

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

June 10, 2024

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,
Mrs. Morris, Mr. Sindelar, Mr. Furry

Council Members Absent: Mr. Shipp

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

Law Director: Mr. O’Shea

MOTION:

Moved by President Furry seconded by Mrs. Gallagher and Mrs. Morris that the reading of the minutes of the May 28th Legislative Meeting be waived and that the minutes be accepted as presented.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Gallagher – aye	O’Boyle – aye	
	Morris – aye	Sindelar – aye	Furry - aye	
	6 – ayes		0 - nays	PASSED

Moved by President Furry seconded by Mrs. Morris that the reading of the minutes of the June 3rd Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting be waived and that the minutes be accepted as presented.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Gallagher – aye	O’Boyle – aye	
	Morris – aye	Sindelar – abstain	Furry - aye	
	5 – ayes	1 – abstain	0 - nays	PASSED

MAYOR’S REPORT:

The Mayor thanked everyone who participated in the D.A.R.E. Graduation. Councilman Hunt was in attendance at this great tradition of this community. The Mayor said this year had a significant number of parents and grandparents in attendance. Thank you to the Rocky River Police Department and Rocky River City Schools for continuing this program. The pool is now open and camps have started. Summer has begun.

The Mayor shared Building Department Stats:

- Permits at the end of May are up to 695 permits, as compared to 628 in 2023.
- Valuation is down slightly but is still healthy at \$22.6 million as compared to \$25.8 million in 2023. The commercial side of investment is down \$3-4 million but the city has surpassed residential investment from this time last year.

The Rocky River Library Community Read is “The Boys in a Boat” which is a story about rowing, the Olympics and the struggles of the eight-man rowing team during the Depression. It is a great book and a great read. The Mayor read it several years ago and is anxious to refresh her recollection of the story. There will be several Book Club Meetings including one on Tuesday, June 23rd at the RRPL in the evening and on Tuesday, July 30th from 10:30-11:30 a.m. The Senior Center will also be hosting one of the meetings on July 30th.

This Friday is “Flag Day” and the Mayor is encouraging residents to fly the flag of our Country at their homes.

The Mayor discussed parking concerns at Bradstreet’s Landing. This weekend there were a lot of cars. Director Snyder has moved forward with additional parking on the south side of Lake Road which will be completed in conjunction with the Lake Road Project. The Mayor did reiterate that this is not a large park. The park itself is 3.3 acres and the total parcel is 6.39 acres which includes Spencer Creek and the land that is east of Spencer Creek. There is a lot of activity at Bradstreet’s Landing and that is great to see. Today the administration gave a tour to several individuals from the County, Grace Gallucci, the Executive Director of NOACA, our partners from the MetroParks and ODNr. Director Kerber gave a historic perspective on the park and Director Snyder gave details about the project. It was noted that the parking is appropriate for 3.3 acres, but the city understands that people want to launch kayaks and paddleboards there and other things. There may need to be a discussion regarding launching that once the kayak or paddleboard is launched, the car can be moved to the southside parking so the nearby pier parking is left open for others. Bradstreet’s Landing has been very popular and on every list of “Things to do in Cleveland” so it is getting a lot of attention. The need for more parking is being recognized.

The Mayor wished a Happy Father’s Day to all the fathers in the community including City Council and the administration.

- President Furry commented that he has not read the “The Boys in a Boat” but has seen the movie and it was very good.

LAW DEPARTMENT: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 28-24

BY: PAUL SHIPP

**AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ADMINISTER A NATUREWORKS GRANT FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR ELLE’S ENCHANTED FOREST
3rd READING**

Mr. Furry said this resolution is applying for a Natureworks Grant for Elle’s Enchanted Forest in the amount of \$150,000. This has been discussed for a couple of weeks with no questions. Mr. Furry moved Resolution No. 28-24 for passage, seconded by Mr. Hunt.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Gallagher – aye	O’Boyle – aye
	Morris – aye	Sindelar – aye	Furry - aye
	6 – ayes		0 - nays

PASSED

ORDINANCE NO. 29-24

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 COMPANY, INC., FOR THE KENSINGTON ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$1,609,441.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT “A”
2nd READING**

Mr. Sindelar said this went out for bid to twenty-five contractors and the city received only two bids in return. Fabrizi was the low bidder by \$70,000, however was over the engineer’s estimate by \$98,000 but still within the allowable 20%. Fabrizi is the recommended contractor for this project. Mr. Sindelar stresses that this project will eliminate some of the over/under sewers on Kensington Road between Lake and Beachcliff. These types of projects

have been engaged in the city for the past 18 years. This project will help with basement flooding as the over/under sewers will be separated, lowered and the diameter of the pipe increased to assist in storage capacity.

- Councilman Hunt asked Director Snyder what the mobilization timing will be for this project as this is a sensitive area. Director Snyder said that originally, he tried to schedule this to begin when school is out. Mr. Snyder expects this to commence in August. There is a water portion of this project so there will be temporary water service and that will take place in the Fall. Mr. Snyder expects that some of the sewer work will continue over the winter. The total project length will be about ten months. The city will maintain at least a one-way lane of traffic throughout the entire duration of the project. Director Snyder has been in close contact with the School District including the Superintendent and Mr. Gifford. Director Snyder understands that it is a difficult situation and the city will try to maintain access as much as possible and will continue to work with the schools concerning busing.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 30-24

BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THAT ROCKY RIVER CITY COUNCIL SHALL RECESS DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST IN 2024

1st READING

Mr. Furry said that historically City Council has taken recess during the month of August to spend more time with their families. There are sometimes occasions that Council would need to meet but are hoping to not meet this August.

ORDINANCE NO. 31-24

BY: DAVID W. FURRY

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

1st READING

Mr. Furry said that the City of Lakewood has been treating sanitary sewage in the ValleyView Sewer District since 1956 and it comprises approximately 102 single family homes. Lakewood sewer rates are higher than the City of Rocky River, so the City of Rocky subsidizes these rates and all Rocky River residents pay the same mcf.

ORDINANCE NO. 32-24

BY: MICHAEL O'BOYLE

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP REFERENCED WITHIN PART ELEVEN OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER CONCERNING LAND USE PLANNING AND ZONING AND FURTHER KNOWN AS THE DEVELOPMENT CODE

1st READING

Mr. O'Boyle introduced Kathryn Kerber the Director of Planning and Community Development and said she has graciously consented to be here this evening to answer any questions Council has regarding the new zoning map. Mr. O'Boyle said this is to amend the Zoning Map as referred to Council by the Planning Commission. Ms. Kerber stated that the Zoning Map has not been updated since 2010 even though there have been numerous changes to specific aspects of the Zoning Map. The new map includes more distinctive colors. Some of the items addressed were errors in the 2010 map; legislative zoning changes that have occurred between 2010 and May 2024; zoning changes due to transfer of property ownership, for instance a parcel that was purchased by the city and a parcel that switched from public ownership to private ownership; and zoning changes to reconcile the non-conforming parcels that resulted from Ordinance No. 80-23. Ordinance No. 80-23 created the new Zone OB-3 and there were three parcels that were automatically put in OB-2 that are taller than that zone permits so this would put them in OB-3 as would be appropriate for the height of those buildings. There are also a few Planning Commission recommendations included to keep the City Planning in line with the Master Plan and the nature of the community.

This includes the parcels that have the Market Restaurant on Linda Street as legislation was not found; Allen Court and the Dependable Chemical Lot as these parcels are mostly OB-2 which allows up to 75 feet and this would rezone them as OB-1 which would take them down to 55 feet; and include the Old Detroit neighborhood parcels to change them from General Business to Local Business so there would be no concerns for a drive through restaurant in that area. This handout has the details of each of the specific places that would be changed on this map and was also included in the email along with a version of the proposed map with each of these sections circled and referenced back to that email.

- Mr. Sindelar asked if the property owner could object to the zoning change. Ms. Kerber said that this ordinance will be referred back to the Planning Commission for a Public Hearing and all the property owners will be notified about the Public Hearing and then come back to City Council for an additional Public Hearing and everyone will be notified again before anything is approved and finalized. The Mayor said the Zoning Map should be done every several years.

The Mayor added that this was an immense amount of work along with the details to get this right. The Mayor gave Kathryn a huge thank you along with the Planning Commission and Kate Straub who played a role in this early on. This will be referred tonight to the Planning Commission and it will go through their process and Public Hearing. Ms. Kerber said it has all been reviewed in detail by herself, Commissioner Ray Reich, Planning Commissioner Chair Bill Bishop and Kate Straub, the Planning and Zoning Coordinator.

- Mr. Furry asked if the date for referral to the Planning Commission should be added to the body of the ordinance. The Mayor concurred that a place for the date needs to be added. This will be amended.

ORDINANCE NO. 33-24

BY: JEANNE GALLAGHER

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO PURCHASE A BOILER FOR THE DON UMERLEY CIVIC CENTER FROM S. A. COMUNALE AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$157,220.00, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"

1st READING

Mrs. Gallagher referred discussion of this Ordinance to next week's Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 34-24

BY: DAVID W. FURRY

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER, STATE OF OHIO, SUPPORTING THE OHIO COMMISSION FOR THE UNITED STATES SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL (AMERICA250-OH)

1st READING

Mr. Furry said the Mayor discussed this last week to commemorate the Semiquincentennial. As the time gets closer, more information will follow. Mr. Furry commends Dr. Previts for picking up the typo that Ohio is not a Commonwealth and Kathryn Kerber who processed the application to include the City of Rocky River on this list.

RESOLUTION NO. 35-24

BY: DAVID W. FURRY

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE ALTERNATIVE TAX BUDGET INFORMATION OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER, OHIO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2025 AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"

1st READING

Mr. Furry said this is a very brief first pass of the 2025 Budget in a summary and required form. It is based on information by making projections using what if scenarios but also includes known costs that will be part of the 2025 Budget. It is not the final budget that Council will address in December 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 36-24**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
1st READING**

Mr. Furry said this is a companion piece to Resolution No. 35-24 and is another step in the 2025 Budget process. Resolution No. 36-24 authorizes the levying of property tax millage. The total city millage will be set at 9.9 mills which is a reduction of .65 mills from the current 10.55 mills. This reduction is from the Civic Center Bonds being retired. Other city activities included in the millage figure is the Senior Center, Refuse and Recycling, the Recreation Center, Fire Pension, Police Pension and other Capital Improvements.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE**COMMUNICATIONS: NONE**

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: Mr. Furry wished Councilwoman Morris a Happy Birthday today along with wishing Councilwoman Gallagher a Happy Birthday on Thursday!

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

As there was no further business by members of Council, the Legislative Meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Gallagher and Mrs. Morris. There will be a Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting on June 17th.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Gallagher – aye	O’Boyle – aye
	Morris – aye	Sindelar – aye	Furry - aye
	6 – ayes		0 - nays

PASSED

David W. Furry
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council