

**CITY OF ROCKY RIVER**

**January 12, 2026**

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, Ms. Gallagher, Mr. Shipp, Mrs. Morris (7:20 p.m.), Mr. Furry, Mr. Moran, Ms. Havemann

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

Law Director: Mr. O’Shea

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Jeff Arra and the Webelos Scout Pack 390 from St. Christopher Parish in Rocky River, Ohio.

**NOMINATIONS:**

Mr. Furry advised that the first order of business is the nominations for Council President.

Ms. Gallagher nominated Councilman Paul Shipp for Council President, seconded by Ms. Havemann. Following the nominations the Council determined that it would be best to wait until Councilwoman Morris arrived so that she can be included in the vote.

**MOTION:**

Moved by President Furry seconded by Mr. Hunt that the reading of the minutes of the December 15, 2025, Special Meeting and Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting be waived and that the minutes be accepted as presented.

Vote:	Moran – Abstain	Gallagher – Aye	Hunt – Aye	Havemann - Abstain
	Shipp – Aye	Furry - Aye		
	4 – ayes	2 – abstain	0- nays	<b>PASSED</b>

Moved by President Furry seconded by Mr. Hunt that the reading of the minutes from the January 5, 2026, Oath of Office meeting be waived and that the minutes be accepted as presented.

Vote:	Moran – Aye	Gallagher – Aye	Hunt – Aye	Havemann - Aye
	Shipp – Aye	Furry - Aye		
	6 – ayes	0 – abstain	0- nays	<b>PASSED</b>

**MAYOR’S REPORT:**

The Mayor announced that this morning there was a preconstruction meeting for the gas line replacement for Wooster, Westhaven, Parkview, and Bonnie Bank streets. They anticipate starting at the end of January, but the residents will be notified in advance of that. Director Snyder is going to put some information together and they will get it out to everyone. Mr. Snyder advised that all the affected residents should have received a mailer and should also receive either an email or a phone call based on their preference.

The Mayor advised that it is the time of year for Deer culling and they’ve extended the dates this year. The deer culling in the Rocky River Reservation of the Metroparks will occur from January 20<sup>th</sup> through March 18<sup>th</sup> from

noon to 6 a.m. the following morning. There will be sections closed down and abutting property owners will be notified. Additionally, the police departments in the respective communities will be notified and active management zones will have signage placed. They do the culling from an elevated position and with noise suppressed rifles so hopefully it won't cause too much disturbance. If you're interested, you can go to the Metroparks website and there is a whole section about deer culling adding that the venison will be donated to a local food bank. Director Snyder is putting up a survey that we received from ODNR's Division of Wildlife that will go up on our website and the City will send out a 'Ready to Notify' for residents to provide information about their experience with deer.

The property tax notifications are being sent out this week they will be due to the county on February 19, 2026. There are taxpayer services available through the treasurer's office and expanded hours so anyone interested can go on the county website. She shared that last year the total valuation investment was just over 63 million and this year we ended with 78 million. Primarily in residential and there was some increase in commercial, but no projects of scale as she shared the last time she gave the numbers. She took a moment to thank the Building Department staff that processes all these requests and oversees all these projects through inspections and occupancy permits, planning and community development. They do a great job – especially Dylan working with our Boards and Commission member who she is grateful for as well. They see many of these projects, especially ones that need the planning commission, the architectural review board and BZA. She extended a big thank you to the members who serve our community year in and year out and continue to serve our community. She's always looking for individuals to serve on those boards and commissions specifically engineers and architects because there are some requirements in addition to residency requirements.

She advised that Director Snyder is working on several things that they will continue to talk about in the weeks to come, but the evaluation of the rapid flashing beacons on Detroit – one by the high school and one potentially by St. Chris. She offered that the need for the crosswalk stemmed from the overflow parking was across the street. They have a shared parking arrangement. For the Westway and Wager intersection Mr. Synder engaged OHM, a traffic engineering firm that they've used on other projects, to give them some recommendations. They have given recommendations about changing lane markings as well as signalization timing and they are going to have further conversations about that. There was a question about 'no right turn on red' at that intersection which was implemented as a safety measure because it's not only school there, but there are a lot of people that are coming up to the city hall campus especially when you're in the east bound lane.

The Mayor went on to mention that she's received a couple of notifications that NOACA and the City of Brook Park are hosting a public meeting to look at the regional impact of the Browns stadium moving to Brook Park Wednesday evening from 6-8 p.m. at the elementary school in Brook Park on Holland Road. They are starting a series of public engagements to talk about how people feel. They often talk specifically about football games, but she thinks they need to look at all the other things that may be booked into that venue, and she thinks it could be of interest to those present this evening. Traffic could have some far-reaching effects - she thinks about 90, 480, and the Valley Parkway. She anticipates a lengthy discussion on the role of public transportation out to the Airport and to the Facility.

The Mayor advised that the council received the newest copy of the Resident Reference magazine and thanked Michelle Root for her work on publication noting that it was her first time doing the whole thing and working with Cleveland Magazine. She thanked all the people that were featured and participated in all the copy and the advertisers that made it all possible. She noted that this is a publication that doesn't cost the city anything to produce or to disseminate. They do take out an ad, but in terms of all the other pieces they do not pay anything adding that there is a digital copy now available on the City's website so it can be accessed at any time.

The Mayor noted that there is a Rec meeting tomorrow morning. They received a proposal that is being evaluated for Linden park improvements primarily the playground and week from Friday, they are giving responders an extra week, the Master Plan proposals for Rec will be due. This is primarily focused on facilities and future operational needs as they relate to facilities here on the City Hall campus, but also their facilities and program areas in all of the parks. She noted that she is excited and there will be a very robust stakeholder process. All the groups that they

interact with as they relate to recreation, the community at large, and other things that they would like to see. Once that gets started, you'll be aware of that.

Lastly the Mayor advised that City Hall will be closed next Monday in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

**LAW DEPARTMENT:**

Mr. O'Shea reminded all that, if they haven't already, they need to take the Cyber Security training. He advised that they have a newly elected Judge at the Courthouse and a newly elected Clerk and there have been a little bit of functionality issues making some connections over there. Last Thursday, they had a very productive and collaborative meeting where they discussed the logistics of how to make things work past and present. He has great hope they are going to have a great working environment over there. He was a little nervous, but he's not anymore based on the success of that meeting. There are some new things that are going to be in place, including a new computer system as they are getting a new software vendor. Henson is the name of the new vendor, and the old one is on their way out. The logistics of that alone have been somewhat complicated.

- Ms. Gallagher inquired if they were going to be suing the old vendor. Mr. O'Shea replied that they considered bringing litigation against the current vendor, but the current vendor is bending over backwards to cooperate with the new vendor to transfer the data over in a safe, efficient, and prompt fashion. Ms. Gallagher inquired where the half a million dollars went, noting that she's not going to let that go and she believes it needs to be addressed. Mr. O'Shea replied that she was asking the wrong person that question, but that wasn't going to be a part of their litigation. First things first, his concern is that there is functionality there and it's much more imperative that CRA/CRB cases are filed and warrants are processed efficiently and promptly. The other stuff they're going to get to, but it doesn't have the same urgency as the other stuff does. Ms. Gallagher advised that she believes that they should be informed.
- The Mayor added that Mr. Lindow has reached out to the court personnel, the judge's new clerk, and the court administrator and they will be meeting with them regarding the budget and the budget process. There appears to be a willingness to do that.
- In summary, Mr. O'Shea advised that things seem to be moving in the right direction to which Ms. Gallagher reiterated that she believes it's important that vendors know they cannot walk all over them.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 50-25**

**BY: THOMAS J. HUNT**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING AND ENACTING NEW SECTION 521.14 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER TO PROHIBIT CAMPING ON PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WITHIN RIGHTS OF-WAY, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"**

**ON HOLD**

**ORDINANCE NO. 51-25**

**BY: THOMAS J. HUNT**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 557.01 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER, OHIO, TO PROHIBIT SLEEPING IN MUNICIPAL PARKS, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"**

**ON HOLD**

**ORDINANCE NO. 52-25**

**BY: THOMAS J. HUNT**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING PART THREE - TRAFFIC CODE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER TO PROHIBIT THE OPERATION OF LOW-SPEED AND UNDER-SPEED VEHICLES, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A" ON HOLD**

**ORDINANCE NO. 54-25**

**BY: THOMAS J. HUNT**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 729.01 DEFINITIONS AND ADDING SECTION 729.021 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER TO PROHIBIT CERTAIN SOLICITATION PRACTICES IN ORDER TO PROMOTE PUBLIC SAFETY, COMMERCIAL SECURITY, AND TRAFFIC SAFETY, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBITS "A" AND "B" ON HOLD**

Mr. Hunt advised that they are still on hold for Ordinance Nos. 50-25, 51-25, 52-25, 54-25. He would suggest now that they have new members sworn in and have begun the new year that they take a look at this. They are still waiting on some information with regard to the NEOCH proposal. He noted that both 51 and 52 need some further review now that they've got their new members and they have been well informed. Ordinance 54 did get a revised version that was completed sometime in December, and he would certainly like to get back on top of this.

- Paul Shipp noted that when a new piece of legislation goes out all the legislation goes with it, but the new members do not have that documentation. He recalls that Chief Lichman did a lot of memos and requested that that go out to new members. The Mayor advised she'd work with the Clerk to ensure they get all the requested documentation.

**NOMINATIONS:**

Now having a full complement of board members Mr. Furry reintroduced the nominations. He advised Ms. Morris that Ms. Gallagher previously nominated Councilman Paul Shipp for Council President, seconded by Ms. Havemann.

Mr. Shipp accepted the nomination.

Mr. Furry took a vote on the nomination for Mr. Shipp

Vote:	Moran – Aye	Gallagher – Aye	Hunt – Aye	Havemann - Aye
	Morris – Aye	Shipp – Aye	Furry - Aye	
	7 – ayes	0 – abstain	0- nays	<b>PASSED</b>

Mr. Furry then called for nominations for President Pro-Tem of Council. Ms. Gallagher nominated Ms. Morris as President Pro-Tem of Council for the next two years. Ms. Havemann seconded the nomination. Ms. Morris accepted and as there were no further nominations, the vote was taken.

Mr. Furry took a vote on the nomination for Ms. Morris

Vote:	Moran – Aye	Gallagher – Aye	Hunt – Aye	Havemann - Aye
	Morris – Aye	Shipp – Aye	Furry - Aye	
	7 – ayes	0 – abstain	0- nays	<b>PASSED</b>

Mr. Furry congratulated Mr. Shipp and Ms. Morris and turned the meeting over to President Elect Mr. Shipp.

Mr. Shipp thanked his colleagues on Council for their support and for trusting him with the position of Council President advising that he will do his best to continue the fine leadership that was set by Councilman Furry and Councilman Moran before him. As a resident of Rocky River, he looks forward to working with all of you and the Mayor and her Administration for this term. He noted that they also have a new Clerk of Council that he'd like to swear in at this time.

Mr. Shipp then administered the Oath of Office to Clerk of Council Lauren G. Oley.

Mr. Shipp noted that this is the first legislative meeting with the new Finance Director Jon Lindow and then proceeded to present the Standing Committees for 2026. Starting with the Buildings, Equipment & Technology committee which will continue to be chaired by Jeanne Gallagher. He proceeded to thank Councilwoman Gallagher for taking this committee into the new term.

**Buildings, Equipment & Technology**

CHAIR – Jeanne Gallagher  
Christina Morris  
James Moran  
David W. Furry

Mr. Shipp noted that the Contracts, Government and Judicial committee has historically been chaired by an attorney so he will chair this committee.

**Contracts, Government, & Judicial**

CHAIR – Paul Shipp  
Thomas Hunt  
Lisa Havemann  
James Moran

Mr. Shipp advised that Councilman Moran will lead the environmental committee during an important period. As they heard during their budget process that the wastewater treatment plant will be approaching significant projects in the coming year and they will rely on his institutional and historical knowledge and experience.

**Environmental**

CHAIR – James Moran  
Christina Morris  
Thomas Hunt  
Lisa Havemann

Mr. Shipp remarked that Mr. Furry has done an excellent job leading their finance committee and with the City issuing bonds for the fire station project he thinks it wise to keep him as chair for the finance committee.

**Finance**

CHAIR – David W. Furry  
Thomas Hunt  
Paul Shipp  
Jeanne Gallagher

Mr. Shipp advised that Councilwoman Morris will replace him as the chair for Parks, Recreation, and Health and inquired if the Mayor needs to swear Ms. Morris into this position. The Mayor noted that she doesn't need to swear in Councilwoman Morris, but rather they need a resolution to appoint her to this position and one to appoint Councilman Moran to S.A.F.E.

**Parks, Recreation, & Health**

CHAIR – Christina Morris

Paul Shipp

David Furry

James Moran

Mr. Shipp appointed Lisa Havemann as Chair for the Planning, Zoning, & Economic Development committee noting that this position is usually reserved for a new member of council and with her background in civil engineering and small business he believes she will be an asset to this committee.

**Planning, Zoning, & Economic Development**

CHAIR – Lisa Havemann

Christina Morris

Jeanne Gallagher

David W. Furry

Mr. Shipp advised that with the new fire station project underway he believes that Councilman Hunt’s depth of experience with their safety forces is important and that continuity of leadership should be maintained here.

**Safety**

CHAIR – Thomas Hunt

Paul Shipp

Jeanne Gallagher

Lisa Havemann

Mr. Shipp motioned to amend Resolution No. 106-25 from Councilman O’Boyle to Councilwoman Havemann, seconded by Mr. Furry.

Vote:	Moran – Aye	Gallagher – Aye	Hunt – Aye	Havemann - Aye
	Morris – Aye	Shipp – Aye	Furry - Aye	
	7 – ayes	0 – abstain	0- nays	<b>PASSED</b>

**RESOLUTION NO. 106-25**

**BY: LISA HAVEMANN**

**AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PLACEMENT OF A PROPOSED SHORE STRUCTURE AND APPROVAL OF A LAKE ERIE SUBMERGED LAND LEASE FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (ODNR) ADJACENT TO PERMANENT PARCEL NO. 302-03-005 AT 22400 LAKE ROAD, ROCKY RIVER, OHIO 2<sup>nd</sup> READING**

Ms. Havemann advised that this resolution supports a structure along the western boundary of Bradstreet’s Landing and will be in a location that is not needed for further development. It is replacing a previous structure that was constructed of stone and chain link fence along the western side of the park. The previous structure had failed so it needed replacing. Due to the low water levels of Lake Erie, the former wall had resulted in some opportunities for trespassing which was a problem. During the Bradstreet renovation the City had placed large stones on top of the existing structure to stabilize and extend it, but ODNR did not like that and asked them to remove the stones and engineer a new stone revetment and obtain a submerged land lease permit for the structure. This new structure will stabilize the shoreline and protect the west side of the park, and it is supposed to be completed in 2027.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Hunt clarified that the was a minor change to Ordinance No. 1-26 prior to the meeting this evening, but since this is first reading it requires no amendment.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1-26**

**BY: THOMAS J. HUNT**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY-SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PERRAM ELECTRIC, INC., FOR THE CUY-US20 GOLDWOOD SCHOOL TRAFFIC SIGNAL PROGRAM FOR \$283,929.18 WITH ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION FOR CONTINGENCY ITEMS OF \$15,000.00 FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$298,929.18, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT “A”.**

Mr. Hunt advised that this ordinance is a result of the studies that have been done on Center Ridge and a project that will run parallel with the Center Ridge Gateway project but was not included in that project because of the impact on private property. This would be a traffic signal in front of Goldwood School. Four bids were received and the Perram bid was approximately \$4,400 less than the second lowest bid and under the engineers estimate. The signal project was a recommendation from the 2017 Complete Streets and Corridor Enhancement Plan to improve pedestrian motorist safety along the busy corridor. In addition to the stakeholder process Rocky River School board administration were consulted and they’ve developed this plan. There was also a temporary construction easement, and a traffic signal warrant analysis was performed at the Goldwood School driveway to determine if the existing traffic volumes warranted a traffic signal and those returned in the affirmative. The signal warrant analysis determined that it was warranted. Moreover, intersection capacity analysis was also performed to determine if adding a new signal along the Center Ridge Road would adversely affect operations. That was his bis concern – adding another light to an already congested corridor, but it sounds like they can figure out the cuing of the lights.

- Mr. Snyder advised that signal will always be green for Center Ridge unless it’s tripped by its radar by someone coming out of Goldwood, someone coming out of Westwood, or a pedestrian trying to cross. Ms. Morris inquired if it will be a wider crosswalk given the number of people that may be using it at the same time. The Mayor noted that there are no walkers to Goldwood. Mr. Snyder advised that he could get her the exact number, but he believes it was 10’ – it meets ODOT specifications. Ms. Morris noted that she’s just thinking it could be a big crossing spot for kids. Mr. Moran noted that there is very little walking or biking. The Mayor noted that there are some kids that come through that area, but they would likely turn off west of where this location is. They come in at the ingress of Goldwood school whereas this is the egress. They continued to discuss the logistics of the new crosswalk and potential users.
- Mr. Hunt noted that he anticipates three full reads with further opportunities to discuss.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2-26**

**BY: JAMES W. MORAN**

**AN EMERGENCY 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 2026 AND 2027 FOR THE ROCKY RIVER WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (WWTP) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$454,000 AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT “A”**

Mr. Moran noted that he didn’t have lot of time to prepare for this one, but he advised that Hazen has been with the City for a long time and there has likely been previous discussions on it. This is a contract they do need, but he would prefer to wait until the next meeting to discuss it in depth.

- The Mayor noted that the management committee of the wastewater treatment plant has reviewed the contract and recommended its approval to City Council. Mr. Shipp added that his understanding is that it’s an ‘as needed’ contract – it’s not a contract for the full amount it’s more of a budget for services as needed. The Mayor replied that she believes that this amount includes a small retainer, but then dollars available should they need to engineer an emergency project.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3-26**

**BY: JAMES W. MORAN**

**AN EMERGENCY 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 2026 AND 2027, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"**

Mr. Moran said he has not had an opportunity to get up to date on this, but this is something that has been done before. It's a two-year contract and he will do his best to get everyone up to date at the next meeting.

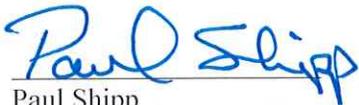
**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

Mr. Shipp advised that they didn't approve the voluminous minutes from the finance committee meeting because he wanted to ensure that everyone had an opportunity to review them in their entirety. He requested that they review them so that they can approve those minutes at the next meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

Mr. Shipp advised that next Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, is Martin Luther King Jr. Day and it is a government holiday, so they will not hold a meeting. The next City Council Meeting will be the January 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.



Paul Shipp  
President of Council



Lauren Oley  
Clerk of Council