

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

April 28, 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: Mrs. Gallagher, Mr. Shipp, Mr. O'Boyle,
Mrs. Morris, Mr. Sindelar, Mr. Furry

Council Members Absent: Mr. Hunt

Administration: Mayor Bobst, Mr. Snyder

Law Director: Mr. O'Shea

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION:

Moved by President Furry seconded by Mrs. Morris that the reading of the revised minutes of the Legislative Meeting of April 14th be waived and that the minutes be accepted as presented.

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

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor introduced her son Matthew who attended this evening's meeting.

The Mayor thanked everyone who attended the State of the City address. It was an aerobic activity with all the work that has been accomplished this past year. The Mayor thanked City Council and the administration for all their help towards the accomplishments of this past year. Thank you so much for your attendance.

The Mayor shared great news from the Ohio Public Works commission. The Ohio Public Works Commission provided the city with confirmation that the city will receive \$2.233 million through their infrastructure program for the completion of the Beachcliff/Cornwall Sewer Project. The city will also be doing a waterline in that area. Congratulations to Director Snyder. The administration mentioned this funding several months ago, and the project scored right below the funding line. Fortunately, they looked at the project, saw what was happening with some of the other projects and it was funded. This will be a zero-interest loan and the administration is excited to get started on that important project.

Director Snyder shared with Councilman Hunt information regarding a Deer Management Program in the city. Animal Control Officer Jarvis has attended several seminars and has done several things. The city is going to take a larger step and this step is being led by Director Snyder. The Mayor thanked Director Snyder for putting this together. The Mayor will share more information, perhaps even a council working group, when the first drafts are completed.

The Rocky River Park Master Plan is nearing completion, hopefully by the end of May. A big thank you to City Council and the residents who have been very engaged in the stakeholder process. There is always a positive outcome when so many residents are involved in the work and share their perspectives and insights with us. The administration appreciates that.

City Council received the Multi-Jurisdictional Municipal Court Annual Report at their places this evening.

The Mayor discussed the speed cushions that have been ordered and should be delivered next week. The speed cushions will be installed on East Shoreland, Northview and Beachcliff (just north of the Train Tressel). The grade changes significantly going down to the Tressel, so there will be a speed cushion placed there. The city will begin to monitor these and if they are successful more may be deployed.

The Mayor gave an update on Kensington. Final paving is currently being completed, followed by landscaping and weather permitting should be completed by mid-May.

The Mayor said that Council will recall that when the CBA for police was shared, one of the areas that the administration wanted in the contract was the ability to hire part-time or seasonal officers, specifically for the Marine Patrol. The Mayor swore in the first officer on Friday. Officer Randy Wilson is a retired police officer from the City of Independence and comes to Rocky River with a great deal of knowledge and experience regarding Lake Erie and the shoreline. He is currently going through the ODNR Marine Patrol Training Curriculum and will be back by the time the boat is in the water. Officer Wilson will then be doing enforcement for the city.

The Service Department reported that they are picking up 10 to 11 tons of yard waste recently. There has been a considerable amount of yard waste possibly due to the weather, but they are working hard out there and the city is anxious to hire summer seasonal help to help with this work.

Restrooms are being opened in the parks this week except for at Bradstreet's Landing, where the painting needs to be completed.

The Mayor said that Safety Town registration is open and has been enthusiastically received by the youngest members of the community.

The Mayor discussed the May "Quill Program" published by the Senior Center. There are a lot of wonderful programs that are available for the Seniors, even while the building is under construction. The Center is up and running and fully functioning.

The Mayor said that Ordinance No. 23-25 has been presented to City Council this evening regarding the Lake/Clifton Connector Project that has been discussed over the last several weeks with many individuals interested in this project. After Council's discussion, legislation has been drafted and the Law Director has worked on including some protection to the city including that the maximum contribution of \$540,000 and the scope of the project must remain. If the Federal Funding does not come through, the project will not proceed or they will have to find any additional money through the County. The Mayor respectfully requests that this ordinance be placed on this evening's agenda for a first read.

The Mayor announced the death of Dottie O'Neal, who has been part of the Senior Center for many, many years, participated in the Senior Theater and had a wonderful laugh with an upbeat personality. Dottie was the heartbeat of the Senior Center. Dottie passed away about a week ago and her services will be within the next week. The Mayor would like to applaud, recognize and honor her volunteer spirit and all that she meant to the Senior Center.

The Mayor announced the death of Phil Ardussi, who was a very active member of the Rotary and Historical Society and a co-author and final author of the book "Rocky River Yesterday". He passed away several weeks ago and his memorial service will be held within the next week or so.

- Mr. Sindelar asked if the speed cushions are removable and seasonal. Director Snyder said that they will be placed at the end of May and removed by the beginning of November. Mr. Sindelar asked if there would be signage warning drivers of the speed cushions. Mr. Snyder said it is not required but it is a possibility and is recommended. That is something the city can do internally. The signage would be removed along with

the speed cushions in November. Director Snyder said this will coincide with the radar detectors to collect data to see if there are improvements historically for speed on the streets. Mr. Snyder said that the speed cushions are only three inches high, they are not like a speed bump. The speed cushions have breaks in them that are designed for emergency vehicles and larger trucks to get through by straddling the speed cushions.

- Mr. Shipp asked if a car ran into the Senior Center. The Mayor said it was not the Senior Center, that was misreported, but it was the Adult Developmental Center on Detroit Road.

LAW DEPARTMENT: Mr. O'Shea said that the Mayor is underselling how well she did with this agreement with the County. The Mayor along with Council President Furry tasked Law Director O'Shea in making sure that the City of Rocky River's agreement is better than the one the City of Lakewood signed, particularly safeguarding two things: the CAP of the funds and making sure the County will need to complete the project according to the plans and specs regardless of lack of funding. Mr. O'Shea gave accolades to the Mayor.

Mr. O'Shea brought a box of blue lights for "Law Enforcement Blue Light Night" that will be held throughout the Northeastern Ohio where they are having residents shine blue lights outside to support law enforcement and first responders May 7th through May 17th. The F.B.I. delivered blue lights to the Police Department.

- Mrs. Gallagher asked about the May 1st deadline for the \$3 million. The Mayor said that the city received a letter last Friday afternoon saying that the County was not extending it, but they would work with any of the communities for future funding. The Consolidated Dispatch Committee needs more concrete plans for the County.

MOTION:

Councilman Sindelar moved to waive the 72-hour rule to add Ordinance No. 23-25 to this evening's agenda, seconded by Mr. Furry.

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

PASSED

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 16-25

BY: MICHAEL J. O'BOYLE

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PLACEMENT OF A PROPOSED SHORE STRUCTURE AND APPROVAL OF A LAKE ERIE SUBMERGED LAND LEASE FROM OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (ODNR) ADJACENT TO PERMANENT PARCEL NO. 301-01-004, 301-01-003 AT 365 WAGAR RD, ROCKY RIVER, OHIO
(3rd READING)**

Mr. O'Boyle said this has been discussed and will be read for a third time. He reiterated that this is a resolution whereby the city is testifying to the fact that the city does not need the land that is under consideration for any kind of city project. Mr. O'Boyle moved this ordinance for passage, seconded by Mr. Furry.

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

PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 18-25

BY: MICHAEL J. O'BOYLE

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PLACEMENT OF A PROPOSED SHORE STRUCTURE AND APPROVAL OF A LAKE ERIE SUBMERGED LAND LEASE FROM OHIO DEPARTMENT OF

**NATURAL RESOURCES (ODNR) ADJACENT TO PERMANENT PARCEL NO. 301-05-008 AT 19720 FRAZIER DR., ROCKY RIVER, OHIO
(3rd READING)**

Mr. O'Boyle said similar to Resolution No. 16-25, this also has to do with the placement of a proposed shore structure except that the parcel numbers, address and owner are different. Mr. O'Boyle moved this resolution for passage, seconded by Mr. Furry.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 19-25 BY: PAUL SHIPP
AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A TWO (2) YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT FOR CONCESSION SERVICES WITH CORP MG FOR THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER RECREATION DEPARTMENT AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT “A”
(3rd READING)**

Mr. Shipp said that this is a third reading for a lease to operate concessions at the ice rink and pool for the upcoming two-year period. The city will retain ownership of all property and equipment. There is a preference for the vendor to hire Rocky River High School students. CORP MG has experience in concession operations as they run Winterhurst Ice Rink. This is not a large ticket item and there has not been much discussion. The city is happy to be working with this company. Mr. Shipp moved this ordinance for passage, seconded by Mr. Furry and Mr. Sindelar.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 21-25 BY: BRIAN J. SINDELAR
AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ODOT ROAD SALT CONTRACTS TO BE AWARDED IN 2025
2nd READING**

Mr. Sindelar said the agreement was received late and he will be seeking a rule suspension. This is an annual ordinance the city engages in so the city has enough salt for the winter months. This allows the city to purchase it at a state rate because of pulled resources and offering the prices across a larger scale. The prices rose around 2020 and have steadily decreased and maintained stability. The city will pay less in 2025 than in 2024. This allows the city to purchase up to 3,000 tons as the city has about 1,000 tons currently. Mr. Sindelar stressed that the City of Rocky River does not suspend rules easily or often, but for situations like this where it needs to be passed by May 2nd with good rates. Mr. Sindelar moved for a rule's suspension, second by Mrs. Gallagher.

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

Mr. Sindelar moved this ordinance for passage, seconded by Mrs. Gallagher.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

**ORDINANCE NO. 22-25 BY: PAUL SHIPP
AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH G & B ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR**

THE CIVIC CENTER ELEVATOR MODERNIZATION PROJECT, UNDER THE SOURCEWELL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING CONTRACT, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$148,764.68, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT “A”

1st READING

Mr. Shipp shared notes from Mr. Mike Balla, Director of Public Facilities regarding the Civic Center Gymnasium Elevator. The elevator was decommissioned in 2012. However, it has been determined that the elevator should be brought back into service to meet the current accessibility and operational needs. To ensure safety and compliance with current code, the elevator will require full modernization including upgrades not just to the elevator but related systems in the building like the fire alarm and HVAC systems. Mr. Balla consulted with three elevator service providers and determined that the most efficient and cost-effective route is to utilize Sourcewell State Purchasing. This procurement method allows the city to coordinate the necessary trades under one contract streamlining the project management and minimizing delays. The total cost of \$148,764.68 includes a 10% contingency. Sourcewell is a cooperative which the city is familiar with from other contracts. Director Snyder said the decommission of this elevator is that it was taken out upon inspection as it did not meet code requirements. The costs at that time were not built into the budget. It is a secondary elevator at the Civic Center. There was redundancy there and since then they have been utilizing the one elevator but there are concerns that if that elevator goes down there needs to be a working elevator. It was time to bring this elevator up to code with the new requirements by the state. The funding will come from the Capital Improvement Fund Building Maintenance and Parts Account.

- Mr. Furry asked if this elevator was to the left. Director Snyder said it is the elevator in the gymnasium. The one to the left is the functional one.
- Mr. Sindelar asked if this is based on an annual inspection by the state. Mr. Snyder said that all the elevators are inspected several times a year. Mr. Snyder will have Mr. Balla send out the itemized breakdown. They take the entire structure itself, reuse what they can and upgrade the components that need it. The proposal lists various pieces as retain, replace, retain, replace.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-25

BY: BRIAN J. SINDELAR

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND HER DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FOR THE LAKE/CLIFTON CONNECTOR PROJECT, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$540,000.00 AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT “A”

1st READING

Mr. Sindelar this has been discussed for several weeks along with County representatives in attendance. When this was first discussed, Mr. Furry was on a fact-finding mission to see what Council thought about it. Mr. Sindelar said kudos to the administration and the Law Department for maintaining the autonomy of the city and doing due diligence to foresee and plan. City Council members are stewards of the resident's money and Council needs to be smart with it. There are a lot of municipalities that are in debt due to irresponsible spending. This is a great project, Council has been in favor of it, but also wants to do it right, do it smart and make sure the city is protected.

- Mr. Furry asked for a red-lined version of what the original contract was. The County approved it this morning.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Rob McCrae, 19313 Shoreland Avenue, asked the Mayor to please include information on the status of immigration apprehensions in Rocky River and any activity that is going on, on the campus where ICE has been taking people. The circumstances these days has been resulting in people not being provided their due process under federal law and essentially snatched up and disappear from the United States. He wants to be sure as a resident of the city, he is not party to the process where my government is sharing information that they shouldn't or actively going after folks unlawfully. In that regard, he hopes that in the future you could answer questions in future meetings. Some of his questions are: What extent is Rocky River police currently assisting Federal Immigration Agencies such as ICE in the activity of rounding up individuals suspected of being in the US illegally; 2) Any activities going on to share city information with Federal Agencies such as tenant information that is collected through the landlord reporting process or activities involving the Court. Obviously, the court serves 5 or 6 cities and is right next to the Rocky River Police Station so the level of information that is being shared there to help ICE, he would like the Mayor to disclose that in the future. He apologizes if it has already been disclosed and he missed it. The Mayor said it has been disclosed through the Police Chief. The Mayor will have the Police Chief attend the next meeting of Council to review all of that. Mr. McCrae said that to the extent that City Council members can be informed and up to date so they can report back to their constituents as to what the approach is or the mindset is in Rocky River. We have a big responsibility as a city that has a central courthouse and a tradition of having a lot of citizens who have a lot of dedication to the rule of law. We have a lot of current and retired judges as residents, there is a high expectation. If our city can at least disclose what the policies are and let the public decide, that would be much appreciated. The Mayor said she thinks Mr. McCrae will be very pleased.

Mr. Frank Gollinger, 18540 E. Shoreland Ave., commended the service from the Fire Department. They do a fabulous job. Recently, his family had a necessity to use their services and they could not have been better. This goes for all the Service Department workers and the Police Department. We have a great community here. Mr. Gollinger received a few phone calls regarding what is going on, on E. Shoreland and why it is happening on E. Shoreland. He said that every roadway in this city has times when there are motor vehicle operators who exceed the posted limits. He moved into his house on E. Shoreland in July of 1973. There have been some issues, they were all resolved with the Safety Department and asking the Police Chief to increase coverage of that street from time to time. What is planned for E. Shoreland? The Mayor responded that speed cushions will be placed on E. Shoreland. There have been a lot of complaints that there is traffic that is traveling at a high rate of speed on E. Shoreland. Some of them are young drivers and others that are cutting through. This is an opportunity to slow that traffic down without disrupting traffic. The speed cushions will be placed and not permanent. They will be removed in the winter so the plows can get through. This is a pilot program to see if the speed can be reduced. There have been several issues on E. Shoreland and the connector over to Valleyview. The SRO Officer was involved in identifying certain students from film and videos. Mr. Snyder said this will be put in place at the end of May and removed by mid-November before plowing begins. There have been a lot of residents' complaints and requests in that area for speed reduction. This is a culmination of things including radar on E. Shoreland, work with the police department to be sure there is enhanced traffic enforcement on that street and there is still a lot of it. Mr. Snyder said there is a community wide approach towards neighborhood traffic calming, working with Councilman Shipp, the Mayor, the Police Chief and himself to come up with a neighborhood traffic calming program where something such as a speed cushion would be one of the final options once we work on increasing education, increasing officer presence in the area and signage, et cetera. The city has incorporated software that allows us to go through and track speeds in that 85th/95th percentile throughout the community so we can keep records up to date on the speed throughout the community. As the Mayor mentioned, this is a pilot program, just these three streets are being utilized first based on feedback from residents on speeding and each street is a little different. It allows evaluation of tables in different types of streets that may be carried forward throughout the community. Mr. Gollinger asked if there has been any consideration to the fact that by doing something to E. Shoreland what it might do is push the problem to Inglewood or Valleyview. Mr. Snyder said that is always the situation that arises. When radar was installed on Dale, the question was will it move to Forestview or Wagar. We don't know that answer. It is a pilot program and gives us the opportunity to evaluate the feasibility and the improvement that the city might see in safety throughout these neighborhoods. The speed cushions will slow traffic but not cause damage to vehicles. Signage will be placed alerting drivers. The Mayor said that part of this evaluation is hearing from residents who live on the street. You will be the best person to tell us if they are working or not, or if you don't like them, they are causing other issues. Mr. Gollinger is worried about resale of homes with speed cushions. Mr. Sindelar said, or they will say they care

about the safety of this neighborhood. Mr. Shipp said this is a result of gathering of facts based on science. The Police Chief does a great job of keeping track of numbers. We measure, we don't guess. Mr. Shipp shared a graph of Rocky River OVI Traffic Parking cases. There is a sharp step down, which is half of what it was six years ago in terms of enforcement. People aren't speeding less, but the city is writing less tickets and enforcing laws less and that is only part of the problem. Mr. Shipp hopes that Mr. Gollinger will continue to give feedback and give this an opportunity.

Mr. Furry wished Mayor Bobst a happy birthday tomorrow!

As there was no further business by members of Council, the Legislative Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m. The next meeting will be on May 5, 2025.

David W. Furry
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council