

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

September 15, 2025

The Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting of Council was called to order by Mr. Hunt, President Pro-Tem of Council, immediately following the Special Meeting in the David J. Cook Council Chambers.

Council Members Present: Mr. Hunt, Mrs. Gallagher, Mr. O'Boyle,
Mr. Shipp, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Sindelar

Council Members Absent: Mr. Furry

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

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor is hopeful that everyone received the Construction Update that was sent out on Friday. Most notably is the I 90 construction. It is very disruptive and is not a project that the city leads but it is lead by ODOT. The city works closely with them and considers them to be good partners although when they are working at night it is extremely disruptive to residents that live in that area. The Mayor spoke with John Picuri who is the head of this ODOT district. John is very responsive and the Mayor appreciates that. Mr. Picuri said that most of the work at night has already been completed. They will only be working at night when they must grind or remove the lane markings and the barriers they use to divide the traffic. This is because they are doing two inner lanes and two outer lanes, etc. That work is just about complete so there should be limited work performed at night. In April 2026, they will be back out there because they will switch the lanes. The plan is that in April 2026 there will be a few days of grinding and working on I 90 at night. The movement of lanes is better accomplished at night when there is less traffic. In November 2026 there will be another movement. To the extent they can minimize the loud noise at night, they are going to do that and are prepared to do that along with their contractor Shelley. Next summer, the only at night work may be the decking of the bridges because that must have lower temperatures and limited humidity for that process to take place. This is not going to be every night for two years; it will be intermittent. The Mayor has asked them to communicate with the city when they expect the contractor to engage in evening work so residents can be alerted. Mr. Picuri will be sending the plan in writing.

The Mayor said that the crack sealing and striping work that the city engaged with on the longer roads has been completed. Thank you to Director Snyder for making sure that happened.

The Mayor said that the State Legislature became very involved in Cyber Security Legislation mandating several things to local communities and political subdivisions. The City of Rocky River has already met many of the criteria because the city has been working with the insurance company putting a number of things in place that are now mandated so the city would be in compliance with the Cyber Security Insurance. The last piece will come before Council and that will be the city's Cyber Security Policy. The State Legislature has asked that it come to Council for approval. The Law Department is working on that currently and then it will come before Council. It is very straightforward. The city was already working on the mandates and had it in place but the city wants to be sure that in addition to operationalizing all of the requirements the city is putting into policy what the state has asked the city to do.

The Mayor said that at the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting on October 6th, there will be a full presentation on the new Fire Station. Councilman Sindelar asked last week if it would be complimentary to the Police Station. The Mayor passed around renderings of the fire station recently received. Eventually, this information will be on the city's website.

The Mayor extends a huge thank you to the community, the Parks and Recreation Foundation, and the Recreation and Service Departments for the very successful Fall Arts Festival that was held Saturday. Merchants, artists and community were happy. Thank you to all of them as this has become a wonderful tradition where the community gathers together.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

President Pro Tem Hunt introduced Chief Lichman to discuss the next five ordinances pending. The Mayor said that the Chief, in preparation, included three very lengthy documents. If anyone in the audience would like to see the briefings and receive those, they can be sent out. The Chief will now speak to some of the issues that have been raised.

Ordinance No. 49-25: Mr. Hunt said this ordinance proposes to enact a three-foot buffer for parking in front of public or private driveways. Mr. Hunt stated that there have been a lot of complaints and calls regarding different areas of the city about parking and the density of parking cramming two or three cars between residential aprons and causing a problem for residents and cars. This amendment would propose to establish a three-foot buffer on the aprons.

- Mrs. Gallagher said there was a party on her street yesterday and cars were parked on both sides. In instances like that, do they have to call ahead and let the police know that they will be parking on both sides of the street or would all those people be ticketed. The Chief said that traditionally they do not grant parking permission on both sides of the street. There is a fire hydrant ban to park on both sides and many of the streets in Ward 3 especially are so narrow that that would prohibit emergency vehicles from getting through particularly the pumper and ladder truck. The Chief would prefer residents find alternate parking as opposed to allowing parking on both sides of the street.
- Mrs. Gallagher has received a lot of complaints about parking by Middle School. There is a large parking lot people can park in for events. The Chief said that this summer he had a lot of residents complain because the schools hosted soccer and baseball games. Mrs. Gallagher was in communication with the school district and they did put signs up in the fields for people to park in the parking lot as opposed to the street.
- Mrs. Morris asked if the three foot a standard or where does the number come from. The Chief responded that he investigated forty cities in the region including Avon. Most said in front of a driveway apron but about 20% had a limitation that ranged anywhere from one foot to six feet with most cities limitation being about three feet. That is where the number landed. The Mayor added that part of the issue is large profile vehicles.
- Mr. Sindelar asked if there has been an uptick of year end bumper accidents coming out of driveways in the last few years. The Chief would not say that, but he would say that there are three issues: 1) over the last couple of decades there has been a transition from sedans to SUV's; 2) there has been an increase of people using landscaping services and trucks and trailers park blocking vision; and 3) there has been a lot of cars parked closely on streets. This will give a buffer where the police can ticket if necessary. Mr. Sindelar said that instead of fitting two cars between driveways there will be room for only one and landscape trucks will not have anywhere to park. This change will make it tougher on already small circumstances potentially, where there was not an uptick in accidents or people being hit backing out. Mr. Shipp added that there is an uptick in complaints about it.

- Mr. Shipp said he has received complaints on Dale Avenue. They are elderly folks and he has received calls from three different houses and emails from two others and their concern is they cannot see pulling out of their driveways safely. The turning radius to get into and out of their driveway is so tight, they are afraid they will cause an accident. Chief Lichman has been very attentive to that situation and has altered his route to work in the mornings to check out some of the streets where there are complaints. To Mr. Sindelar's point, Mr. Shipp thinks the complaints have merit or maybe they don't, but he will say there was a series of complaints when school started and then introduced this ordinance and things took a lull for a week or two and now the same people called again to say it is still happening. Mr. Sindelar thinks adding a street sign on the streets that are having this issue as opposed to tightening an already tight area. Mr. Hunt has issues in his ward around Rocky River Park so does not think it is limited to just one or two streets. Mrs. Morris said she hopes this will be complaint driven for ticketing. Chief Lichman said yes unless it is egregious. Mr. Hunt sees landscaping trucks parked on the fire hydrant side. They don't want to park in front of the house they are servicing so they park in front of the neighbors. This year is the most he has received complaints about people parking blocking parts of driveways.

Ordinance No. 50-25: Mr. Hunt stated that this is the proposed ordinance enacting a new section to the Code with regard to prohibition of camping on public property and within city right of ways. This would fall into Chapter 521 under health, safety and sanitation. Section 521.14 would be the proposed enactment and Chief Lichman spent a lot of time on this ordinance as well as the next couple with regard to the increased presence of unhoused individuals in Rocky River, the consistent concerns for safety, security and welfare of community members as well as those that appear to be in need of safe housing which was mentioned in public comment this evening. The city's purpose is not to criminalize. The purpose is to protect public health by keeping the parks, sidewalks and right of ways clear and safe; enhance traffic safety by preventing camping and sleeping within the adjacent rights of ways; promoting community security by reducing unsafe conditions near schools, businesses, neighborhoods and parks and ensuring public space remains accessible to all residents and visitors for their attended uses. As important as anything, is to provide a framework for compassionate enforcement that encourages individuals to accept help rather than remain in unsafe and unlawful conditions. The Chief and city administration emphasize the need and the duty to act with compassion towards these individuals. The city is trying to make sure these individuals get the help they need. This ordinance, while protecting health, safety and welfare of the residents would also encourage unhoused people to accept the help that is offered and if they won't, the police department and the courts ultimately could use the tool to connect those individuals with housing, medical or social services whenever necessary. The courts describe at budget time and the judges describe how fabulous their services and what they are able to extend to people and how much mental illness and substance abuse is prevalent and how much of a tax on the docket it is. If the city can identify these folks and offer the assistance, Mr. Hunt feels the city is doing the right thing.

Chief Lichman said that on the notion of criminalization of homelessness or poverty, there is nothing in the ordinance that even mentions the word homelessness, unhoused or poverty. The ordinance addresses very specific behavior and it would apply to anyone who is engaging in that type of behavior. It has nothing to do with housing status, although it will generally apply to people who are unhoused. The city also has a responsibility to look after the best interest of everyone and the police need tools to be able to do that. In 27+ years for the Chief, it is rare that the department has dealt with these types of issues. Usually, they deal with it for one person for a couple of months and they move on and then it is years in between. However, in the last five years or so there has been a steady increase in these types of calls for service. It is frustrating because most of the time people decline their help. He has also seen over the last twenty years a significant decrease in the availability of help. Shelters are less available. Most of these folks prefer not to go to a shelter.

- Mr. Sindelar asked what the police would say is the percentage of the ones that decline, is it their

mental health. They are not just people that have fallen into bad luck and are being criminalized. The Chief responded 100%. There is a mental health component to almost every one of the unhoused. That has increased. Twenty years ago, it might have been less than that, but alcoholism would replace mental health. Mr. Sindelar said then the goal is to have compassion and not criminalize but find the right direction of services, but they are tough to find too.

Chief Lichman compared this to Drug Court or Diversion. Those are very similar instances here. When a drug addict is sent to jail or prison it is not going to rehabilitate that person. But getting that person into the courts where a court can put them on the drug court docket and through the program is more helpful to them than not. He would ask Council when considering this ordinance to consider this in a similar scope. He has seen several people over his career that have been brought to court for drug intervention who have been helped through that process. A year ago, there was a drug court graduation where several of the people on the police docket went through and successfully completed that program.

Mr. Snyder asked the Chief to discuss the protocols of the officers when they encounter an unhouse. The Chief responded how they have been handling it and how this tool would be helpful. Normally what they do when they receive a call on a person who appears to be unhoused, the officers are instructed in every single encounter to offer assistance. The assistance comes in several forms including shelters, voluntary medical assessment, involuntary medical assessment if certain criteria are met which is a high bar, a Diversion Center which at one point when it first opened they could only take people there if they were drug dependent, had mental health illness and in lieu of a criminal charge. That has now been expanded where they can go if they are drug dependent with indicators of mental health even in the absence of a criminal charge. It must be voluntary and they can leave at any time. Every encounter the police have they have to offer services, consider involuntary commitment if they are eligible and then and only then can they consider a criminal charge without a victim which might be disorderly conduct, criminal trespass but normally there is a victim. People ask to get the person removed but then they are reluctant to sign a criminal complaint. Last year it was amended somewhat where the police would sign the complaint themselves, if they could and then subpoena property owners to come to court if it was a blatant trespass. Offer services first, force the services if it is appropriate then look at criminal charges. On a first offence, they probably would get fines and costs, but if they are hard on their luck, the court will suspend those fines and costs and work with them to put a plan together. A second offense would be a fourth-degree misdemeanor where a court could then start to impose mandatory interventions such as in diversion programs, mandatory sitting with a probation officer and what can be done for mental health evaluation and some sort of social worker type intervention. The department has discussed Cleveland's "Home for Every Neighbor". It is a great program and is costing Cleveland and the county millions of dollars. It is not something that a government like Rocky River can do. It is a great program but is multifaceted and many levels with many people working on this project and the city does not have the need for something like this and certainly does not have the resources to do this. Could we ask Cleveland to refer people to it, maybe. The County has resources, the probation department could refer people to OHS and work with that program, but we need to have the captive audience to utilize those resources. The police cannot do it without people voluntarily agreeing to do that. That is where the department falls short right now.

- The Mayor said about a year ago the city was receiving a lot of calls from the community. A lot of compassionate and caring calls while observing things on Center Ridge, in the parks, jay walking and creating safety issues for themselves and others so at that time the city discussed NEOCH which is the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless. They do incredible work. The Chief said they did engage with NEOCH and they gave the department tips and advice. They came and met with one of the unhoused over a hamburger at Wendy's twice. They are a good community resource. NEOCH would send their team out and look for them during the day and attempt to engage and have interaction. They would try to get them in touch with their families. The city called NEOCH and tried to get them to work with three different unhoused people. The ADAMHS

Board is good also. They are involved with running the Diversion Center and the County Chiefs met with them regularly. He thinks that those meetings might have helped open up the Diversion Center by dropping the mandatory in lieu of a criminal charge.

The Chief discussed three people the department dealt with a lot over the last few years. One unhoused person had 47 CAD entries over a four-year period and entries that didn't make it on the call entry. She was cited once for trespassing in the vestibule of a Wagar Road apartment building. She had one involuntary commit when her mental illness was so bad and that involuntary commit was helpful because she was healthy enough that the city didn't see her for several months after that. Another unhoused had 45 calls for service in two years. This person would scare people by yelling and shaking hands with rocks at people and use the electricity at the parks to charge her phone. She was cited for disorderly conduct for defecating in public and trespassing for sleeping in the vestibule of a bank. She is the one that NEOCH worked with and eventually got her in touch with family in Strongsville. Another unhoused, in seven days the police had six contacts with him, three of which were sleeping at city park, two for hanging around the Sun Mart and one for hanging around the Old Detroit Road area. The police took him once to the Social Security office to try to get some benefits and eventually he had a warrant from Lakewood and after that the city didn't see him anymore. Mr. Hunt added he was sleeping on the beach at Rocky River Park. Those are just a few examples in the last couple of years. There are others whose names the Chief couldn't remember to run the search before coming over this evening, but those are the kind of things the department is dealing with. If the department has the tools, more unhoused may be able to be restored to housing. The Mayor added that this is about their safety. There is a layer for safety for the community but this is also for safety for them. The winter months are approaching and there are severe elements to be out in or traverse in. Accessing service during those times is extremely important.

- Mr. Sindelar asked Law Director O'Shea his thoughts on criminalization or the treatment from his perspective. Mr. O'Shea said that a court is powerless to do anything on a minor misdemeanor. They cannot put a person on probation, cannot set terms of bond, cannot put them into treatment. It is like a traffic ticket and can only be fined. Therefore, the court has zero ability to do anything. He thinks it is a good idea, as the Chief has proposed. Then on the first offense it is a minor misdemeanor, second offense it elevates. Just like a lot of crimes that occur under the Ohio Revised Code Title 29, the more you violate it, the more it goes up the ladder giving the courts more power. Let's assume these people are charged with misdemeanor 1. There are very limited resources that courts have particularly suburban misdemeanor courts to deal with mental health issues. Whenever cuts come, the first thing to go is this. Mrs. Morris asked if that is the case, why are they being ticketed. Mr. O'Shea said that doing nothing is worse. Mrs. Morris said maybe this is not the right thing. The Mayor said there are other resources beyond the court that can be accessed. Mr. O'Shea said these people are extremely intelligent people and they know exactly how to use the system. Mrs. Morris asked if the police are saying "I'll take you to Diversion or write a ticket". Chief Lichman said yes, that might work and is an option. If the police can say they have a ticket they can write or we can take you to the Diversion Center, the preferred course would be the Diversion Center every time. In some cases, that offer could be used for a theft offense if the victim is ok with it. Mr. O'Shea said that well intentioned merchants that call the police to remove the person then choose to not cooperate in the prosecution which then the case is dismissed because the landlords or store owners do not want to show up at court. The Chief said he would love to look at this from a 50,000-foot view, the bigger picture of how to solve this. There are solutions available but the city cannot provide those solutions here or address the root causes but that doesn't mean they can't do anything. This is what we can do now. Is it perfect, no. But it is an option. It is another tool besides offering the services, the involuntary commits, the Diversion Center and this is one more tool at the end of the rope to offer someone or use to hopefully bring some relief to people.

Ordinance No. 51-25: Mr. Hunt said this proposal prohibits sleeping in municipal parks. Essentially it is the same issue discussed prior. Mr. Shipp pointed out that the statute does call it overnight sleeping. The Chief said it would not be during the day when you doze off reading a book. The Mayor added that the previous one talks about camping and we have had camping at the parks. This would assist the Police Chief if someone puts up a tent in Elmwood Park, for example.

Ordinance No. 52-25: Mr. Hunt said this is the ordinance that proposes prohibiting the operation of low-speed and under-speed vehicles pursuant to the Traffic Code. The Chief provided significant amounts of information with regard to the background of this and a distinction and or lack thereof between USV's and LSV's. Under Ohio Law they fall under those two categories. The USV's which are the under-speed vehicles are currently prohibited on public streets and highways unless a municipality passes legislation authorizing and regulating their use which Rocky River has not done affirmatively. LSV's which are the low-speed vehicles may operate on streets with posted speed limits of 35 mph or less, however the state has left it to the home rule authority to allow municipalities to expressly permit and adopt stricter regulations. Based upon the city's density and traffic patterns, it was recommended that the operation of both the USV's and LSV's with the exception of the vehicles owned and leased and operated by the city be prohibited. The community is unlike some of the more rural areas that are not developed. The City of Rocky River is highly developed and has heavy traffic so navigating around schools and congested areas poses an issue. This does not affect bicycles, ebikes, scooters or other licensed passenger vehicles. It only applies to vehicles defined in the State as either low speed or under speed vehicles. Residents would not be permitted to register to drive low or under speed vehicles on Rocky River streets.

- Mr. Sindelar said that some of the ebikes can reach 30 or 40 mph. The Chief knows that the revised code defines different levels of ebikes having to do with the speed of them and whether they are fully powered or powered assisted. The city has been discussing some of the issues the ebikes are causing. None of them are supposed to go 30 mph and if they are someone has tampered with them.
- Mrs. Morris is curious as to why this is an issue. The Chief said that over the past three years he has received many complaints about golf carts in the city. It has peaked this year. He received complaints from Safety Town and the Rec Center about kids being dropped off for summer camp. The argument is that it is unsafe. Golf carts do not have to meet any federal safety standards. There are no airbags or shoulder harnesses. They are being driven on streets with speed limits up to 35 mph. Rocky River streets are significantly congested. Parents are dropping kids off at the Middle School in golf carts. U.S. and State Routes and five lane roads are being crossed. What would normally be a fender bender when two cars collide could be a serious injury if a golf cart is hit. In addition, there is a difference between USV's and LSV's. His guess is that many people do not know that difference and one would be legal right now and one would not. The USV goes slower and whenever there is a disparity in speed between most vehicles it makes for a less safe environment. The definitions cover three- or four-wheel vehicles. There have not been any accidents that have been reported. There have been deaths due to golf cart accidents in Ohio and the United States. There is no protection in a golf cart.
- The Mayor asked if the Chief has any information on what other communities have done. Do they restrict the age of operation. The Chief said that most of the places that allow golf carts are resort and vacation areas like Kelley's Island and Put-In-Bay where there are very few traditional motor vehicles or sometimes next to none where it is mostly a golf cart community. Those are the communities that embrace LSV's not communities with 4.5 square miles with 22,000 people. Mrs. Gallagher added that Upper Arlington allows golf carts.

- Mr. Shipp asked if there are other restrictions that could be implemented short of a ban. Local communities can do whatever restrictions they want.
- Mr. Salisbury said the carts aren't technically golf carts and that is a misleading term. They are registered with the State of Ohio and issued a full license plate and a tag and they are insured. The Chief stated that a golf cart is either an LSV or an USV. The only difference being it is equipped and registered but it is still an LSV or USV under these definitions.

Ordinance No. 54-25: Mr. Hunt said that as a general statement he does not have a problem with the substance but he has an issue with the format. Chapter 729.01 has subsections A, B, C. These subsections are definitions of canvasser, peddler and solicitor. We added a new section of A and moved canvasser, peddler and solicitor down and added E, F, G. Beyond that the only substantive change would be to the proposed 729.01 subsection A, F soliciting in groups of two or more to prohibition of soliciting of groups of more than two individuals. Those that are permitted by the city, often the entity requires that they be a two-person unit so there is redundancy and no issue if there is some type of interaction.

- Mrs. Morris asked if those that do obtain a permit to solicit, do they have a piece of paper. The Mayor said yes, and they can make as many copies as they need. Everyone that comes to a resident's door must have a copy of the permit.
- Mrs. Gallagher asked if this just encompasses door-to-door solicitation. The Chief said it adds to it.
- Mr. Shipp discussed subsection B7 which is engaging in solicitation by use of false or misleading statements including misrepresenting employment, veteran status, medical conditions or homelessness. He feels like this belies the point that we are trying to make that this is not a content restriction. These are all panhandler lines that you cannot do but it seems to be pointed right at the thing we are trying to avoid. Mr. Shipp would rather see it as part of the definition of aggressive panhandling rather than an act in the statute. Also, he is not sure how that would play out in a court of law. That seems a little excessive. This bans solicitation within 20 feet of a lot of areas, almost everywhere in his opinion. There must be a connection to a safety concern for the location restriction concern. Pedestrians waiting in line for service events or entry into a building, subsection C, outdoor dining areas or vendor spaces, entrances or exits to public buildings, facilities or parking lots, those are what he is struggling to be convinced that there are safety concerns there that are legitimate. ATM's, banks he sees that. We can't legislate away from being uncomfortable. If there is a legitimate safety concern we can't make it illegal to be uncomfortable somewhere. This covers everywhere. Mr. Shipp's issue is with subsection B4, C, D and E and subsection B7. Mr. O'Shea said that many of the times in the State of Ohio that constitute lying are against the law. Fraud, deceit, you get charged with theft by deception and all kinds of things like that. Lying can be illegal under certain circumstances. If someone was lying about being from a veteran's organization and you give \$30.00 and they walk away and they are not, that is theft by deception. It is clearly a crime. Mr. O'Shea sleeps at night very comfortably knowing the city is making that illegal and sending a message to certain solicitors that will manipulate residents' vulnerabilities. This is what this legislation is about. He also does not have a problem with making little changes, but the intent is clearly to cut down on people who are taking advantage of the good nature of residents. Mr. Sindelar said that with the good size of senior citizen population they may become more susceptible. Mr. Hunt thinks # 7 being moved into the definition might be appropriate.
- Mr. O'Shea said that technically the disorderly conduct statute in Ohio has about nine subsections

that talk about various ways to violate the disorderly conduct statute including annoying and unreasonable annoyance and conduct like that. They get a warning but if they persist that is when a move needs to be made. Mrs. Morris asked what complaints were received to make this change. Chief Lichman said many and they represent organizations that are not real organizations. Most of the issues are at Westwood Town Center and River Square where they are asking shoppers going to and from their cars for money. There was a group playing violines asking for money and everybody was outraged because they found out they weren't really playing violins but the music was from a speaker. Some were claiming their kids were sick.

- Mr. Hunt said Mr. Furry needs to be involved in these discussions. Points were well made and he appreciates the Chief's time and that he is so attentive to these issues.

Ordinance No. 55-25: Mrs. Gallagher said this ordinance is to authorize the Mayor and the Safety Service Director to purchase one Elgin Pelican Street Sweeper for the Service Department. This will be purchased from A & H Equipment located in Independence if this ordinance is approved. The purchase will be made from the Equipment Purchase Fund-Streets Vehicles and Large Equipment fund. The cost is \$312,000. The current sweeper is a 2004 and has increasing maintenance costs. It has reached the end of its service life. It has been used over twenty years with great success. The city has a great relationship with A & H equipment and they are nearby so they have fast, available parts, long-term support and the team is very familiar with this sweeper. If this is approved, it can be delivered as early as October. The old one will be kept for back up. The sweeper is necessary for stormwater management and MS4 compliance. It helps prevent flooding and pollution by keeping debris out of the catch basins and the Lake Erie Watershed. It performs through fall leaves, spring sediment, storm debris and salt. Mr. Snyder said that the 2004 sweeper will run until it dies and then will be sold for scrap. This will be on the consent agenda.

Ordinance No. 56-25: Mr. Sindelar said this is an ordinance that is requesting the authorization to work again with Collins Equipment. They were responsible previously for the removal of underground gas tanks at the City Hall Campus. They will be doing the same at the Service Garage. This is not to exceed \$56,318.67. It is on the Special Agenda this evening to hopefully have it approved prior to October 1st as the State's Fire Marshall Office has requested that according to the Ohio Administrative Code. Its useful life is over and leakage could become a major environmental hazard. This will also be on the consent agenda.

Ordinance No. 58-25: This is Councilman Furry's ordinance to make supplemental appropriations for the current expenses. Mr. Furry discussed this last week. This will have a new exhibit for next week's meeting.

Ordinance No. 59-25: Mr. Hunt said this is an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into a supplemental agreement with Perspectus Architecture for the architectural design and engineering services for the fire station. As was discussed last week based upon the determination subsequent to the original agreement that we passed and authorized, the project scope was identified to have a construction cost range of between \$9 million and \$9.5 million with a new building area for the new proposed fire station of 20,000 gross feet. During the design and schematic phases, the project scope was determined that it needed to increase the area to 25,000 gross square feet which then adjusted the scope to add additional construction cost to \$4.5 million. The result in the additional design and engineering effort, based upon the formula for the architects and consultant team resulted in an increase fee of \$317,500. Council wants to be sure this facility is done properly and has the appropriate square footage. As Director Snyder said last week, with the increase of the number of calls and possibly an increase in firefighters it would need extra space and all the proper bays for the fire apparatus. This will be placed on the consent agenda also.

- Mr. Sindelar asked if the firefighters were all involved in the planning. Director Snyder said they

created a committee from the very beginning. They have been involved in all the meetings. This is their home away from home and have been very engaged in the process. Each one of them had a voice.

Ordinance No. 60-25: Mr. Shipp said this is an emergency ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a supplemental agreement with SmithGroup for the Bradstreet's Landing Spencer Creek Stream Restoration Project in an amount not to exceed \$142,850. The city is utilizing two grants for construction, including \$300,000 from the Ohio EPA and \$200,000 from the State Capital Funding from HB 2. These are the next steps in the restoration of Spencer Creek. There was a public meeting on August 25th along with media coverage restoring that area to a natural waterway. Mr. Snyder added this is an opportunity for the city to utilize an asset, open it up for a wide array of park visitors and restore a lot of the natural conditions that it was which benefits the fish species, native plants and lots of different things. There will be some minor improvements to the upland area with an additional pollinator garden and fresh limestone trail to keep minimal impact but a little more opportunity for interpretive access. This will be added to the consent agenda.

- Mrs. Morris was impressed with how considerate the plan was to the fish.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE

COMMUNICATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Sindelar was at the Constitution Event at City Hall Saturday at 10:00 a.m. It was a lovely event and thanks go out to Jody Hobson who put that all together. The Mayor said that Jody mentioned that the Rocky River Public Library will have a display for Constitution Week. Mr. Sindelar was kind enough to give the proclamation back so that it will be at the library on display.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: NONE

President Pro Tem Hunt adjourned the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

Thomas J. Hunt
President Pro Tem of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council