

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

December 16, 2019

The meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole was called to order by Mr. Moran, President of Council, at 7:00 p.m. in the David J. Cook Council Chambers.

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

Administration: Mayor Bobst, Mrs. Costello, Mr. Thomas

Law Director: Mr. Bemer

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor announced that Parks and Recreation Director Bob Holub applied and received a Scholarship and Grant to cover continuing education classes. Mr. Holub was awarded this through the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association. The Mayor is very pleased that Director Holub will be attending these classes with other Parks and Recreation Professionals.

Director Deb Huff informed the Mayor this afternoon that the Rocky River Senior Center is officially accredited by the Ohio Association of Senior Centers. With this accreditation, 5% of Ohio's Senior Centers are accredited. The Rocky River Senior Center is the first municipal center to achieve this and the first in Northeast Ohio. This designation places the Rocky River Senior Center among the best in the state and offers the Senior Center another level of professionalism, quality, safety and dedication. Congratulations to the seniors, staff, volunteers and Director Huff of the Senior Center.

Cuyahoga County is distributing \$11.5 million back to local communities throughout the county. The City of Rocky River received the funds of more than \$37,000 that was sent back to the community. It is a percentage of a settlement with Auditor Fees over the last six years.

This Friday will be the last day of tree lawn leaf collection. The city will continue to pick up leaves in lawn bags.

City Hall will be closed a half-day on Christmas Eve and all day on Christmas Day. The following week City Hall will be closed a half-day on New Year's Eve and all day on New Year's Day.

The Mayor wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Planning, Zoning and Economic Development: President Moran said that there was a meeting last week regarding 700 River. There are some details regarding vegetation, lighting and other small items, but the project has been approved to move forward. There will be a Planning Meeting tomorrow with two items on the agenda.

Parks and Recreation: Councilman Klym said there was a Parks and Recreation Committee meeting last Thursday morning. The discussion was about Munis, the budget and review of operational reports concerning the Center. Lt. Schaefer from the Rocky River Fire Department attended the meeting and discussed fitness programs and other programs at the center, scheduling, etc.

COMMUNICATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS: NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 90-19: Mr. Moran said this amends the Building Code of the Codified Ordinances, Chapter 1321 entitled permits, inspections and license fees. Mr. Moran thanked Councilman Klym and Mr. Bemer for their work tightening up the language in this ordinance. This will have a third read this evening.

ORDINANCE NO. 92-19: Mr. Moran said that this is amending the Development Code for specific section 1141.11, permits, failures to obtain certificates and orders. Mr. Moran again thanked Councilman Klym and Mr. Bemer for their work tightening up the language in this ordinance. This will also be read for a third time this evening.

ORDINANCE NO. 94-19: Mr. O'Donnell stated that this is the annual budget ordinance. This will be discussed more during the Special Meeting this evening.

- Councilman Klym asked if the Social Worker position at the Senior Center is full-time. The Mayor responded that is what is anticipated. Laurie Rokakis is retiring and the caseload requires a full-time position. There is some discussion concerning two part-time Social Workers and that way cover more hours, but that is difficult to find. Ms. Huff's hope is that it will be a full-time position. Mr. Klym said that it is a real need in the community. Mr. Moran mentioned the concern regarding two part-time social workers and the difficulty with the communication between the two employees.

ORDINANCE NO. 95-19: This is for the purchase of Ferric Chloride from PVS Technologies, Inc. at \$558.00 per dry ton. This is the product that has had some volatility over the last five years and has had a low of \$336 and a high of \$558. Two bids were received with PVS being the best and lowest bidder. The price increase is about 3 1/2%. Operationally, they are continuing to investigate ways to use their chemicals more efficiently. This is slated for three full reads and is necessary to comply with the NPDES permit.

RESOLUTION NO. 96-19: Mr. Klym stated that this resolution would ratify the Mayor's submission of an application for a \$100,000 Coastal Management Assistance Grant to remove and reconstruct a bridge over Spencer Creek. The city has received grants like this previously. The city will match 50% of the funds and absorb the remaining costs of the project, hopefully with more grants. It is not just the structure of the bridge itself, but also a walkway and erosion control around the bridge. This will be a third read this evening.

ORDINANCE NO. 97-19: Mr. Hunt said this has been discussed a few weeks now and concerns Section 331.38 entitled stopping for school bus, discharging children. Mr. Hunt stated that the ordinance as proposed would amend the fine amount from \$500 to \$1,000 and would make the offense a first-degree misdemeanor. There has been some discussion in generalities regarding this. Mr. Hunt asked if Council was in agreement of considering a fourth-degree misdemeanor. Discussion ensued. Mr. Bemer spoke with both Chief Stillman and Prosecutor O'Shea and they both would be comfortable with a fourth degree misdemeanor. Fourth degree misdemeanors are punishable by jail time for thirty days and has a license suspension component and it is up to the discretion of the Judge to impose that. This will be read for a second time and will be amended prior to reading it for a third time. Mr. Hunt will discuss the new language with the Law Director.

ORDINANCE NO. 98-19: Mr. Shepherd said that this authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Mackay Engineering for 2020 and 2021. As has been discussed, this is an as needed contract terminable by both sides. It sets forth the rates Mackay Engineering charges and the city has been happy with his product and his knowledge of the city.

RESOLUTION NO. 99-19: Mr. Moran stated that this is being presented to support the placement of a proposed shore structure at 21508 Avalon. A submerged land lease plan is being made and will need approval from the ODNR. This will be read for a third time this evening.

ORDINANCE NO. 100-19: Mr. Shepherd stated that this is for the insurance needs of the Rocky River Municipal Court. The percentage for this insurance is up .1%.

ORDINANCE NO. 101-19: Mr. Shepherd said this is an annual ordinance for the WWTP Insurance with the increase at 9%. The increase is due to the large equipment and the umbrella coverage.

ORDINANCE NO. 102-19: Mr. Shepherd said that this ordinance is for the general insurance needs of the City. This has an increase of 1.4%.

ORDINANCE NO. 103-19: Mr. Furry this is a yearly ordinance and is a renewal of Ordinance 8-19 and is a joint cooperation with the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District and the city and is related to our Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) EPA permit and is for minimal control measures 4 and 5. The Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District will provide technical assistance to the City. At \$11,330, it is not a major line item in the budget but it was in the budget and since it is a fellow governmental entity, we are providing full disclosure. This MOU can be renewed solely at the city's discretion after the 12-month period. It also may be amended or terminated at any time via mutual consent of both parties. This has been read this once and Mr. Furry is anticipating three full reads.

ORDINANCE NO. 104-19: This related ordinance to 103-19 is a renewal of 7-19 and has been in effect for numerous years and is a joint cooperation with the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District and the city. This ordinance is more for PIPE or public information and public education more specifically the education and stewardship for the conservation of soil and water resources. At \$5,500 it is not a major line item in the budget but it was in the budget and since it is a fellow governmental entity, we are providing full disclosure. This MOU can be renewed solely at the City's discretion after the 12-month period. It also may be amended or terminated at any time via mutual consent of both parties.

ORDINANCE NO. 105-19: This authorizes and ratifies the entering of a collecting bargaining agreement with the Rocky River Firefighter's Association. Council was apprised during negotiations in Executive Session. This will be read for a second time during the next meeting and Mr. Shepherd is anticipating a rule suspension for passage of this ordinance. The Collective Bargaining contract should be in place by the first of the year and the State of Ohio mandates that Council act on this within 30 days.

ORDINANCE NO. 106-19: This is for the Collective Bargaining Unit Teamsters, Local Union 436 that represent the employees at the WWTP. Council was apprised during negotiations during Executive Session. This will be read for a second time during the next meeting and Mr. Shepherd is anticipating a rule suspension for passage of this ordinance.

The Mayor stated that the increases over the life of both contracts are 2.5, 2.75, and 2.75. The uniform allowance for firefighters will increase to \$1,500 including new hires. If they leave, this stipend will be prorated and returned to the city. There is an addition of one personal day that cannot be carried over or cause overtime. The education differential was increased by \$500 for new hires. There is a maximum of \$3000/\$2000 for their paramedic's certification and they are required to maintain that. The city finalized the random drug testing policy also. Thank you to Law Director Bemer and HR Director Greco for handling that. New in the contract is a comp time bank for training. When training occurs that is approved by the Chief outside of the fire department, the city will provide a one hour for one hour for the firefighters to use at another time. This is capped at 24 hours. Again, the training must be off duty on a volunteer basis and the chief must approve it. There is no cash value, cannot cause overtime and needs to be used within the proximity of when it is accrued.

The WWTP wage increases are the same. The city was providing uniforms for the WWTP which was eliminated but an \$800 clothing allowance will be provided which is keeping with the Teamsters contract in the Service Department. Probation was reduced to six months but extensions at the discretion of the Superintendent. The

vacation accrual is identical to the service department. There is a new organizational chart with one position coming out of the union, one will remain and there will be a new pre-treatment coordinator that was approved by the bargaining unit as well as the management committee. Mr. Shepherd asked if the bargaining committee has representatives from other cities. The Mayor said Rocky River reports back to the other cities.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 107-19: Mr. Shepherd stated that this resolution authorizes the Mayor into an agreement with NOACA for the continuation of the paving on Wooster Road from the Wooster Road extension from Center Ridge Road to Westover. This will be read three times. It is an 80% sharing and under this agreement, there will be \$1,025,018 available for this project. NOACA is the MPO, Metropolitan Planning Organization and they oversee federal funds for roadwork that is part of TIP, the Transportation Improvement Program. NOACA wants to have participation and this agreement gives them the right to participate.

ORDINANCE NO. 108-19: This ordinance authorizes the administration to sell used city vehicles, which were publicly bid for a total sum of \$15, 514.42. There is a breakdown attached in the ordinance for each vehicle. A letter will go out to bidders after this ordinance is approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 109-19: This is an annual ordinance for car part purchases. Car Parts Warehouse was the lowest and best bid. This will have a first reading at the Special Meeting this evening.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: NONE

As there was no further business by members of Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

James W. Moran
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council