

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

JUNE 7, 2021

The Special Meeting of Council was called to order by Mr. Moran, President of Council, at 7:00 p.m. in the David J. Cook Council Chambers to hear and consider the following ordinances and resolution.

Council Members Present: Mr. Hunt, Mr. Shepherd, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Furry,
Mrs. Morris, Mr. Klym, Mr. Moran

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

Law Director: Mr. Bemer

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATH OF OFFICE

Chief Lichman introduced Patrolman Mike Pavia by stating that he has been with the Rocky River Police Department for 13 years. During this time he has been a consistent and productive patrol officer and a role model for the younger officers in a very quiet way. This will be the next chapter of his career and he will do the same thing as an official leader as opposed to an informal leader in his department. Chief Lichman said that Sergeant Pavia would be responsible for so much more in this new role including keeping the community safe during the 12 hours he is in charge.

The Mayor followed by giving the Oath of Office to Patrolman Pavia and promoting him to Sergeant Pavia at this evening's meeting. Sergeant Pavia thanked everyone for coming to this evening's meeting. It means a lot to him.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: Mr. Andy Bemer addressed City Council regarding Ordinance Nos. 36-21 and 37-21. Ordinance No. 36-21 is regarding compensation for the position of Mayor and Ordinance No. 37-21 is regarding compensation for the position of City Law Director. Mr. Bemer stated that Elected Officials are not employees of the city. As a full time person working in the city, the Mayor should receive other benefits as in sick leave, vacation, longevity and health insurance. The position needs to be identified as a full time City Official and not an employee. Mr. Bemer strongly encourages Council to modify this ordinance to provide at least these bare bone benefits and look at longevity as another factor that is in the employee handbook, which many individuals think the Mayor already receives. The city has grown in sophistication, programming and developing over the last 15 years. Mr. Bemer encourages Council to survey the Mayoral positions before this ordinance is addressed at next week's meeting. The Mayor of Rocky River is also the authoritative figure over the WWTP, of which is made up by four communities.

Ordinance No. 37-21 is regarding compensation for the position of Law Director. Mr. Bemer is no longer seeking re-election for this position. Mr. Bemer is concerned with the salary structure that is behind as compared to other WestShore Communities. Council received a survey of compensation for the WestShore Law Directors:

- Westlake - \$93,000
- Bay Village - \$80,000
- North Olmsted - \$69,000
- Rocky River - \$60,500
- Fairview Park - \$58,000

These are all part-time positions but in all these cities, the position is provided the option of Health Insurance, which is valued at a \$12-15,000 package. This is not the situation in Rocky River. Mr. Bemer thanked Councilman Klym for stating at last week's meeting that this needs to be addressed. Four years ago, Mr. Bemer told Council that the position is underpaid by \$15,000. The salary was at \$56,000. Mr. Bemer suggested \$65,000 for the position. A \$3,000 increase was given to raise the salary to \$59,000. Mr. Bemer has been in the position for sixteen years and there have only been 5 adjustments: 4 with increases and one voluntary decrease during the great recession. Eight of these years there was not an increase. This ordinance needs to adjust the compensation for the Law Director position. Around the County, most of the compensation packages include a built in step up in salary. This has to do with the respect and value of these positions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 33-21 **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 PHASE ONE OF THE 2020 ROCKY RIVER SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FOR MOREWOOD PARKWAY STORM SEWER, SANITARY SEWER, WATER MAIN AND PAVEMENT REPLACEMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,092,957.48 AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"
3rd READING

Mr. Shepherd said this is a major project for Morewood that starts at Wagar heading east to the railroad tracks. This will entail correcting the sewers for inverted sewers, curb repair, repaving and waterlines are being replaced. Five responsive bids were received and Fabrizi beat the engineer's estimate by \$5,000 and was \$770,000 lower than the next bid. Fabrizi received good references and there were no violations in the State Auditor's Database. This contract price at \$4,092,957 includes a contingency of \$500,000. There could be some overruns. Cleveland Water is committed to paying \$678,000 however, that figure is not firm but does include a contingency. The remaining \$3.414 million dollars will be paid by an Ohio Public Works Loan, but not until the Collver and Oak improvements are completed. Mr. Shepherd moved for passage, seconded by Mr. Furry.

Vote: Hunt – aye	Shepherd – aye	O'Donnell – aye	Furry - aye
Morris – aye	Klym – aye	Moran - aye	
7 ayes	0 nays		PASSED

ORDINANCE NO. 34-21 **BY: JAMES W. MORAN**
AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE CITY OF ROCKY AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF COUNCILMEMBERS OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER FOR THE YEARS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2022 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
2nd READING

Mr. Moran stated that this ordinance is the compensation for the position of a Councilmember. The last increase was in 2020 and this compensation will be held at this same level. This will be discussed further at the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 35-21 **BY: JAMES W. MORAN**
AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF THE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER FOR THE YEARS

COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2022 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

2nd READING

Mr. Moran stated that this ordinance is the compensation for the position of President of Council. The last increase was in 2020 and this compensation will be held at this same level. This will be discussed further at the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 36-21

BY: JAMES W. MORAN

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER FOR THE YEARS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2022 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

2nd READING

Mr. Moran stated that the compensation for the position of Mayor will be increased to \$114,000, which is approximately 1% more than the two Chiefs and Directors are paid. This will be for the term of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023.

ORDINANCE NO. 37-21

BY: JAMES W. MORAN

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF LAW FOR THE YEARS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2022 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

2nd READING

Mr. Moran said that the increase for next year increases the current salary of \$60,500 to \$62,000. This is a small increase, about 4% over last year's compensation. The part time position does not include any health care benefits.

RESOLUTION NO. 38-21

BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THAT ROCKY RIVER CITY COUNCIL SHALL RECESS DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST IN 2021

2nd READING

Mr. Moran stated that this resolution has always established an August recess for Council to be used for vacation for Councilmembers and the administration. This has been in place during the month of August for many years.

ORDINANCE NO. 39-21

BY: THOMAS J. HUNT

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO TO ACCEPT A GRANT UP TO \$30,000.00 FOR THE OPERATION OF THE MARINE PATROL FOR THE YEAR 2021, AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A"

2nd READING

Mr. Hunt will defer further comment on this ordinance until the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting immediately following this Special Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 40-21

BY: JAMES W. MORAN

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO

**PURCHASE AND INSTALL ONE (1) EMERGENCY GENERATOR FOR THE CITY OF
ROCKY RIVER CIVIC CENTER, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$216,919.00, AS DESCRIBED
IN EXHIBIT “A”**

1st READING

Mr. Moran discussed this with Director Snyder, but will defer further discussion until the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting immediately following this Special Meeting.

Mr. Moran moved to close the Special Meeting, seconded by Mr. O'Donnell.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Shepherd – aye	O'Donnell – aye	Furry - aye
	Morris – aye	Klym – aye	Moran - aye	
	7 ayes	0 nays		

PASSED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

James W. Moran
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council