

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

July 21, 2025

The Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting of Council was called to order by Mr. Furry, President 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, Mr. Furry

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

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Bobst announced that she swore in a new police officer this morning, Michael C. Lipscey. Officer Lipscey is an experienced officer that comes to the City of Rocky River through the Lateral Transfer Program that was placed and approved in the Collective Bargaining for the Police Department. The city is very excited. Michael comes here from Lakewood and lives in Westlake. He is very knowledgeable about the WestShore. Please join the Mayor in welcoming Officer Lipscey. Officer Lipscey will be training for the next few weeks but then he will be out on the road very soon.

The Mayor stated that the city is launching a pilot program concerning Code Section 731.04 that regulates outdoor sales. At one time the city had several issues with outdoor sales when gas stations were selling various items outdoors. At that time, the city began to look at regulating outdoor sales. Today, the city is seeing more and more requests for businesses that want to have a Farmer's Market, Arts and Crafts Event with outdoor sales. The city is looking at 731.04 to see if it is accomplishing what the city had hoped. Some of these events are very positive for the community and are not disruptive. The city has put together a new application process along with a permit fee of \$50.00 that has been in the code, giving the city information about parking requirements, how many days the event is, what is included in the event, etc. The city will then share this information with the surrounding and abutting property owners so they are aware of what is happening. If they have any concerns those can be expressed to the city so those can be eliminated, moderated and minimized. The city is not changing the code now but is piloting it this summer. After the pilot there may be changes in the code section as it relates to outdoor sales. Again, safety, parking and notification of surrounding property owners being paramount.

The Mayor announced that the maintenance shutdown has begun at the Civic Center. The pool, the lockers and Kids Cove started today and will run through August 3rd. Beginning next Monday through August 3rd, the full Civic Center will be closed for maintenance including painting and several other things during this time. As has been done in the past, Rocky River residents can attend the Gemini Center in Fairview Park or Westlake's Recreation Center. Both cities will honor Rocky River passes and the city does the same for them during their maintenance shut down. The three centers work very well together so there is down time in the summer to do much needed maintenance.

The Mayor announced that David Reinker is retiring. David works in the Refuse Department and has worked for the city for several years and takes great pride in being a member of the Refuse and Recycling Department. Dave is the one that feeds residents dogs treats when in a scooter. The Mayor and administration wish him well in his retirement. He is retiring before Council returns from recess on July 31st. Dave is moving out of the area and the Mayor hopes he has every success in the southern states.

Director Snyder introduced Chris Vasco, who is the new Sewer Program Coordinator working in the Office of Safety Service. He is an instrumental part of the team. Mr. Snyder said the city was lucky

enough to bring someone aboard who has a lot of experience and knowledge. His previous employment was with the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District. He has handled a lot of their storm water and MS4 information and will be able to assist the city in that. He brings an incredible amount of knowledge when it comes to stormwater. His primary responsibility will be helping the city to continue the stormwater program and build upon it with his knowledge and he will also be working with Director Snyder on the private inflow infiltration program and helping to develop the sanitary side of management within collections and working with residents. Mr. Snyder said that is one of his greatest talents. He is fantastic with people and he will be an absolute asset to the community. Chris Vasco's shares an office in City Hall with Mark Filipic, the Public Works Coordinator. President Furry welcomed Chris. The Mayor added that the administration has worked with Chris in the past and feels fortunate that he was interested in coming to the City of Rocky River. The Mayor feels this leverages all his talents and expertise. The Mayor is very pleased and he will be a great help to Director Snyder.

The Mayor stated that Director Snyder will be presenting at One Water which is a statewide conference that will be held in Cleveland. Rich will be presenting about the city's I & I Program. Rich will sign Chris Vasco up to attend the conference also.

The Mayor respectfully requested an Executive Session under Article 10, Section 6, Subsection 3 that provides conferences with an attorney.

- Councilman Hunt commented that he echoes the Mayor's sentiments about Dave Reinker from Refuse. He was out on a scooter a week ago Sunday and stopped Mr. Hunt to tell him about his retirement. He was always the guy that would interact with residents. Mr. Hunt echoes the Mayor's congratulations on his retirement and wishes him well.
- The Mayor added that the city has had a lot of success in hiring seasonal employees in Refuse in the summer or part time CDL drivers that plow for the city in the winter and that is how Dave started with the city. He then became a full-time employee. That program really works as they get to know the administration and the administration gets to know them. There have been long-standing employees from that program.

MOTION:

President Furry moved that the Mayor has requested an Executive Session under Article 10, Section 6, Subsection 3, conferences with an attorney, immediately following the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting, seconded by Mrs. Morris and Mr. Sindelar.

Vote: Mr. Hunt – aye Mrs. Gallagher – aye Mr. O'Boyle – aye Mr. Shipp - aye
Mrs. Morris – aye Mr. Sindelar – aye Mr. Furry – aye
7 - ayes 0 - nays

PASSED

President Furry explained that the Executive Session is incorporated in the body of the meeting, however City Council will not adjourn until after the Executive Session. City Council cannot vote on anything during the Executive Session and the only thing discussed is the matter at hand.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE

COMMUNICATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Furry said that City Council Dog Days will be held on August 3rd. President Furry will be in touch with exact information prior to August 3rd. It will be held at the gazebo at City Hall Park beginning at 6:30 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 48-25: Mr. Sindelar feels incomplete that this ordinance will be hanging through the August Recess. Mr. Sindelar stated that this ordinance is logical. If you look at the permanent parcel numbers, there is a sliver that should be consolidated into one. He does not see any issues or further discussion, unless there are any questions. Mr. Sindelar will seek passage in September.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: President Furry wished Mr. O'Boyle a happy birthday at the end of the week along with a happy birthday to Mr. Shipp as his birthday is during Council Recess in August.

President Furry said that the next meeting will be a Legislative Meeting on Monday, September 8th, 2025 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

MOTION:

Moved by President Furry that City Council will meet in Executive Session this evening under Article 10, Section 6, Subsection 3 that provides for conferences with an attorney beginning at 7:27 p.m.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 7:51 p.m. As there was no more business, Mr. Furry moved to adjourn the Legislative Meeting at 7:51 p.m.

David W. Furry
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council