent Agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. 45-21: Mr. O'Donnell stated that this ordinance was read for the first time last week. It relates to the bond financing for the Police Department. Council approved something similar in 2019 and 2020. These are 30-year bonds of \$9,900,000 at an interest rate not to exceed 4%. The 2020 notes mature in September and the city will pay the interest that has accrued on those notes. This ordinance is essentially a rollover of those 2020 notes for \$9.9 million. This financing plan is consistent with the financing plans to issue these notes and bonds and pay them off as they come due until such time as the construction of the police department is actually completed at which point they will be bond them out fully. This will have a full three reads.

- Mr. Klym asked about Section 10 on page 4, it talks about a levy on taxable property. Mr. Thomas stated that this section provides that in the event that it is not paid from other sources, Council is committing that it will levy on the property. The Mayor stated that this is not the administration's intent. Mr. Shepherd asked if this is standard language that people that buy the bonds require.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 46-21: Mr. O'Donnell stated that this is an annual resolution to certify special assessments for delinquent sanitary sewer accounts as of December 31, 2020. Charges have been billed to residents throughout 2020 and billed again in March and June of 2021. Exhibit A shows the accounts that remain outstanding and will be placed on property tax bills to assist the city in collecting these amounts. People will pay their bill between now and passage, so there will be an amendment before passage noting those accounts that have been paid.

- Mr. Moran asked if there is an additional charge placed on the property tax bill. Director Thomas said that the county adds a 1% fee to the residents property tax account. It is a collection benefit for the county. Mr. Thomas stated that a letter is sent advising if these amounts are unpaid, there will be an assessment. The Mayor said that there are fees and penalties attached to unpaid balances. In 2020 because of the pandemic, fees and penalties were not issued on these accounts. The March 2021 bill includes fees and penalties that helps cover the administrative expense.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: Mr. Moran announced that St. Demetrius is have their Greek Festival. It will only be a drive through this year, beginning this Thursday through Sunday for drive through only.

Mr. Moran discussed the new Liquor License application for Nature's Oasis at 20914 Center Ridge Road. This is the old Szabo Shoe Store building. This will be discussed further at next week's meeting.

Mr. Moran announced that Council will move into Executive Session at 7:54 p.m.

As there was no further business by members of Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

James W. Moran
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council