

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

July 14, 2025

The Legislative Meeting was called to order by Mr. Furry, President of Council, at 7:00 p.m. 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

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Furry announced that Council will hold Resolution No. 42-24 this evening. Residents have until July 17th to make final renumerations, so it will not be on the Consent Agenda. Again, City Council will not be taking any action on Resolution No. 42-24 this evening. It will be amended by substitution at next Monday's meeting.

MOTION:

Moved by President Furry seconded by Mr. Hunt and Mrs. Morris that the reading of the minutes of the July 7th Special and Committee of the Whole Meetings be waived and that the minutes be accepted as presented.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Gallagher – aye	O'Boyle – aye	Shipp – abstain
	Morris – aye	Sindelar – aye	Furry - aye	
	6 – ayes	1 – abstain	0 – nays	

PASSED

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor gave a big thank you to all of Council that helped with serving pie at "Pie in the Park" last evening. The Mayor said that about seventy pies were cut and consumed and the weather did not hold off the residents. A big thank you to everyone who attended along with the Recreation and Service Departments. Thank you to all the event sponsors for the Summer of Fun, Pie in the Park pies and the Summer Concert Series. A lot of wonderful businesses give so generously so the community can enjoy events like these.

The Mayor said that Director Snyder attended a meeting last week regarding I-90. The I-90 Repair Project will run from the Hilliard Road ramps to the West 73rd ramp. The final completion date is slated to be in October 2028. This pushes off the Hilliard Bridge demolition until after that date. Related to this, the eastern lane of the Wooster bridge has been closed due to a truck hitting the abutment below. ODOT is making that repair and it should be repaired by early August. There will be a closure on the I-90 eastbound ramp on Hilliard for approximately 90 days. The exact date for this will be in the timeline that they are still working on. Mr. Snyder thinks it will be sooner than later. Director Snyder said that the City will need a maintenance of traffic plan to enter the city.

The Mayor said that the City of Rocky River hosted the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission and Area Planners including Economic Development Planners, City Planners and a resident who works at the Medina Parks System. This meeting was to look at Bradstreet's Landing and learn about everything the city traversed with that project. It was very instructive and Director Snyder did a great job. There are a lot of lessons to be learned from this project and some of those were illuminated and punctuated. They asked a lot of great questions and were very interested in the Master Plan process and engaging the community. The Mayor and Director Snyder told them about the additional parking that will be added. The meeting participants were very pleased and they received continuing education credit for the meeting. The Mayor said it was a good session and she was happy to do that for the County Planners. Thank you to Kathryn Kerber and Patrick Hewitt for organizing the event.

The Chamber of Commerce reported that the goal revenue for this year's "Taste of River" event was \$17,000 and they believe it exceeded \$25,000. This is wonderful news. The Chamber of Commerce has been such a good partner and does a great job of promoting local businesses.

The Mayor said that the Sunflower Wine Festival had one incident of a medical issue and one incidental arrest. The festival went extremely well.

The Mayor shared Building Department Statistics through the end of June 2025:

- Total permits are at 781 compared to 882 last year at this time
- Added valuation is at \$29 million as compared to \$26 million last year at this time. There are fewer permits but the projects have greater value.

The City of Rocky River received their first quarterly report through March, from the Heritage Home Loan Program. They received 285 homeowner contacts, 23 availed themselves of technical assistance and there were 17 site visits. At this point, no loans are signed but there are two active applications. The total valuation of the technical assistance and the site visit work is \$1.6 million. The city may see some additional investment on the residential side yet this summer.

The Mayor discussed that the final asphalt will be laid on Parklane this Wednesday and Thursday, weather permitting along with the punch list being completed this week.

The city will be commencing dye testing on private property on Rockcliff, Frazier and Kensington. Chris Vasco will be leading this project along with Director Snyder's assistance.

The Mayor stated that the city is applying to Cleveland Water for the Water Rehabilitation Grants that the city has been receiving. This will be for Argyl Oval between Arundel and Frazier, Beachcliff and Lake Road- Avalon to Parklawn. The Mayor will let Council know the results of the application.

The Mayor said that the Martin Park Camera Project is now complete. The cameras can be monitored by the Recreation Department, the Police Department and the IT Department. The Mayor is happy to have these cameras deployed in the parks.

The Mayor discussed the lawsuits filed regarding inferior plates for bullet proof vests. The individual was fined personally \$5 million and will be in jail for a while. The company was fined \$33 million. These vests were grant funded so the city did not lay out any dollars except for a local match. The Chief is obtaining that number for the Mayor but it is not clear if any of this will come back to the city. The Attorney General has a case still pending regarding this matter. The Mayor will let Council know if the match will be reimbursed to the city.

The Mayor said that Director Snyder will be sending out updated information on Spotted Lantern Flies. Mr. Snyder explained that they will crawl around to feed and then fly away. The information mailed will focus on protecting the landscape with preservation integrated pest management.

The Mayor mentioned that the City of Rocky River has been the host community for Cleveland Clinic's Children's Autism Center. This has been an absolute source of pride and its presence here has had some unexpected positive consequences. It has given parents time to work on their health and relaxation as well as Elle's Enchanted Forest in City Hall Park that assists with those that are on the autism spectrum. The bad news is the Autism Center has left the Civic Center. The good news is they are still here in Rocky River. They moved into the Medical Building at the corner of Detroit and Linda. They have taken over that space with pediatricians and an expanded autism center and their intervention specialists and therapists are all there. The Mayor is thrilled that the Autism Center could grow here, expand here and then settle here. This is very exciting. The ribbon cutting was on Thursday. The Mayor gave a big thank you to Greg Mylett who owns the building and has been a wonderful landlord getting them up and running with everything they need in that building including parking.

Mr. Hunt said there was lengthy discussion about this last week. This ordinance would authorize the Mayor and Director Snyder to enter a contract with Signal Services Company for the installation of four RRFB crosswalks. Those are the rectangular rapid flashing beacons. The four locations will be on Wagar and Erie, Wagar and Kenwood, Wagar and Morewood and the final one at the entrance to Elmwood Park at Elmwood and Maplewood. The amount would not exceed \$64,090 for the installation of these four signals. Mr. Hunt said that based upon complaints from residents about traffic and speeding, this will be an exceptional addition to promoting safety in the community especially for the youngsters traversing Wagar Road during the school year. Certainly, Mr. Hunt thinks it is a worthwhile proposition with the impending work on I-90 and cars being diverted. Inherently there may be some additional traffic on the north/south routes between Detroit and Lake. Mr. Hunt thinks this will be a great project. This will be added to the consent agenda for next week.

- Mr. Snyder said that the city is looking at adding these on Detroit at the high school and at Detroit and West 192nd by Heinen's. There are certain criteria for these including a midblock crossing where there is a certain amount of average daily traffic. Accident history is also looked at. Bradstreet's Landing will be getting two RRFB's next year when extra parking is added.
- Mr. Shipp asked if there is anything already in the city that these will look like. Mr. Snyder said the one on Hilliard or Lakeview by the Middle School are great examples of what will be installed.

ORDINANCE NO. 46-25

BY: THOMAS J. HUNT

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH INFINITY CONSTRUCTION, INC. TO OVERSEE THE INSTALLATION OF TEMPORARY HOUSING FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$395,287.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"

2nd READING

Mr. Hunt said this had a good discussion last week. This ordinance authorizes the Mayor and Director Snyder to enter a contract with Infinity Construction for the installation of temporary housing for the Fire Department. The city is embarking on revamping and building a new, long-needed upgrade for the Fire Station. This requires that the apparatus and personnel be temporarily moved while the construction is ongoing. This will allow for temporary housing in an amount not to exceed \$395,287.00 down at the Service Garage as discussed next week. The apparatus will be housed within the garage and these structures will be built behind the Service Garage with direct access to the garage bays for the ease of getting out on calls. This will be on the consent agenda.

- Mrs. Morris asked how long the temporary housing will be needed. Director Snyder and Mr. Hunt responded fourteen months.
- Mr. Snyder said he spoke with Chief Lenart and they are going to investigate a signalization option that can be handled remotely to shut down traffic on Lake Road. This was based on Council's input last week. The one thing is that for them to enter, they may have to hit the siren and that could be problematic for the property owners directly across the street. Mr. Snyder is looking at who offers this product, what it will entail and what the cost will be. Mr. Hunt thinks that would be a reasonable temporary installation.

ORDINANCE NO. 47-25

BY: BRIAN J. SINDELAR

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH WE FIX SIDEWALKS FOR THE 2025 SIDEWALK PROGRAM IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$584,852.02, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"

2nd READING

Mr. Sindelar likes the title of this company. Director Snyder discussed the qualifications of the gentleman and all his interactions and how much he enjoyed his work and his work ethic. This is an example of the sidewalk program

for the 2025 program. They have guaranteed the rate given to the city for residents that are responsible for their own sidewalks. Mr. Snyder said in the municipal code, all sidewalk deficiencies are to be repaired by the adjacent property owner, but in a token of good faith the city replaces any sidewalk deficiencies caused by sewer, utilities or tree lawn trees. Residents will be notified soon. This will be on the consent agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 48-25

BY: BRIAN J. SINDELAR

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT, ASSENT AND ADOPT THE LOT CONSOLIDATION MAP FOR A PORTION OF WAGAR ROAD, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"

1st READING

Mr. Sindelar that City Hall Campus is currently in three separate parcel numbers. The city realized that these parcels needed to be consolidated and recorded with the County. This ordinance will get that process done. Mr. Sindelar said it makes sense and is logical.

CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLUTION NO. 39-25

BY: DAVID W. FURRY

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER TO ADVANCE TAXES FROM THE PROCEEDS OF ALL TAX LEVIES FOR THE TAX YEAR 2025 PURSUANT TO THE OHIO REVISED CODE

3rd READING

Mr. Furry said this allows the city to obtain the city's money quicker from the County prior to the final reconciliation. The city will receive the 2025 property taxes in mid-January with a second payment in February rather than waiting until the final reconciliation in late March or early April. This also applies to the last half of the 2025 cycle which is basically six months later.

RESOLUTION NO. 40-25

BY: DAVID W. FURRY

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER

3rd READING

Mr. Furry said this is a resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Cuyahoga County Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the Cuyahoga County Fiscal Officer. The State Constitution authorizes each taxing authority up to 10 mills which is "inside" millage of which the city receives 3.93 mills. Outside millage is voter approved of which we have 5.97 mills. When the city paid off the debt millage in 2024, the city had it below 10.0 mills.

ORDINANCE NO. 43-25

BY: BRIAN J. SINDELAR

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CROSSROADS ASPHALT RECYCLING, INC., FOR THE 2025 STREET REPAIR PROGRAM, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$856,580.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"

3rd READING

Mr. Sindelar said that this has been discussed for several weeks with little or no questions. The discussion was enhanced when Mr. Snyder returned and was able to expand upon this for Council. Crossroads Asphalt Recycling Inc. is just the name and not the process that will be used this time around. This is a straight asphalt repair process. This includes Higley – Westwood to Spencer, Wright – Detroit to Dorothy, Prospect – Detroit to Dorothy, the

Service Department North Hill and behind the Service Garage, the Elmwood Park Entrance to the ball fields and the cabin parking lot. Again, Mr. Sindelar added it would be awesome if they could somehow get more parking spots and widen it without ruining trees. Ordinance No. 5-25 was an ordinance that the City of Fairview Park will be billed for the direct cost associated with the project within their limits of those streets named.

- The Mayor asked that as the city is looking at Elmwood, is there any way to move the bollards easily on the north side of the drive, so that the drive could be widened to add parking. Mr. Snyder said this could always be proposed. He will investigate it. Mr. Snyder feels confident that the city could do the work in house removing the bollards then the only thing left for the contractor would be the widening of the roadway.

ORDINANCE NO. 44-25

BY: BRIAN J. SINDELAR

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH FABRIZI TRUCKING AND PAVING, INC., FOR THE SEWER, WATER MAIN AND PAVEMENT REPLACEMENT PROJECT FOR BUCKINGHAM, ARGYLE OVAL AND ARUNDEL ROAD, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$4,884,679.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"

3rd READING

Mr. Sindelar said that Director Snyder provided Council with good information in the discussion last week. The financing is a good example of the city going after the money that is paid in taxes and bringing it back to the city to work for the residents. With that said, 65% of this project will be paid by those sources, a little over \$2.5 million from a 2023 Federal Consolidated Appropriations Act and then a little over \$630,000 from the Cleveland Water Department thanks to the foresight of this Council to engage in that program. It is paying off for the city.

MOTION:

President Furry move to pass Resolution Nos. 39-25, 40-25 and Ordinance Nos. 43-25, 44-25, seconded by Mr. O'Boyle.

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

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE

COMMUNICATIONS: President Furry stated that there would be a Special Meeting next week. Council will then be off on July 28th and not meet on September 2nd due to Council Recess. The next scheduled City Council Meeting will be September 8, 2025.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Daniel Majeski, 20388 Bonnie Bank Blvd., has lived in Rocky River since 2013. He grew up in Lakewood, lived in Arizona for seven years. His concern is if you go through Linden Park heading to Westgate, it is dark on the northern end of the tennis courts and Linden House. The Mayor said the city is looking at lighting on the new trail. Mr. Majeski said the city did a great job on the new trail but it is the other part that still does not have anything. He reiterated that you can barely see as you walk. He has a daughter and a son, 18 and 16 and he is concerned for them to walk there. Director Snyder is consulting with the gentleman that did the lighting at Rocky River Park to do something similar at Linden Park around the path. Mr. Majeski said it sounded like the city is working on it and he gets it, but this is what it is all about. Mr. Majeski rebuilt his fence and ordered solar lights from Amazon and it looks pretty good. He does not think it would be difficult to add lighting. Mr. Majeski asked about the speed cushions and how they are going. Mr. Furry said he has seen the traffic slow but then heard from some people that they speed after they pass the speed bumps. Mr. Snyder said that the city is very close in issuing the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program. In its implementation to use the speed cushions, the cushions should

be approximately 300 feet apart. He has heard a lot of good things and the city has been able to look at the actual application on different streets. When this program is released and opened to the public, if there is a speed concern on a residential street, the city will look at the length of the street among other criteria and assess speed and the average daily traffic. Once that checks the boxes, then it will be up to the sponsoring person on that street to go through and get signatures from 50% of the people in that section, before the city will look to implement a program such as speed cushions, a boulevard, permanent radar or another potential solution. At a minimum, as part of this program, the city is looking to increase education and increase availability of our officers within the community, so when there are issues, they will respond. The Police do that now. The city also has mobile radar that can be implemented. The Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program allows the city to take these further steps to make something more permanent for reduction of speed.

- Mr. Shipp commented that if people are going at a certain speed above the speed limit, it does not display on the permanent speed machine. Is that a disincentive to try to see how fast you can get it to go and does it still record the data. Mr. Snyder said he knows that it is still collecting the data, but he does not know why it does not show the speed.

The next meeting will be a Special Meeting and a Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting on July 21st, 2025. The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

David W. Furry
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council