

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

June 6, 2022

The Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting of Council was called to order by Mr. Moran, President of Council, at 7:00 p.m. in the David J. Cook Council Chambers.

Council Members Present: Mr. Hunt, Mr. Shepherd, Mrs. Gallagher, Mr. Furry,
Mrs. Morris, Mr. Sindelar, Mr. Moran

Administration: Mayor Bobst, Mr. Snyder

Law Director: Mr. O'Shea

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Moran welcomed Building Commissioner Ray Reich and Dr. Gary Previts to this evening's meeting.

Commissioner Reich discussed Amended Ordinance No. 71-21 and clarified questions from Council. Mr. Reich stated that the Planning Commission has discussed this four times with the first discussion being in December 2021. Mr. Reich said that the R1 and R2 for single family parking regulations have been consolidated in the accessory uses in Codified Ordinance No. 1153.15 (L)(4). Language was added in 1153.15 concerning commercial motor vehicles along with trailers and commercial trailers. In 1111.09 the design guideline was removed that would build the garage on the lower side. Accessory space has always been included in 1153.15 (L)(4). A, B, C & D have been added to this section along with a drawing showing the design the Building Department will approve. The Mayor added that this formatting fits well with the new Development Code Redesign with the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission and compresses all the information in the correct area.

The Mayor added that the Building Department is highly thought of by the residents. The Department is very helpful and it is all about finding solutions. Thanks to Commissioner Reich and the staff of the building department as it continues to be highly successful in meeting the needs of residents and contractors.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor announced that the City of Rocky River was voted #2 Suburb for 2022 in the Cleveland Magazine. The city is pleased to be highlighted in the insert along with an article on the Rocky River Chamber of Commerce. The cover of the magazine highlights a Rocky River home with a teacher from Rocky River High School and his family.

The Mayor thanked everyone who was in attendance for the Memorial Day Ceremony along with everyone who helped place the flags on Saturday. The Ceremony on Monday was beautiful along with the great accompaniment of the Rocky River High School Band.

The State Capital Budget was presented, approved and is going on to the Governor for his signature. The city applied for the Center Ridge Streetscape Improvements. The city is receiving \$200,000 for the streetscape improvements and will leverage the ODOT Urban Paving Program on Center Ridge along with the CMAQ Grant. A big thank you to Director Snyder as this is the largest amount awarded in the Westshore. This was a lot of work and detail that Director Snyder compiled along with support letters

from the school, the Chamber of Commerce and the Welsh Home. Thank you also to Representatives Matt Dolan and Monique Smith for their help in securing these dollars.

The city went out to bid again for Bradstreet's Landing and received only one bid which was considerably over the engineer's estimate. The lack of bids is attributed to many projects being worked on along with workforce and material issues. The city will have the railings installed, open the pier and park and go out for bid in the fall for construction in the Spring of 2023. The administration is incredibly disappointed in the fact that Phase II cannot be completed this year.

The city is out for bid for a new fire truck engine which will take 18-27 months to build. The estimate is about \$750,000.

The Mayor discussed the Building Department Stats: The city is at 612 permits which is 6 permits below 2021 at this time and about \$4 million under in terms of valuation and investment. The good news is that valuation is at \$16 million, which is above the 10-year average of \$13.8 million. The greatest number of permit growth is on the commercial side as opposed to the residential side for the last two years.

The Mayor stated that the city is preparing for Inflow and Infiltration (I & I) meetings with residents beginning with Hampton and Lakeview residents. The city performed a pilot program of dye testing with these homes. The city needs to be sure that homes are disconnected from the sanitary sewer lines. The city has completed the public side and now needs the residents to help with the private side. Since the 1972 Clean Air and Water Act, if homes are connected to the sanitary sewer, they must be disconnected. There are about nine homes that dye tested positive with the pilot program. There is an ongoing process with the Building Department to work with residents. If a resident is completing a major renovation in their home, the city will be asking these residents to dye test and confirm to the city that they are not tied into the sanitary sewer lines. Going forward, as the city completes projects, the I & I dye testing will be completed at the same time.

Next Monday in Council Chambers beginning at 6:00 p.m., the city will have the engineer's working with Lakewood on the Confluence Study present their ideas for the Clifton Lake Road Bridge. For the City of Rocky River, a bike path is being proposed. Lakewood is a much larger project. There is also a design that would take the Clifton/Lake Road Bridge down to two lanes with the northern lanes being used as an observation deck overlooking the river, yacht club and Lake Erie. The city administration has a lot of questions including ODOT's approved of this proposal. The Mayor is encouraging Council and residents to attend.

The Mayor is pleased to note that there are 57 events planned this month at Memorial Hall, getting close to pre-COVID numbers.

The Mayor announced that the batting cages at Elmwood Park have been removed and new batting cages will be installed.

This Thursday the outdoor pool will be opening from 12:00 p.m. through 8:00 p.m. Lap swims will be available in the morning followed by swim classes until noon.

The city is still hoping to hire more Camp Counselors.

This Saturday at Linden Park from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., the city is hosting a Family Fitness Day. There will be a bounce house along with give aways including bikes and bike helmets. This is sponsored with the National Parks and Recreation Association and Meijer's Stores and the Parks and Recreation

Foundation are providing some of the sponsorship money. Director Holub and several staff members are active with the National Parks and Recreation Association.

The Mayor announced that the Senior Center Art Show will be ending this Friday.

- Mr. Sindelar asked if the rebid for Bradstreet's Landing came in at the same as the last bid. Mr. Snyder explained that the city did amend the original bid by allowing a longer period of time for completion of different milestones of the project. There was also adjustments in numbers due to increased concrete costs. The Mayor added that Director Snyder spent days on the phone with contractors encouraging them to bid on the project.
- Mr. Sindelar asked if the firefighters were involved in the design of the new fire engine. Director Snyder stated that a committee was established within the fire department to evaluate the specifications of the engine.
- Mr. Furry asked if the railings for Bradstreet's Landing will be installed this June. Director Snyder stated that the contractor will be on site at the end of this week starting with the area between the old and new part of the pier. The next phase to be installed will be from that connector out to the old section followed by the arch at the end of the pier. Work is being done daily on the pier.
- Mr. Furry asked if there has been any pushback on sidewalk repair. Mr. Snyder said if a resident has a question, please call his office. The pink dot on a sidewalk means it is the responsibility of the homeowner and the white dot is the city's responsibility.
- Mr. Hunt noticed a sidewalk marked last year on Avalon that has not been repaired. Director Snyder said that residents had until the end of October last year to fix the sidewalk. The city has mailed two letters to residents regarding last year sidewalk repair, and now they will be cited if the sidewalk has not been repaired. Mr. Hunt also thanked Director Snyder for his help last week with a resident concern.
- Mrs. Morris asked if there has been other dye testing. Mr. Snyder said that in 2012 many homes were tested. The Mayor said that follow-up and remediation is not something that was done. In 2004, there was a sewer rehabilitation on Story and Wooster and residents were told they were tied in, and residents were not happy. There are low cost and no cost ways to disconnect but homeowners cannot do any harm to neighboring properties. The city is looking for other ways and possibly at the point of sale for a home, the tie-in must be disconnected. This is an EPA mandate and the amended administrative order of consent from the US EPA gives the City of Rocky River five years to close the SSO at Magnolia and Westway and only 10 years to close the second SSO in the city.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL: President Moran presented statistics to Council regarding his review of the Cleveland Magazine Suburb Ratings. Mr. Moran noted that Rocky River averages 3.25 over the last 8 years. Nineteen of the last 22 years, the City of Rocky River has been in the top 10 of communities. Congratulations to the administration who does the job needed to keep us in the top 10. The Mayor thanked Council for their support year after year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 71-21: Mrs. Morris said that Building Commissioner Reich discussed this earlier during the meeting. This will be up for passage at next week's Legislative Meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 29-22: Mr. Shepherd said this will be up for passage next week due to a grant deadline. Mr. Shepherd would like two items deleted from the contract concerning that jurisdiction venue for disputes cannot be limited to Michigan and attorney's fees provision where they get attorney fees if they have to sue on an account. Mr. O'Shea agreed with no attorney fees, have to sue in Ohio, we do not indemnify, believe in liquidated damages or caps on damages. Mr. Shepherd stated that these revisions are needed by next week or it cannot be passed.

ORDINANCE NO. 30-22: Mr. Shepherd said this is scheduled for a second read for a new Trane HVAC unit for the Civic Center replacing a 2001 Trane unit.

ORDINANCE NO. 31-22: Mr. Shepherd stated that this is a contract for the sewer improvements for the Collver and Oak Road storm sewer. This will correct the sewers, repave streets and complete curb work. This is set for a second read.

ORDINANCE NO. 32-22: Mr. Shepherd said this is for a new cooling tower for the ice rink. There was only one bid in response, but this was priced out last year and the bid is in that range. Mr. Holub said the current unit was installed in the 1990's. The city is in contract with Tempest for service and are in the second year of a five-year contract. This contract covers preventative maintenance, emergency calls and has saved the city more than the annual cost of \$26,640 for the service. The service contract with Tempest has been beneficial and will remain in place.

ORDINANCE NO. 33-22: Mr. Shepherd said this is for the Spencer Road Sewer and Pavement Improvement Project. There are some storm laterals that are improperly connected into the sanitary system. This is set for a second read.

ORDINANCE NO. 34-22: Mr. Sindelar said that this is for the purchase of two 25 cubic yard leaf collectors in the amount of \$230,384 including a \$3,000 freight charge for delivery. There were three bids received but the best bid was not the lowest. The city chose the Spartan leaf collectors over the Dinkmar unit. Mr. Sindelar has pictures of the unit if Council is interested. This will have two more reads.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 35-22: President Moran said this is to certify the unpaid property maintenance costs to the Cuyahoga County Fiscal Officer for collection. This is done annually. The city provided maintenance for these properties and must be paid by June 23rd. The city will accept a partial payment of the amount due and only the unpaid amount would remain subject to certification for assessment. This will have three reads.

- Mr. Furry asked if the Goldengate address has been a concern. The house is gone, but the property has not been sold.

RESOLUTION NO. 36-22: President Moran said this is to establish a recess for the month of August for City Council and the administration. This has been done for the last 20 plus years. This will have three reads.

ORDINANCE NO. 37-22: Mr. Shepherd said this is authorizing a contract with AECOM Technical Services for the dye testing of Lakeview and Hampton discussed in the Mayor's report. Mr. Shepherd said this is to see where stormwater on the residential side is being improperly flowed into the sanitary system. Mr. Shepherd stated he had personal experience with this the first time around in 2012 and he was not in compliance. During a home improvement project however, he was able to correct it at almost no expense. It is important to get the notice out to residents. The proposal shows a public relationship component including public meetings, door hangars and communications. The testing entails any location that is draining into the sanitary sewer. The Magnolia SSO was shut off a few years ago causing a major back up in basements on Magnolia.

- Mrs. Morris asked what area would be tested next. Director Snyder said the next step would be to circle back on other rehabilitation projects, most likely Morewood Parkway, Frazier, Collver and Oak. Going forward, dye testing will be done during sewer projects.

ORDINANCE NO. 38-22: This amends Ordinance No 19-22 with an increase for lifeguards to \$15.00 an hour and an increase to \$20.00 for the pool supervisor position. The Lead Supervisor in the Service Division will also receive a CDL stipend. This will be discussed further next week.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: President Moran said the next meeting will be on June 13th in Council Chambers following the 6:00 p.m. meeting with engineers regarding the Lakewood Confluency Study.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

As there was no further business by members of Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

James W. Moran
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council