

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

November 27, 2023

The Regular Legislative Meeting of Council was called to order by Mr. Moran, President of Council in the David J. Cook Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Mr. Hunt, Mr. Shepherd, Mr. Furry, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Sindelar, Mr. Moran

Council Members Absent: Mrs. Gallagher

Assistant Law Director: Mr. Dever

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

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Moran welcomed special guests this evening: Brittany Jicha who will be sworn in as a police officer and the Rocky River Girls' Soccer Team along with Coach Hopkins on their great season this year.

OATH OF OFFICE FOR BRITTANY J. JICHA

Chief Lichman thanked everyone for coming and congratulated the Girls' Soccer Team who had a phenomenal season. Chief Lichman said we are here to swear in Brittany Jicha, a new police officer who will be joining the department. Brittany comes to Rocky River from the City of Reminderville, OH where she was a police officer for over five years. Brittany graduated from the Tri-C Police Academy and Cleveland State University. Brittany has a big interest in motor vehicle accident reconstruction and is two-thirds of the way towards her certification in that. The Rocky River Police Department will get her over the line in the next year. This is a big occasion for the Rocky River Police Department to have a new officer. It has been harder than ever in the last 4-5 years to recruit a full staff due mostly to retirements. The department works hard to find high quality candidates and has yet to reduce the standards and will work very hard to keep it that way. Brittany certainly comes very well qualified. Welcome to the Rocky River Police family.

The Mayor added that seeing members of the Police Department in large numbers speaks volumes on the quality of all the officers and their commitment to one another. The Mayor proceeded to give Brittany the Oath of Office.

Police Officer Jicha introduced her brother, Tim Best who is a Lieutenant for the Macedonia Fire Department, who pinned her badge on. Officer Jicha thanked all the police that showed up this evening and for all their support as it shows her the type of culture the Rocky River Police Department has. Brittany thanked her family and friends that are here including a former co-worker from Reminderville who has been a great support to her through this entire process. Brittany looks forward to serving the community of Rocky River.

President Moran said that City Council always has the great pleasure of seeing the new officers hired and enjoys the fact that Brittany was able to join City Council this evening.

MOTION:

Moved by Mr. Moran seconded by Mr. Furry that the reading of the minutes of the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting of November 20th be waived and that the minutes be accepted as submitted.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Shepherd – aye	Furry – aye	
	Morris – abstain	Sindelar – aye	Moran - aye	
	5 ayes	1 abstain	0 nays	PASSED

Moved by Mr. Moran seconded by Mr. Furry that the reading of the minutes of the Legislative Meeting of November 13th be accepted as submitted.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Shepherd – aye	Furry – aye	
	Morris – aye	Sindelar – aye	Moran - abstain	
	5 ayes	1 abstain	0 nays	PASSED

MAYOR’S REPORT:

The Mayor thanked Councilwoman Morris for her insight and guidance regarding the city’s website. Today, at the top of the website there is a new button for City Meeting Central. Every agenda, every piece of legislation that is on the agenda along with the minutes from the last meeting will be found easily and accessible. Below that are the Minute Archives for all the meetings. The Mayor passed Councilwoman Morris’ suggestions to the IT Manager Ricky Bycoskie and the IT Department and within four days it was completed.

The Mayor announced the coming weekend’s itinerary of festivities. Friday, December 1st at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall Park there will be the tree-lighting along with the Middle School Choir performing and Santa will arrive hopefully on the antique fire truck. Saturday, December 2nd, will be the Downtown River Walk beginning at 11:00 a.m. There will be a lot of activities along Detroit and Old Detroit Road. At 5:15 p.m. Santa reappears in the Holiday Parade lead by a team of very special reindeer. All of this is in partnership with the Rocky River Chamber of Commerce. Santa will come to Old Detroit and lead everyone to the “Holiday Street Dance”!

The Mayor announced that on Thursday there will be a meeting with the consultant of the Consolidated Dispatch. Fire and EMS Dispatch is already serving the city and the city is now looking to add the police to the Consolidated Dispatch primarily for safety purposes in the community. The Mayor, Chief Lenart, Chief Lichman and Director Snyder will be meeting with the consultant on Thursday.

The Mayor announced last week that today is Membership Monday for the Recreation Department. The Mayor is happy to report that the one-day total today was more than \$114,000.00 was taken in. The Civic Center is enjoyed by many residents who took advantage of the discounts today.

The Mayor has exciting news regarding a letter received from the Ohio Department of Transportation regarding the repaving of Center Ridge Road. ODOT will provide more than \$1.2 million which is 80% of the federal funding and the local match will be \$308,000. There is a smaller portion for the City of Fairview Park in the amount of \$288,000 in federal dollars for that project. The biggest part of this is that Director Snyder compelled them and explained to them why this project needed to be moved up in the schedule. This is a big win. The Mayor thanked Director Snyder for all his hard work with great results.

The Mayor announced that there will be a “Parents Night Out” on Friday, December 8th from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. If parents with little ones need to do Christmas shopping, they can drop the children off at the Recreation Center. There is more information on the website.

- Mr. Furry asked what parts of Center Ridge Road will be repaved. Director Snyder said it will be from Spencer to Wooster. The Mayor added that some of the gateway will be done on the western end with new traffic lights being installed, street scape and medians. Director Snyder

explained that with the four different grants there is an approximate total of \$2.5 million of grant funding going towards this project. Most of the work will be signalization and pedestrian improvements and the Gateway improvements between Spencer and Pease Drive. Once that is paired with the previously completed Center Ridge signals project, the city will have pedestrian improvement and signalization improvements between Spencer and Linden. The ODOT Funding will be for resurfacing and Director Snyder is looking for additional funding for improvements on signalization and pedestrian improvements per the Master Plan for the area between Linden and Wooster.

- Mr. Sindelar asked about bike lanes on Center Ridge. Mr. Snyder said Center Ridge is tight and bike lanes would not work. There was a Center Ridge study done in 2017, showing driveway aprons every fourth step. There will be improvements adding preemption for emergency medical vehicles and ADA improvements. Mr. Snyder said the ODOT funding covers curb to curb so additional funding will be for the pedestrian improvements.
- Mr. Moran said the time that has been put into this started two to three years ago keeping Center Ridge Road as a key avenue to Rocky River and making sure that it is safe, clean and easy to travel. Thank you to the Mayor and the administration for all the work that has been done. The Mayor said the administration is bringing taxpayer dollars back to Rocky River.

LAW DEPARTMENT: NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Finance Committee: President Moran said that Council is preparing for the Budget Finance Meeting this Friday beginning at 8:00 a.m. Everyone has contacted their Directors and Judges. Councilman Sindelar said he met with Judge Hagan this morning, unfortunately Clerk Comery was under the weather and was unable to meet. He will have his report to Council within a day or so.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL: Mr. Sindelar welcomed the Rocky River Girls' Soccer Team. Each player introduced themselves:

Maeve Kelly - Senior	Ella Hopkins – Senior
Caitlin Rose – Junior	Gemma Hartung – Freshman
Mackenzie Russel – Senior	Morgan Burnett – Freshman
Olivia Byall – Junior	Clara DeWitt – Freshman
Charlotte Dean – Junior	Rori Vesey – Junior
Kylie Crane – Senior	Piper Tovissi – Freshman
Ava Patti – Senior	Teagan Hopkins – Freshman
Madison Bolas – Freshman	Katie Nupp – Senior
Sophia Sindelar – Junior	Grace Quaiser – Sophomore
Haven Munk – Sophomore	Maggie Nupp – Freshman
Ellie Holton – Freshman	Lexi Hammermeister – Junior
Madison Burnett – Freshman	Mia Carney – Sophomore
Morgyn Cruz – Senior	Audrey Spurlock – Freshman
Addison Russell – Sophomore	Carly Ewing – Freshman
Rylie Quaiser – Sophomore	Gia Benjamin – Senior
Coach Patrick Hopkins	

President Moran congratulated the entire team along with a standing ovation. He added that the team helped bring recognition to the City of Rocky River with their play, but along with doing so well this year, on top of that, it is the type of person you all are and people know how well you have done and how well you will continue to do. Mr. Moran wished the seniors the best of luck in their new endeavors but

also for the returning classmen he hopes to see them next year too. The City is so proud that the team had a great season. Congratulations also to the parents who have supported the team all the way along the line.

Coach Hopkins thanked City Council for having the team this evening and he loves that he was able to be together with the team another night.

The Mayor added that this team is such an immense source of pride for the entire community. The whole community was buzzing about this team. The Mayor enjoyed watching the team in Columbus on that amazing field and she was bursting with pride. It looked like a tough game and a very physical game. Thank you so much for the gift you have given to the community.

Mr. Sindelar said from a parent's standpoint, these girls are not just defined by their athleticism but collectively and individually they are a very strong group of girls, supportive of each other as seen during interviews and rally around each other. The future is bright for this group of girls. It was a very supportive group of parents. It is an amazing feeling to have a whole community come together and rally around a team.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 51-23 **BY: JEANNE GALLAGHER**
AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTIES KNOWN AS AUDITOR'S PERMANENT PARCEL NOS. 301-17-082, 301-17-083, 301-17-048, AND 301-17-084, FROM THEIR PRESENT CLASSIFICATION OF SM-SERVICE MANUFACTURING TO OB-2-OFFICE, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"
ON HOLD

This was referred to the Planning Commission and remains on hold.

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 80-23 **BY: JEANNE GALLAGHER**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF ROCKY RIVER CODIFIED ORDINANCES CHAPTER 1163 ENTITLED: OFFICE BUILDING DISTRICT REGULATIONS", AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"
ON HOLD

Mr. Moran said this is amending the Office Building District Regulations in Chapter 1163. Mr. Moran said this will be on hold until Mrs. Gallagher can present it next week.

ORDINANCE NO. 81-23 **BY: JEANNE GALLAGHER**
AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTIES KNOWN AS AUDITOR'S PERMANENT PARCEL NO. 301-18-083 FROM ITS PRESENT CLASSIFICATION OF OB-2 OFFICE TO LB LOCAL BUSINESS, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"
2nd READING

Mr. Moran said this is a zoning change request from OB-2 to LB Local Business for the parcel on Detroit Road, the former Jan Dell property. City Council will schedule a Public Hearing on this ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 88-23 **BY: CHRISTINA MORRIS**

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY-SERVICE TO RENEW FOR ONE (1) YEAR THE AGREEMENT WITH RUPLE TRUCKING LLC FOR THE REMOVAL OF DIGESTED SLUDGE CAKE (WINTER SEASON) FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AT A COST OF \$56.99 PER TON AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT “A”

2nd READING

Mrs. Morris said this is to renew for one year the agreement with Ruple Trucking for the removal of digested sludge cake for the winter season at \$56.99 per ton, which is the same price as last year.

ORDINANCE NO. 89-23

BY: CHRISTINA MORRIS

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY-SERVICE TO RENEW FOR ONE (1) YEAR THE AGREEMENT WITH JAMES DIAZ FARM FOR THE REMOVAL OF DIGESTED SLUDGE CAKE (SUMMER SEASON) FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AT THE COST OF \$46.00 PER TON FOR THE YEAR 2024

2nd READING

This is a yearly ordinance for the renewal of the agreement with James Diaz Farm for the removal of digested sludge cake for the summer season at \$46.00 per ton, which is the same price as last year.

ORDINANCE NO. 90-23

BY: CHRISTINA MORRIS

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY-SERVICE TO RENEW FOR ONE (1) YEAR THE AGREEMENT WITH PVS TECHNOLOGIES, INC FOR THE PURCHASE AND SUPPLY OF FERRIC CHLORIDE FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AT A COST OF \$1173.00 PER DRY TON FOR THE YEAR 2024

2nd READING

This is a yearly ordinance for the renewal for one year with PVS Technologies for the purchase and supply of Ferric Chloride for the WWTP at a cost of \$1173 per dry ton. This is the same price as last year.

ORDINANCE NO. 91-23

BY: CHRISTINA MORRIS

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY-SERVICE TO RENEW FOR ONE (1) YEAR THE AGREEMENT WITH PVS CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS, INC FOR THE PURCHASE AND SUPPLY OF SODIM BISULFITE FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AT A COST OF \$1.87 PER GALLON FOR THE YEAR 2024

2nd READING

This is a yearly ordinance for the renewal for one year with PVS Chemical Solutions for the purchase and supply of Sodium Bisulfite for the WWTP at \$1.87 per gallon. This is the same price as last year.

ORDINANCE NO. 92-23

BY: JAMES W. MORAN

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 171 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER ENTITLED “MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX” BY AMENDING SECTIONS 171.2803, 171.2805 AND 171.2818 AND ADDING SECTION 171.2827 AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT “A”

2nd READING

Mr. Moran said this is to align the City Income Tax Code with provisions passed as part of Ohio House Bill 33. It was reviewed by R.I.T.A. and HB 33 was correctly incorporated in the city’s Codified Ordinance in relation to this ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 93-23**BY: JAMES W. MORAN**

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER, OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND TO AMEND AMENDED ORDINANCE NOS. 77-22; 17-23; 54-23 AND 75-23

2nd READING

Mr. Moran said this has been discussed the last few weeks. This is a supplemental appropriation to cover \$125,000 worth of electricity bills for the traffic division and other expenses that will remain for the fiscal year 2023.

ORDINANCE NO. 94-23**BY: DAVID W. FURRY**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO PURCHASE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR MARTIN PARK FROM SNIDER RECREATION INC. AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$125,000.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"

2nd READING

Mr. Furry said that this was discussed and read twice. It is for new playground equipment at Martin Park. He will discuss this more next week and looking for a third read and passage in two weeks.

ORDINANCE NO. 95-23**BY: JAMES W. MORAN**

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER, OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024

2nd READING

Mr. Moran said this is an annual ordinance for the 2024 Budget. The Budget Committee Review Hearing will be held this Friday on December 1st when City Council will discuss the Budget with each of the Directors.

ORDINANCE NO. 96-23**BY: CHRISTINA MORRIS**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY-SERVICE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR FOR THE REMOVAL OF GRIT AND SCREENINGS TO A MUNICIPAL LANDFILL FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FROM KIMBLE COMPANY, AT A COST OF \$98.73 PER TON AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"

2nd READING

Mrs. Morris said this is a yearly ordinance that removes grit and screenings. The WWTP will be using Kimble Company which was the only bid.

ORDINANCE NO. 97-23**BY: CHRISTINA MORRIS**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER AND HAZEN AND SAWYER FOR PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SANITARY ENGINEERING SERVICES IN 2024 AND 2025 FOR THE ROCKY RIVER WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (WWTP) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$485,300 AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"

2nd READING

Mrs. Morris said Hazen and Sawyer has been the consulting engineering contractor for many years. This is a two-year contract. The set-up is the same as in years past and consists of retainer services, miscellaneous engineering services and additional engineering services and identified projects. The large, identified projects are the Flow and Strength Study which is performed every four years to determine city billing for the WWTP and the Toxicity Reduction Evaluation. The contract was approved by the Management Committee and the WWTP Special Council.

ORDINANCE NO. 98-23 **BY: JOHN B. SHEPHERD**
AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO
CONTRACTS WITH OCHS, INC. LIFE INSURANCE TO PROVIDE LIFE INSURANCE FOR
THE FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER, AS FURTHER
DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"
2nd READING

Mr. Shepherd said that the city provides a benefit for the full-time employee's and the bargained for employees life insurance that is required under the bargaining units under the collective bargaining agreements. This policy is for a three-year period with a zero percent increase for all three years. The current coverage is maintained at \$50,000 and the full-time employee can purchase supplemental coverage at their own expense. There have been no design changes in the policy.

ORDINANCE NO. 99-23 **BY: JOHN B. SHEPHERD**
AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO
CONTRACTS WITH MEDICAL MUTUAL OF OHIO TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE,
PRESCRIPTION INSURANCE COVERAGE, AND OPTIONAL VISION COVERAGE FOR
THE FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER, AS FURTHER
DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"
2nd READING

Mr. Shepherd said this provides the health benefits to the full-time employees and the collectively bargained for employees. The option component of it is optional to the employee at their expense. There was a total decrease in cost of 5.12%. The stock level insurance increased for a large claim from \$120,000 to \$130,000 which helped contribute to the decrease. No additional cost was passed on to the employees and there were no design changes to the underlying coverage.

ORDINANCE NO. 100-23 **BY: CHRISTINA MORRIS**
AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO
PURCHASE TWO (2) IDENTICAL PUMPS FROM BERRINGTON PUMPS & SYSTEMS, INC.
FOR THE ROCKY RIVER WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO
EXCEED \$160,000
2nd READING

Mrs. Morris said this ordinance will be used to purchase two specialized pumps. These pumps were installed in 2000 and the models are outdated so parts are expensive and have high lead times (7 months) because they are not commonly produced. This is a newer model and the WWTP is purchasing two so there is a backup pump.

- Mr. Sindelar asked if all the pumps were installed in 2000. The Mayor said that the WWTP is buying two and one will be replaced with one of the new pumps. The Mayor will check with Superintendent Barille.

ORDINANCE NO. 101-23 **BY: JAMES W. MORAN**

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE CREATING POSITIONS AND FIXING OR ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL SALARIES AND HOURLY RATES COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2024 FOR THE APPOINTED EMPLOYEES IN THE SEVERAL DIVISIONS AND DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

2nd READING

This is the employees receiving approximately a 3% increase to their 2024 salaries. A couple of new positions were added along with minimum wage increasing to \$10.45 and an added School Resource Officer. This will be discussed more next week but the increase matches to what the unions also received for 2024.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 102-23

BY: JOHN B. SHEPHERD

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MACKAY ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING COMPANY A DIVISION OF WALLACE & PANCHER, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING AND ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR 2024 AND 2025 AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"

1st READING

Mr. Shepherd said this ordinance will continue the recent tradition of awarding a two-year contract to MacKay a division of Wallace & Pancher to provide engineering services to the city. This sets forth a working relationship on how they will bill in hours but from a contractual standpoint it does not have a lot of teeth. The city does not have to use them and can use them when the city wants. It is a good faith relationship. They are mandated to honor their prices for at least up to 30 days. The city at any point in time can go with another engineer if they want to. The city has had very good experience with MacKay and they have good institutional knowledge of the city's needs.

ORDINANCE NO. 103-23

BY: JOHN B. SHEPHERD

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH DELTA DENTAL TO PROVIDE DENTAL COVERAGE FOR THE FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"

1st READING

Mr. Shepherd said this will provide for the Dental Insurance that the city is mandated to provide to the bargained for employees and we also provide for the full-time employees. It will have an increase of 2.68% in premium costs for the first year with no rate increase in the second year. There are no plan design changes under this arrangement.

RESOLUTION NO. 104-23

BY: JOHN B. SHEPHERD

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND HER DESIGNEE TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES URBAN FORESTRY GRANT PROGRAM FOR TREE LAWN TREE PLANTING TO IMPROVE THE CITY'S TREE CANOPY

1st READING

Mr. Shepherd said this helps the need to restore and improve the urban forestry and there is no cost to this application.

ORDINANCE NO. 105-23

BY: JOHN B. SHEPHERD

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR VARIOUS INSURANCE COVERAGES FOR THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER WITH MCGOWAN INSURANCE COMPANY, INC. FOR THE YEAR 2024 AT A TOTAL COST OF \$313,791.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"

1st READING

Mr. Shepherd asked with President Moran's permission, he asked for the next two ordinances to be read so he can discuss them as a group. President Moran concurred.

ORDINANCE NO. 106-23

BY: JOHN B. SHEPHERD

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR VARIOUS INSURANCE COVERAGES FOR THE ROCKY RIVER MUNICIPAL COURT WITH MCGOWAN INSURANCE COMPANY, INC., FOR THE YEAR 2024 AT A TOTAL COST OF \$8,700.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"

1st READING

ORDINANCE NO. 107-23

BY: JOHN B. SHEPHERD

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR VARIOUS INSURANCE COVERAGES FOR THE ROCKY RIVER WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT WITH MCGOWAN INSURANCE COMPANY, INC., FOR THE YEAR 2024 AT A TOTAL COST OF \$113,226.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"

1st READING

Mr. Shepherd said that over the last four or five years there has been some sentiment that the city should periodically explore the insurance market. Mr. Shepherd appreciates the efforts of putting an RFP out. Pursuant to that, the city located six agents and invited them to participate and a seventh requested to join later. At the end of the day, not many came through with proposals. It basically came down to two proposals: McGowan Insurance and Wichert Insurance. Jackson, Dieken's underwriter withdrew so they could not submit a proposal. Attached to the ordinances is the recommendations of Crain, Langner and Company which is the independent insurance consultant that the city uses. Mr. Shepherds said these contracts are so complicated he is very glad there is an independent insurance expert to looks at this and helps the city. They recommend that the city stay with McGowan. McGowan will use Munich RE, Specialty Insurance Co. The net result is that McGowan is more expensive at about a 10% increase from the current rates. The reasons for recommending McGowan over Wichert are:

1. Abuse and Molestation Liability coverage is offered by McGowan through the full excess limits where the other bid did not.
2. The property and flood limits are a blanket limit where the other policy did it by location.
3. McGowan's coverage through Munich RE offers one policy for all three related entities.
4. The insured has the right to select their own defense counsel with McGowan.
5. McGowan has a superior program aggregate limits of liability to the other options presented.

It is a 10% increase, but according to the consultant, this has been a very hard market conditions for municipal insurance and credited the good claims experience of the city, court and the WWTP which helped keep the increase down.

Some of the concerns about the Wichert Proposal:

1. They are unable to quote for the Active Shooter Coverage and can only offer indication on the cyber coverage and could only give a firm quote if the city completed an application.

2. Their quote did not include abuse coverage in the umbrella limit for the WWTP and provided per location insurance limits for property coverages rather than a blanket limit.
3. Certain key locations such as City Hall, Service Garage and Service location on Lake Road were excluded for flood coverage.
4. Their quote reduced the aggregate limits from \$3 million to \$2 million for public officials in employment practices liability.

McGowan is a better policy and is only 6% more than the Wichert bid. At the end of the letter there is a list of open issues that are still under review by the administration with McGowan, so before passage Council should have the decisions on the various recommendations.

- Mr. Furry said the Crain, Langner memorandum references an Exhibit B that was not included with this ordinance. Also, the Professional Services Agreement needs to be updated. Mr. Snyder will forward Exhibit B.
- The Mayor added that she had a conversation with Maureen Nakonek and the Law Director and agreed that at the next renewal the duration will be shortened to September at an off-peak time for renewals. It takes the pressure off the administration and Council regarding the process and more importantly receives more competitive proposals.
- Mr. Shepherd said it is good that somebody focuses on the details. There are little adjustments included, he commends the effort.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ORDINANCE NO. 83-23

BY: CHRISTINA MORRIS

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH AND THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER FOR PHASE II STORMWATER SERVICES FOR 2024 AND 2025, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"

3rd READING

Mrs. Morris said that the City of Rocky River uses the Cuyahoga County Board of Health to monitor the stormwater systems and is also a requirement for the permit. This will keep the city monitored for the next year and help to identify the ten outfalls that have exceeded the minimum threshold for action. This is not to exceed \$2,685 per year.

ORDINANCE NO. 84-23

BY: BRIAN J. SINDELAR

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO PURCHASE AN AVANT COMPACT LOADER FOR THE SERVICE DIVISION UNDER THE SOURCEWELL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING CONTRACT FROM KTS EQUIPMENT, INC., AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$97,752.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"

3rd READING

Mr. Sindelar said this ordinance has been discussed for several weeks and there has been little to no questions. The discussion has centered around the usefulness and how in the long run it will save the city a cost for backup snow plowing sidewalks. The versatility seen through the pictures and discussions on various attachments that can be used.

ORDINANCE NO. 85-23

BY: BRIAN J. SINDELAR

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH G & B ELECTRIC COMPANY, FOR THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT FIRE ALARM INSTALLATION AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$73,300.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT “A”

3rd READING

Mr. Sindelar said this has been discussed for a few weeks with little to no questions. The discussion was centered around the rationale and the justification for a fire alarm system at the Service Garage. Mr. Balla gave reasons on why the city went with this bid as opposed to the cheaper bid as it left out things that needed to be done.

ORDINANCE NO. 86-23

BY: DAVID W. FURRY

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 951.01 ENTITLED FEES, PERTAINING TO THE MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOL, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT “A”

3rd READING

Mr. Furry said this has been discussed and read three times and is basically a 10% increase for the swimming pool admissions. 10% is a little higher due to higher wages for staffing, lifeguards, supplies and chemicals.

ORDINANCE NO. 87-23

BY: DAVID W. FURRY

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 954.01 ENTITLED FEES, PERTAINING TO THE CIVIC CENTER RECREATION FACILITIES, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT “A”

3rd READING

Mr. Furry said this is basically another 10% increase for the Civic Center membership and daily passes. It has not increased in three years and goes in to affect January 1, 2024 for basically the same reasons as outlined above.

MOTION:

Mr. Moran moved for passage of the consent agenda for Ordinance Nos. 83-23 through 87-23, seconded by Mr. Furry.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Shepherd – aye	Furry – aye
	Morris – aye	Sindelar – aye	Moran – aye
	6 ayes	0 nays	

PASSED

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: President Moran reminded Council to submit their budget outlines to Sue or bring them to the Finance Meeting this Friday.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

As there was no further business by members of Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m. There will be a Finance Committee Meeting this Friday beginning at 8:00 a.m. and the Committee-of-the-Whole will be Monday, December 4th in Council Chambers.

James W. Moran
President of Council

Susan Pease
Clerk of Council