

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

February 13, 2017

The Regular Meeting of Council was called to order by Mr. Moran, President of Council, at 8:00 p.m. in the David J. Cook Council Chambers.

Council Members Present: Mr. Hunt, Mr. Shepherd, Mr. Furry, Mr. Klym, Mr. Moran

Absent: Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Sindelar

Administration: Mayor Bobst, Mrs. Costello, Mr. Thomas

Law Director: Mr. Bemer

Press: Ms. Botos

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION:

Moved by Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Furry, that the reading of the minutes of the Legislative Meeting of January 23rd and the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting of February 6th be waived and that the minutes be accepted as submitted

Vote: Hunt – aye	Shepherd – aye	Mr. Furry - aye	Klym – aye	Moran – aye
5 ayes		0 nays		PASSED

Superintendent Michael G. Shoaf

President Moran welcomed Dr. Michael G. Shoaf, Superintendent of Rocky River City Schools to this evening's Legislative Meeting.

Dr. Shoaf thanked Council for allowing him to present at this evening's meeting. Dr. Shoaf introduced School Board Member Mrs. Kathleen Goepfert, Administrator Mr. Sam Gifford and Assistant Superintendent Ms. Liz Anderson. Dr. Shoaf announced that the Rocky River Board of Education is asking voters to approve a 4.9 mill levy on the May 2, 2017 ballot. 4.4 mills will be used for operation and .5 mills will be used for Permanent Improvements (PI). In the school industry a .5 Permanent Improvement Levy requires that that money be allocated for items that have a life span of at least five years. It cannot be used for negotiations for salaries or benefits. Currently, the schools have a .5 mill PI dedicated every year and it is based on the inside millage. Between the two .5 mill PI's the schools will have approximately \$780,000 to use annually as well as borrow against in 5 year increments up to 50% for the operations and improvements throughout the district. The schools will be able to maintain the roofs, HVAC systems, buy trucks, equipment, books, computers, school buses and fix parking lots. The school administration is hopeful that the 4.9 mill levy coupled with the paying off of the Middle School at the end of the year which will allow 2 mills to fall off the ballot will mean the increase the schools are

asking for will amount to 2.9 mills. That equates to about \$8.50 per \$100,000 in property valuation per month.

Dr. Shoaf will be hosting a “State of the Schools” at the Civic Center in conjunction with the Lakewood/Rocky River Rotary Club on February 27, 2017 beginning at 12:00 p.m. Dr. Shoaf extended an invitation for Council to attend. There will also be a Levy Information night on March 13th at 7:00 p.m. at Rocky River Public Library.

Dr. Shoaf continued by saying that he wanted to be sure that City Council and the administration was aware of the levy and asked that positive things be said about the schools.

- Councilman Furry asked what the registration deadline was for the “State of the Schools”. The deadline for reservations is February 16th.
- Mayor Bobst said that it is important to note the amount of time between this levy and the last levy. Dr. Shoaf said it has been five years since the last levy. Since 1980, the schools have been on the ballot every three years. By going five years between levies, the administration has essentially cut out one levy cycle every ten years, which is a savings of about \$4,000,000. The administration implemented cost saving measures as in healthcare consortium purchasing and establishing cost-sharing partnerships as in purchasing the school’s gas, diesel and fuel from the city. The healthcare consortium has been significant for the ability of the school managing the budget with healthcare costs rising.
- Law Director Bemer asked how many school districts are in the healthcare consortium. Dr. Shoaf said 12 with the possibility of two more schools joining.
- The Mayor asked about refinancing debt. The schools are working on recalling about .52 mills and refinancing it for 17 years, which would save about \$4,000,000.
- Councilman Klym asked about Westgate taxes. Dr. Shoaf said that Westgate will be fully in at the end of this year, but is largely in already. This amounts to roughly \$850,000 that has come on in increments over the last three years. This is another reason that the administration has been able to extend the levy cycle.

Ms. Karen Kirsh, First Energy

Karen Kirsh has been Cuyahoga County’s representative for the past eleven years. After Hurricane Sandy, First Energy realized that there was a need for better prioritizing circuits that are restored first. First Energy compiled a list of critical customers; i.e. hospitals, nursing homes, fire stations, police stations and schools. Now when a circuit goes down, First Energy can prioritize which circuits to restore first. Ms. Kirsh left a copy of this list for the city to review and update and asked that the list be returned to her.

- President Moran commented that things have been running smoothly in Rocky River with First Energy. There was a situation in Christiansen Estates that has been handled. Ms. Kirsh said that there was a lot of underground cable that was replaced in that area. Ms. Kirsh also mentioned

that there were some communication issues in sub-stations. Settings have been reset and the sub-stations are communicating correctly now.

- The Mayor mentioned that First Energy has been extremely helpful to the city when extra equipment or individuals have been needed in the community. This is all through the leadership of Mr. Skory and Karen's responsiveness. The Mayor extended thanks to Mr. Skory, Karen Kirsh and the whole team at First Energy.
- Director Costello added that First Energy held a training session for the Fire Department. Building personnel as well as service personnel attended this training regarding safety issues around downed wires and what can happen and the proper protocol. First Energy personnel did a great job.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor announced that online registration has begun at the Recreation Department and programs. The process is complete and is up and running.

Director Reyes reported this morning that he has ordered another 800 tons of salt. When that shipment arrives, the city will have 2200 tons of salt. The city still needs to fulfill the ODOT bid request order but there is a lot of winter still coming.

The Request for Proposals for the "No Feasible Alternative Study" have been out and the due date has been extended until February 21st. A team of five individuals made up of professionals from the four communities will review the RFP's. Their rankings will be communicated to the Management Committee who will then review and provide a recommendation to City Council. The city is now sending out the Public Notice and finalizing the scope for the "Sewer Flow and Strength Study". This is a three-year cycle. The bids will be due at the beginning of March. The same process described above will happen with this and this recommendation will also come back to City Council. The Mayor explained that the City of Rocky River handles all the finances for the Waster Water Treatment Plant and the Rocky River Municipal Court.

The MetroParks Centennial Celebration Party will be in July. The Centennial Committee has put together a Speaker's Bureau with a lot of information concerning the MetroParks. The MetroParks is an incredible asset for Cleveland and the surrounding suburbs to have this beautiful emerald necklace around the city. All Rocky River civic organizations have received this information.

This Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. is the "Newlywed Game" being held at the Senior Center. There are a lot of teams ready to participate.

The Mayor announced that the Rocky River High School Hockey Team is in the first round of the playoffs. They will play Elyria Catholic High School on Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. at the Brooklyn Ice Arena.

LAW REPORT:

Mr. Bemer announced that he and Building Commissioner Ray Reich met with Andrew Brickman today. Mr. Brickman is resurrecting his project with some revisions. Mr. Bemer anticipates the ordinance for the rezoning to be back to Council by February 27th if not before. He also anticipates that there would be a companion ordinance for the Development Agreement for Council's consideration as well. Mr. Bemer thinks that this should be referred to the Planning Commission for report and recommendation.

Mr. Bemer will be out of town the week of February 27th. Mr. O'Shea will be in attendance at the City Council meeting in his absence.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: President Moran said that Councilman Klym attended the Planning Commission Meeting last Tuesday and President Moran attended the BZA Meeting last Thursday. There were quite a few items to review, which will be discussed further in their report.

Mayor Bobst said that she will be in attendance at the Parks and Recreation Meeting this Thursday morning. The Mayor will swear in Amy Massad, a Rocky River resident who is being appointed by her colleagues to be on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT – LEGISLATIVE ITEMS: NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 74-16 **BY: BRIAN J. SINDELAR**
AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS AUDITOR'S PERMANENT PARCEL NOS. 301-32-099, 301-32-100, 301-32-101, AND 301-32-102 FROM THEIR PRESENT CLASSIFICATION OF R-1 SINGLE FAMILY TO R-3 SINGLE FAMILY ATTACHED, IN THEIR ENTIRETY, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"
ON HOLD

President Moran stated that this ordinance has been referred to the Planning Commission for review and report. Mayor Bobst and Mr. Bemer said that they are waiting to hear back from the Developer.

Councilman Shepherd moved to amend Ordinance No. 1-17, seconded by Mr. Furry as amended. This Amended Ordinance is authorizing the payment of \$625.00 to Andrea Rocco, Esq. for filling in for the city prosecutor due to a conflict.

Vote: Hunt – aye	Shepherd – aye	Mr. Furry - aye	Klym – aye	Moran – aye
5 ayes		0 nays		PASSED

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 1-17: **BY: JOHN B. SHEPHERD**
AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE TO PAY ANDREA ROCCO, ESQ. THE SUM OF SIX HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$625.00) FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED AS SPECIAL PROSECUTOR

3rd READING

Councilman Shepherd moved for passage of Amended Ordinance No. 1-17, seconded by Mr. Furry and Mr. Klym.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Shepherd – aye	Mr. Furry - aye	Klym – aye	Moran – aye
	5 ayes		0 nays		PASSED

ORDINANCE NO. 2-17:

BY: CHRISTOPHER J. KLYM

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SMITHGROUP JJR FOR THE BRADSTREET’S LANDING PARK COSTAL MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDED STUDY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$87,650.00

3rd READING

Councilman Klym said this ordinance has been discussed several times. The city received a grant in the amount of \$45,000 for the study and planning for Bradstreet’s Landing. The selected proposal was for the SmithGroup JJR, which is an Interdisciplinary Design Firm that does work nationally in conjunction with Williams Architects from Columbus. They have done work in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota as well as Huntington Beach and Euclid Park Beach locally. The scope of the project includes a pier assessment, the Spencer Creek run-off, coastal conditions, increasing the use of the park while maintaining the privacy of the surrounding areas and will help with finding sources of funding. The SmithGroup will also help with drafting a Master Plan for the park that will help lead the city into the future. This is an exciting project with a well-qualified design firm. Mr. Klym seeks passage for Ordinance No. 2-17, seconded by Mr. Furry.

Mayor Bobst interjected that the city has \$350,000 from the State Capital Budget so the work that is produced by the SmithGroup will be an important part on how the city prioritizes and utilizes those funds through the state.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Shepherd – aye	Mr. Furry - aye	Klym – aye	Moran – aye
	5 ayes		0 nays		PASSED

ORDINANCE NO. 3-17:

BY: JAMES W. MORAN

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADJUSTMENT OF SEWER RATES PAID TO THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT SERVICES FOR THE VALLEYVIEW SEWER DISTRICT

2nd READING

Mr. Moran stated that this ordinance is authorizing the adjustment of sewer rates paid to the City of Lakewood for Wastewater Treatment Services for the Valleyview Sewer District in Rocky River. As discussed in years past, this area pays the same Rocky River rate and the city pays the City of Lakewood the difference. Lakewood’s rate is \$62.00 per mcf plus a millage equivalent rate of \$8.72 per mcf for a total rate of \$70.72 per mcf. This rate is a 10% increase and is higher than the Rocky River rate but the same cost that the residents of Lakewood pay. The cost for the City of Rocky River to install a pump station or to redirect this back into the city would cost much more. This will have one more read.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 4-17:

BY: JAMES W. MORAN

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 75-16 CREATING POSITIONS AND FIXING OR ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL SALARIES AND HOURLY RATES COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2017 FOR THE APPOINTED EMPLOYEES IN THE SEVERAL DIVISIONS AND DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

1st READING

Mr. Moran said this is an amendment to Ordinance #75-16 to provide a clothing allowance for the Maintenance Manager Position at the Civic Center. This was originally left off the wage ordinance. There was also a name change in the uniform allowance portion in the police division. The parapolice title is now the police secretary dispatcher with the addition of a new dispatcher. The Mayor interjected that this is simply defining the two roles more clearly and is not an additional uniform allowance. This will have two more reads.

ORDINANCE NO. 5-17:

BY: JOHN B. SHEPHERD

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH FABRIZI TRUCKING AND PAVING COMPANY, INC. FOR THE 2017 WESTWAY SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$919,989.60

1st READING

Mr. Shepherd said that this is to authorize a contract with Fabrizi Trucking and Paving Company, Inc. for the 2017 Westway Sewer Improvement Project at a cost not to exceed \$919,989.60. This project is critical because this needs to be fixed prior to working on the Lakeview and Hampton project. The water from those two sewers goes through Westway. This will also eliminate the last sanitary sewer overflow. The city received eleven bids for this project and Fabrizi was the low bidder. The engineer's estimate came in at \$1.2 million which was right in the middle of all the bids. The winning bid was \$919,000 which is \$134,000 less than the next bid and \$646,000 less than the high bid. This will have two more reads.

- Councilman Klym asked that if this project ends in the middle of Wagar Road where does it begin? Director Costello said it would begin at Northview Road. Director Costello explained that there are two sanitary sewer overflows. The city has been very successful in getting the other sanitary sewer overflow to almost having no flow registering. The overflow being discussed for this ordinance is at Magnolia, which is east of Northview. Director Costello explained that all the flow comes westward towards the plant past Magnolia and the city wants to create more room. The city suspects that some of the storm water is backing up to the sanitary overflow at Magnolia causing some of the issues.

ORDINANCE NO. 6-17:

BY: MICHAEL P. O'DONNELL

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO PURCHASE FOUR (4) 2017 FORD INTERCEPTORS FOR THE POLICE DIVISION UNDER THE STATE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING ACT FROM LEBANON FORD AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$107,779.00

1st READING

President Moran said that four Ford Interceptors would be purchased for the Police Division. Two of the cars will be purchased from the POPAS budget and two cars from the Equipment Purchase Fund. Director Costello said that one canine vehicle and three line cars would be purchased. The canine car is more expensive due to requiring some climate control equipment. The cars being replaced have high mileage and consist of a 2008 Crown Victoria, a 2014 Dodge Charger, a 2010 Crown Victoria and a 2010 Ford Explorer. The Chief and the mechanic agree that these vehicles need replaced and will be sold at auction.

- Councilman Furry asked if the new vehicles would need to be accessorized. Director Costello said that they would at about \$15,000 for cages, lights, bars and the exterior and \$11,000 for new radios, equipment, lights, siren, decals, etc. Councilman Furry asked if the accessories will be able to be swapped out in future purchases. Director Costello said equipment will be re-used as much as possible.
- Councilman Klym asked if there was something in particular with the 2014 Dodge Charger that it needs to be replaced. Director Costello said that there were moderate issues, but these cars are used daily. The Dodge Chargers are small and there is a lot of equipment. Director Costello will check on the mileage of this car but she thinks it is in excess of 100,000 miles.
- President Moran asked if the equipment inside these cars would be sold at auction also. Director Costello said that the equipment would be put out for auction.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT NOT ON LEGISLATION:

Mr. Bill Welch asked about the FEMA Grant, the new ladder truck and the 700 applications. Mr. Welch asked how many grants FEMA is awarding. The Mayor said she would look back at the grant and will let Mr. Welch know. It takes a long time to make the decision. FEMA is in the second round of the process and would not share with the Mayor the status of the city's application. The Mayor said that Congresswoman Kaptur's office and Congressman Renacci's office have been extremely helpful.

Captain Kevin Bednarski from the Rocky River Fire Department spoke to Council regarding the importance of the purchase of a new ladder truck for the Fire Department. This is a very expensive piece of equipment. Captain Bednarski thanked the Mayor and the administration for putting it in the budget and thanked Council for approving the budget. This truck has been very helpful throughout the years in rescuing workers from light poles and roofs along with putting out fires at the Beachcliff Apartments and two Heritage House fires. This truck was instrumental in saving the lives of several of the Rocky River Firemen and Policemen at the accident site on I 90 a few weeks ago. The Mayor said the city has a very strong mutual aid partnership with the surrounding communities. When the ladder truck is down, it means other cities are on call. Also the ISO ratings are critical to the businesses and residents of Rocky River. Director Costello and the Mayor are in contact with the insurance companies hoping the decision comes soon. Captain Bednarski added that these trucks should last a lifetime and it is important to purchase the correct truck for the City of Rocky River.

- President Moran shared with the Mayor several comments he and other Councilman have received concerning emergency calls the fire department has responded to. Mr. and Mrs. Steve Niksa let Mr. Moran know the wonderful job the fire department did in handling their elderly mother with a broken hip and how caring and helpful the department was. The caring and compassion of the Fire Department has been exemplary. Council and the administration thanked the department for everything they do.

The next meeting of Council will be held Tuesday, February 21, 2017. As there was no further business by members of Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

James W. Moran
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council