

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

May 15, 2023

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 a Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor stated that this weekend was another great community weekend. Thank you to many of the Councilmembers that participated in the weekend's activities. The Rocky River Chamber of Commerce, as part of their "Strengthening Our Roots Program", planted around the new sign in front of City Hall. A big thank you to Chris Klym, the President of the Chamber and former Councilman who started this program with the Chamber and Angela Barth, the Executor Director. There were also many volunteers and family members of the volunteers. Big Mouth Donuts catered along with Erie Island Coffee. Another big thank you to the city's crew; Director Snyder helped with the design along with Groundworks, Dave Arendec, John Lauer and Jeff Habeck did a great job in preparing the site and making it acceptable to receive all the beautiful plants. The Chamber also planted at the Senior Center which was having the opening of their Art Show on Saturday. There were 72 artists with more than 100 works of art are on display. The Mayor encourages Council to see the art display if they have the opportunity.

The WWTP Capital Project is starting. A sign will be placed to help with the traffic going in and out of the Transfer Station warning residents to be observant of the heavy equipment. There is a letter going out to surrounding residents to let them know of this project. Within the project scope, odor control is a key element, but there should not be an issue with it. The city will be capturing resident's email addresses for regular updates regarding this project.

The discharging of fireworks is illegal in the City of Rocky River. The sale of fireworks in the city is allowed per State law, but the discharging of the fireworks is illegal. This message will be sent out prior to Memorial Day weekend.

This week is "Peace Officer" week honoring the law enforcement personnel. Residents may be turning on blue porch lights in honor of "Peace Officer" week. Last week the Mayor reported that there were 18 applicants taking the National Police Test. That number is now up to 30 and it is just two weeks into it. The Chief reported that there has been considerable interest now that the city has lateral transfers into the Police Department. The City of Rocky River is a wonderful city to serve with a good contract. The administration is very pleased with the response.

The Mayor said that "Lime Bikes" have found their way into the community. The city does not have a contract with Lime Bikes, but the City of Cleveland and the City of Lakewood have one. People get the

bikes and ride to a destination and leave them. The bikes have GPS trackers on them and people come and pick them up and relocate them.

- Councilman Shepherd clarified that the City of Rocky River cannot sell large fireworks within the city. Sparklers, snakes and some of the smaller things can be sold, but to sell large booming fireworks is illegal and a State License is necessary through the State Fire Marshall. There are no licenses in the immediate area; only in Sandusky, Sheffield and Hudson. The Mayor asked Mr. Shepherd to send her information regarding these classifications.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Parks, Recreation and Health: Mr. Furry said the Parks and Rec Commission met on May 11, 2023. The only item up for fees on the agenda was for a new Pickleball League which will be amongst Avon Lake, Bay Village, North Ridgeville and Rocky River. They will host alternating tournaments in each city. There will be two classifications, beginners and advance leagues. It will consist of a three-man team and anticipating five weeks of regular season and one week of playoffs.

Planning, Zoning and Economic Development: Mrs. Gallagher said that there will be a Planning Commission Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday evening. The Roundstone Building is the only item on the agenda. This Thursday there will be a BZA Meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL: NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 39-23: Mr. Moran said this ordinance is in regard to paying the Cleveland Water Department \$33,433.20 for water meter readings from March 1st, 2022 to February 28th, 2023. There are 7,530 meters to read at the cost of \$4.44 per meter. This is much cheaper than if the city handled it. This was read last week for the first time with a second read at next week's Legislative Meeting. There will be a small increase to \$4.65 this coming year for next year.

- Mrs. Morris asked what the cost would have to be before the city handles the meter readings. Mr. Moran said it would be a substantial amount of money to hire staff to handle the readings and the billings. The Mayor said it is evaluated yearly. If Cleveland Water were doing the billing, it would be done monthly with automatic meter reads but it is still cost prohibitive.

RESOLUTION NO. 40-23: Mr. Shepherd said this resolution authorizes the administration to submit and administer an application to NOACA for a Congested Mitigation and Air Quality Funding. This is for the section of Center Ridge Road between Pease Drive and Spencer Road. This project will make the signaling lights work better to help traffic congestion and traffic flow on Center Ridge Road and will add preemption on the light system for emergency vehicles. This is similar to the project done in 2020-2021 on Center Ridge Road between Linda and Glenbar Drive. It is estimated to cost \$755,500 for this project and the city is applying for \$450,000 from NOACA.

ORDINANCE NO. 41-23: Mr. Shepherd said this authorizes the utilization of SmithGroup for additional engineering and design review during for Phase II of Bradstreet's Landing. SmithGroup did help with value engineering and preparation of documents for the bidding process. This will allow the city to use SmithGroup furthermore if there are any submittal reviews or request for information by the contractors when they carry out this contract. The reason it is in front of Council is in case it is necessary; the administration will not have to come back to Council if needed on a fast basis. This is not a request for additional appropriations, but will allow for this contractor to be given work above and beyond the \$50,000 limit per vendor per year.

- Mr. Furry asked when the pier will open. Director Snyder said the current update on Bradstreet's Landing is on the Service Garage Facebook page by QCI, the construction administrator. The pier itself has two final pieces of railing that need to be specially fabricated for a corner. This should be wrapped up by next week, sandblasted and installed within three weeks. The update provided today states people will be able to access the pier within three weeks. The final bit of work needing to be done for the pier itself is the under-railing lighting which will begin this week. Phase II is underway, so there may be limited access to the pier during the construction of Phase II, but access should be maintained evenings and weekends. Kayak and paddleboard access is expected to be maintained. The administration will provide ongoing updates regarding the access as Phase II is progressing. The contractor with Phase II has been moving along quickly. A lot of the site work is well underway.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 42-23: This is an emergency ordinance authorizing the purchasing of equipment and repair services from Huber Technology for the WWTP. This is for the failure of one of the four bar screens. Bar screens screen out the large material at the head of the plant. The equipment failure occurred due to a shear pin breaking causing mechanical portions of the device to contort the stainless steel within the screen. Huber provided a quote for \$117,000 to fix it, but the Superintendent utilized staff to repair what they could which brought the quote down to \$78,000. This equipment was carrying a heavier current than it should have and was not on a maintenance schedule which would have found the issue quicker. Going forward, there will be inspections and repair on the remaining screens. The WWTP is exploring a contract with Huber to have certified inspections on an annual rotation.

- Mr. Sindelar said that shear pins, by design, usually are meant to break away. Is it to stop back up? Mr. Snyder believes so, but in this case something may have been jammed in place to twist the stainless steel. Mrs. Morris said that part of it was that more water was running through it than there should have been.
- Mr. Snyder thanked members of Council for Legislation such as 41-23 where additional authorization has been requested. Earlier this year Council approved additional authorization for Best Equipment Co. that helped the city out this week. There was an emergency repair necessary for the Sewer Jet which is an essential piece of equipment in the Sewer Department. A major piece of the Sewer Jet broke and Mr. Snyder was able to start that purchase process without concerns of going over the vendor limit.
- Mr. Shepherd added that Mr. Snyder will try to list the closures for Bradstreet's Landing prior to people heading down with their kayaks or paddleboards on Facebook. Mr. Snyder said he will do his best to update that with weekly conversations with the construction administrator and contractor. Precision Engineering and Contracting has been a great company to work with, with great communications. Mr. Snyder believes they will be able to work out weekly schedules.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: NONE

President Moran thanked everyone for attending this evening's meeting. The next Legislative Meeting will be Monday, May 22nd. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

James W. Moran
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council