

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

May 16, 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. Moran

Council Member Absent: Mr. Sindelar

Administration: Mayor Bobst, Mr. Snyder

Law Director: Mr. O'Shea

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor discussed the Centennial Celebration at St. Christopher Church this past Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. The first Mass celebrated at St. Christopher's was at Rocky River Town Hall, 100 years ago. The Mayor thanked St. Christopher's leadership and parishioners for being very active and a very compassionate presence within the community. St. Christopher has opened their doors widely when the community has needed them most. The Mayor appreciates St. Christopher for being an important part of the Rocky River Community.

Chief Lichman sent the Mayor a letter of commendation for Patrolman Nathaniel Gonzalez who was the individual keeping a watchful eye on the Post Office. He witnessed on four occasions, the breaking in to the mailbox at the Rocky River Post Office. Patrolman Gonzales recovered a lot of mail, a stolen vehicle and three arrests due to his good police work. Chief Lichman stated that Patrolman Gonzalez went above and beyond and the Chief wanted to acknowledge his efforts. The Mayor and administration are grateful for his efforts. A huge congratulations to Patrolman Gonzalez.

The city received notification from the EPA that there are additional EV Station dollars available. They have offered the city a potential of about \$15,000. The city responded yes, that the additional funds would be accepted.

- Councilwoman Morris asked if the city would keep these EV Stations in the same area. Mr. Snyder explained that these funds are based on the original application for funds in 2020 for the two level two stations out front. This would cover the cost of those. The submission for this year for DCFC, the fast chargers, is still under review. Director Snyder stated that all this funding is part of the Diesel Mitigation Trust Fund through the EPA.

The Mayor said that grinding has commenced on Wooster Road and the chip sealing will be done on Wednesday followed by the intermediate course of asphalt on Thursday. The project is anticipated to be completed by the end of May.

The Mayor said that the city will rebid the Bradstreet's Landing Project. Only one bid was received but was over the engineer's estimate. The engineer's estimate is about \$2.5 million. The rebid opening will be Friday, June 3rd. The city will reach out to several contractors explaining that this work will need to be completed by the end of this year. The paving of the parking lot and upland work can be completed early in 2023. The brushed stainless steel and wood has been received and the fabricator is working

feverishly to fabricate the material into the railings. As soon as the rails are installed, the pier will open, hopefully by the end of June. The specifications for this project were done with precision and now some of the materials cannot be obtained. The anchors for the railing were not obtainable but the fabricator has a new anchor system that will be used.

- Councilwoman Morris asked if the city invites contractors to bid. The Mayor stated that it needs to be publicly advertised but the city does reach out to contractors. Mr. Snyder said that contractors were invited from the beginning. The key to the rebid is to find out why some of the contractors that purchased plans did not submit a bid. Several of the contractors said that they did not have the time to do the estimate. The contractors are having problems with their crews and are short on estimators. The rebid may buy the contractor's additional time. Mr. Snyder added that by extending the upland portion, it allows more flexibility to finish the asphalt next year as opposed to finishing the whole project by the end of 2022.

The Mayor said that bike maintenance stations are being installed near the pool and Rocky River Park. One will be installed at Bradstreet's Landing when it is completed and possibly Old Detroit Road. Century Cycle is always willing to help residents with their bikes. Raleigh Bicycles have supported the Bike to School Program in the past and donated \$1,000 to the city, which was used towards the purchase of the maintenance stations. The Mayor also reached out to NOACA to add the location of bike maintenance stations to their map.

Thank you to the Rocky River Fire Department for working with a girl scouting group and their egg drop. The ladder truck was used to test their engineered encasement for the egg. Several of the eggs survived the 70-foot drop. Several more groups are asking to use the ladder truck.

This Saturday morning the Rocky River Chamber of Commerce will be at Elmwood Park "Strengthening Our Roots" at 9:00 a.m. The city is very appreciative of this effort. The Chamber of Commerce had a very successful time capsule event last Thursday receiving unbelievable items for the capsule, including COVID tests and masks.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Parks and Recreation and Health Committee met last Thursday. Mr. Furry reports that there were no fees up for approval, the ongoing progression of Safety Town and the wait list for the summer camps that sold out quickly were discussed. The Recreation Center is working on hiring additional staff and hope to be able to add to the camp.

- President Moran asked about the musical instruments that will be added to City Hall Park. The Mayor said that an employee's mother passed away and she asked that memorials be sent to the Parks and Rec. Musical auditory and sensory pieces of equipment will be added to Elle's Enchanted Playground for autistic children, in memory of this employee's mother.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL: President Moran echoed the Mayor's remarks about St. Christopher's Centennial Celebration this weekend. It was great to see so many people at St. Christopher and we will look forward to supporting St. Christopher Church another 100 years.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 71-21: Mrs. Morris said this continues to be referred to the Planning Commission and will be discussed tomorrow evening at the Planning Commission Meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-22: Mr. Hunt said this will be read for a third time at next week's Legislative Meeting. This ordinance reaffirms the prohibition of fireworks in the city pursuant to Chapter 1519. In

October, the Ohio General Assembly passed substitute HB 172 and was signed by Governor DeWine in November. On July 1st, 2022 it will go into effect for possession, discharge and ignition of exploding fireworks. The city wants to have this ordinance in place prior to July 1st. Councilman Hunt counted 19 days that HB 172 would otherwise allow fireworks to be discharged. This ordinance will reaffirm the city's ban that is codified in Chapter 1519. This will be added to a consent agenda for next week.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-22: Mr. Moran said this will be read for a third time at next week's meeting. This is payment to the City of Cleveland Water Department for the annual cost of the water meter readings in the amount of \$33,775.08. The consumption data from 2021 through March 2022 is needed to generate the sanitary sewer bills.

- The Mayor added that since 2018 the cost has been around \$33,500. It represents \$4.44 per connection in the entire city. Councilman Moran stated last week that the numbers are all within about \$1,000 for the last five years. The \$4.44 has not increased at all. This will be added to the consent agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. 26-22: This ordinance is for the purchase of playground equipment for Morley Park. Mr. Furry shared the latest colored renderings of the project a couple of weeks ago. From a distance, the current playground equipment looks fine but closer inspection, it is not. Six proposals were vetted by the Parks and Rec Commission, the Parks and Rec Foundation as well as Rec Department staff. Several vendors submitted multiple proposals, some of which met the Request For Proposal, some of which did not. It was a very tight grouping. Snyder Recreation was the lowest and best bidder. Let the record show that the Safety-Service Director is not related to this vendor. There has not been a lot of discussion and Mr. Furry would like to add this to the consent agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. 28-22: Mr. Shepherd said this approves \$45,000 to be set aside to purchase parts for repairs possibly needed for the leaf grinders and compactors for the remainder of the year. This will be the third read with little discussion and Mr. Shepherd would like this on the consent agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. 29-22: Mr. Shepherd said this is for the purchase of two cardboard compactors located at the Service Garage. One proposal was received in the amount of \$88,000 with \$25,000 will be reimbursed by a grant from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District. There is a deadline on this grant, so Mr. Shepherd anticipates asking for a rule suspension on the second read. This will help with the recycling of cardboard and mixed paper for the city. The city typically pays \$160.00 per month for the dumpsters that service this product. With these compactors, the city anticipates \$125-\$175 revenue per load in addition to the grant money. It is a range because of the market for pulp and paper changes monthly for commodity pricing. This vendor has no unresolved findings with the Ohio Auditors in the Ohio Auditors Database.

- Mr. Furry asked if there would be two compactors? Mr. Snyder said yes and they will be placed at the Service Station because of the need to be monitored. Mr. Snyder would like to steer residents to the Service Station. On a monthly basis the city receives 21 tons of cardboard and mixed paper from the current cardboard/paper bins. By doing this, it would increase the city's revenue and quell the overflow of bins at city hall. The containers at the Service Department holds four cubic yards. A ReadyNotify will be sent out. Mr. Furry stated that the problem with this is the gates lock at the Service Department. The Mayor added that the city hall bins are picked up three times a week. When cardboard is left outside the bins, the city will pick those up and take it to the Service Station. The new compactors will take up the majority of the space of the current bins at the Service Station. If the cardboard is separated, the overall value increases.

- President Moran stated that comingling cardboard and paper should be revisited as it costs the city money.

Mr. Shepherd stated that the contract attachment may be changed due to an adjustment of a couple of items. Law Director O'Shea and Director Snyder will contact the vendor. Mr. Snyder said it would be great if this ordinance could be passed by June 13th. This is the only vendor that has what the City of Rocky River needs, vetted through the Solid Waste District with the safety features needed.

- Mr. Hunt asked if these compactors are specific for cardboard and paper only. Mr. Snyder said it could be used for refuse also.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: Law Director O'Shea will attend the Sunshine Law Inservice on July 14th on behalf of City Council. The Law Director added that there was a string of car break-ins on Battersea and other areas in that proximity. All the cars were unlocked. Please remind people to lock their cars when left outside in their driveway.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

As there was no further business by members of Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The next meeting will be on May 23rd in Council Chambers.

James W. Moran
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council