

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

May 3, 2021

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

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

Law Director: Mr. Bemer

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor discussed that the city submitted two Federal Community Priority Projects both to Congresswoman Kaptur and Congressman Gonzalez. One is for Bradstreet's Landing totaling \$2.3 million for the driveway, parking lot and some of the stream restoration and various issues there, which is a very large project. The second is the Buckingham, Arundel and Argyle Sewer Project totaling about \$3 million. The Congressional Request was \$2.4 million, but the city has seen early support for this project in the amount of \$2.5 million dollar from Congressman Gonzalez. The Mayor has reached out to Congresswoman Kaptur's office about both projects. Congresswoman Kaptur has a focus on the health of the Great Lakes because of the district that she covers. Thank you to Director Snyder, the city engineers and many of the partners who wrote letters of support, the city has made it to the next round.

The Mayor shared Building Department Statistics: Year-to-Date through April 2021, the city totals 496 permits for almost \$17 million in valuation. The Building Department was shut down during April 2020 due to COVID-19. The ten-year average is about \$8.8 million at this time of year. In 2019, the city was at \$12.7 million in valuation and 451 permits.

The Mayor announced that the restrooms in the parks are open, showers are open at the Civic Center and the Kids Cove Child Care is being evaluated as to when that can be opened. The city is talking with the County Health Department regarding this opening. The Mayor extended thanks to Director Terry Allen along with all the staff of the Cuyahoga County Board of Health for their help weekly and sometimes daily with questions regarding the Senior Center, City Hall or the Recreation Department. The Mayor said the Board of Health has been nothing but responsive and helpful. Thank you to the Cuyahoga County Department of Health for all their help through the pandemic.

Last Saturday, the West Shore Enforcement Bureau, the Drug Task Force, held their semi-annual collection of outdated or unused medications. 421 pounds of pharmaceuticals was collected. Collection of medications is available throughout the West Shore communities 24/7, 365 days a year. In 2020, over 3,000 pounds of unused or outdated medications were collected. Appropriate disposal of these drugs is critically important for protecting the environment and preventing the diversion of pharmaceuticals into illegal distribution. Thank you to Jeff Capretto, the agent in charge, for all his good work.

The Mayor and Director Snyder received a letter from Chief George Lichman regarding Officer Katelyn Slomovitz. The commendation for Katelyn was quite remarkable. Several weeks ago, Katelyn did an inventory and impound on a vehicle that was part of a theft investigation, a routine job for officers. Several weeks following that, an Officer was hit and injured in Stow by a fleeing vehicle. Katelyn watched the footage of this

accident and realized it was the same car she inventoried and impounded in Rocky River. Katelyn quickly called the Stow police and her call was pivotal in leading to the arrest of the suspect, who was charged. Katelyn's attention to detail along with the initiative to quickly share that information deserves a big shout-out. The community is well served by someone like Katelyn. Congratulations Katelyn!

The Arbor Day Celebration was last Friday. Thank you to Councilwoman Morris for attending and Director Snyder for planting a beautiful Shingle Oak tree that will grow to 80-100 feet in height. The Pioneers named this tree as it was used to put shingles on their homes that they built. Thank you to Director Snyder and Mrs. Morris for the beautiful photos including the unfurled Tree City USA flag. The Mayor quoted Albert Einstein, "the best time to plant a tree was 50 years ago, the next best time is today." Thank you to Director Snyder for explaining the importance of trees in the community and protecting the Urban Tree Canopy with grants and all the good efforts of the staff in the Parks Department.

"Trash to Treasure" was a big success. This contest was an attempt to draw attention to reduce and reuse items in homes and turn trash into useful items. Thank you to Republic Waste Services for sending the judge and prizes along with Beth Biggins-Ramer, the new Executive Director of the Cuyahoga Solid Waste District for attending. Director Snyder also provided a tree to the winner. The community is full of very creative and resourceful residents. Thank you to everyone who participated.

The Mayor reminded Council of the Primary Election Day tomorrow.

- Mrs. Morris asked what treasure won. The Mayor replied the winners were a crocheted bag made out of blue bags; beach toys out of different plastic containers that were decorated; a measuring device used for pet food; a charcuterie board made out of an old cabinet front and two handles from an old dresser door; and a cat litter caddy. Many of the treasures will be on display at the Civic Center this week.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE

COMMUNICATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Moran mentioned the successful motorcycle parade through the city on Saturday morning. Many residents lined the streets. Thank you to the Rocky River Police Officers for their help with the parade.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 15-21: Mr. Furry stated that this ordinance needs to be read in tandem with Ordinance No. 24-21, so has been on hold. This is for the conversion of the CEPT and final clarifier project at the WWTP. This is to treat 100% of the capacity as opposed to 35%. This ordinance is for soft costs only and is not to exceed \$2,903,559.00. This was approved by the WWTP Management Committee. It was not unanimous as Westlake agreed that it has to be done but did not like the cost allocation. This will be placed on the consent agenda for next week.

ORDINANCE NO. 20-21: Mr. Klym said this has been discussed a number of times. Every two or three year's fees increase at the ice rink. Most of the fees are nominal, but the youth hockey fees are increasing more substantially. These fees have been vetted by the Parks and Rec Commission. Director Holub answered questions from Council and has not been contacted by any parents with questions. Next week will be the final read and this will be placed on the consent agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-21: Mr. Shepherd said this is an annual crack and joint sealing ordinance. This will be placed on the consent agenda. Specialized was the low bidder by \$37,000 and has done this work for the city for last several years. All their references have been checked. This involves up to 18 streets depending on how long the joint sealing material holds out.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-21: This was passed at the Special Meeting this evening.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-21: This ordinance has been referred to the Planning Commission for further review.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-21: This resolution was read for the second time at the Special Meeting this evening. This resolution dovetails with Ordinance No. 15-21 and is the reason why it is on hold. This authorizes the City to apply for, accept and enter into a water pollution control loan fund on behalf of the WWTP for planning and design of the CEPT and final clarifier improvements. Per the EPA, the City of Rocky River is the “master” even though the WWTP is a regional cooperation between Fairview, Bay Village, Westlake and Rocky River. This is why the City is applying for the low or no interest loan and the WWTP is the repayment source. The Management Committee unanimously approved the application at their meeting on April 13th, 2021. This will also be on the consent agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-21: Mr. Klym said this is another ordinance for Recreation and was discussed last week with Mr. Holub who also provided a power point slide presentation to Council. The current equipment is a large playground structure and will be replaced with new equipment in the shape of a ship along with some ADA accessible equipment as well. The cost for this will not exceed the amount of \$144,298.01. This was in the budget but came in at \$100,000 below budget. The current equipment is over 20 years old and requires major repairs. All three bids were below the budget amount and the engineer’s estimate. This will be the third read and placed on the consent agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. 26-21: Mrs. Morris said that this ordinance amends some of the Building Codes and fees. Some of the language on Exhibit A was clarified by Mr. Reich and Mr. Bemer per Mr. Furry’s request. This will be read for a second time next week.

ORDINANCE NO. 28-21: Mr. Moran said this ordinance is for the purchase of a 2019 Ford Transit Van for the Senior Center. Two Impalas with 126,000 and 124,000 miles and the Uplander with 123,000 will be traded in towards the purchase of this van. The van includes a step, a COVID screen, two additional seats and a complete lift for wheelchair accessibility. The van has 1,200 miles on it and will be purchased under the State Cooperative Purchasing Act. This will be added to the consent agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. 29-21: Mr. Shepherd stated that this ordinance will outsource the concession operations to Tasteful Sensations, LLC. This will not be on the consent agenda as Council may be amending by substitution with minor changes to the contract. This contract covers concessions for the outdoor pool, ice rink, Elmwood Park and the Civic Center. The city is guaranteed \$8,100 for two years with this company and the other bidder wanted a percentage of sales but the city would not make more than \$5,000 from this contract.

ORDINANCE NO. 30-21: Mr. Moran said that this ordinance authorizes the Safety Service Director to enter into a contract with Logicalis, Inc. for the Police Station Network Upgrade Project. The bid came in at \$63,161.63 and beat the other two bids of \$77,222 and \$76,000. Logicalis is a company the city has used in the past. This contract includes an additional firewall. Mr. Grau updated Council at last week’s meeting and this will be added to the consent agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. 31-21: Mr. Moran said that this ordinance is for Logicalis, Inc. for a Municipal Phone System for \$145,400.67. This was the best out of two bids and the third bid was incomplete. This was read for a second time this evening. The Mayor added that the warranty expired in February 2021 and technical support ends in October 2021. This will be added to the consent agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 32-21: Mr. Klym stated that this was read for the first time this evening. The Indoor Track at the Civic Center has been budgeted for the last couple of years but has not been replaced. Three bids were

received and the lowest bid was \$75,760.00 from Kiefer U.S.A. One other bid was under the budget number and a bid above it. The Recreation Department is recommending Kiefer U.S.A. This will be a two-week project and will be done later this summer. It is a pour in place project with an 8 mm overlay. They will strip lane markers off, put the new product down and add the lane markers back. It will look very similar to what is there now. The same product will be poured in the alcoves as well for easier cleaning and maintenance. There is a \$5,000 donation earmarked for the track, which will help offset the cost. This is a well-used part of the facility and this project will prolong the life of the track. This will have three full reads.

- Mr. Shepherd runs on the track and it does not appear to him to be in bad shape. Is there a certain life span regarding tracks. Mr. Klym said it is a life span concern but he will ask specifically.
- Mr. Moran asked if this product could be placed on the steps going up to the track to protect from slipping. Mr. Klym will ask.
- Mr. Furry asked how much outside contractor work will be involved with this project. Mr. Klym said this is a well-known company and has received several recommendations. He will ask about this concern also.
- The Mayor added that this product is a Green Product designation.
- Mrs. Morris asked what is “end of life” for a track and how long will this overlay extend it. The Mayor said this is the original track and was built in 2002 or 2003. All these questions will be answered.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: NONE

As there was no further business by members of Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

James W. Moran
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council