

## CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

November 18, 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. Sindelar, Mr. Klym, Mr. Moran

Absent: Mr. Furry

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 reported that the District One Public Works Integrating Committee announced their preliminary rankings for the funding of major infrastructure projects and the City of Rocky River Sewer Improvement Project for Collver Rd., Oak and Morewood Parkway was funded at the requested level. The total project cost is \$7.886 million, which includes the waterline on Morewood Parkway. The application request was \$4,399,000 with a local match of over \$2.3 million. The city was funded \$4.399 million through the revolving loan fund. The Mayor is very excited about this funding and the residents in these areas will be thrilled. Thank you to Director Costello and the city engineers who worked very hard on the DOPWIC submission.

The Mayor also announced that the City of Rocky River was ranked as one of the ten safest cities in Ohio for 2020 based on 2018 and 2019 statistics. This is based on FBI crime data within 200 communities across Ohio with a population of 5,000 or greater. Rocky River was ranked number six out of the ten safest cities.

Last week 211 tons of leaves were collected around the city. The Service Department has been keeping up with their passes throughout the city.

The Mayor said that she is meeting tomorrow with the new President of the Rocky River Parks and Recreation Foundation, Jackie York. They will be discussing current and future projects. The Mayor extended her thanks to Mr. Doug Cooper who has served in this position for many years and was pivotal in moving the fund raising forward for the Pavilion.

This Friday, the State Accreditation Team will be at the Senior Center all day. Council should feel free to stop by the Senior Center to meet these guests.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS: Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting:** Councilman Klym reported on the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting that was held last Tuesday morning in the Multi-Purpose Room at the ice rink. The Rec Center will be moving to a three-month fitness schedule for classes as opposed to every month. New equipment has been purchased including two new power mills, similar to Stairmasters along with five new workout benches. Painting and upgrades are also being completed at the Rec Center. Repairs on the base of the outdoor pool will begin in 2020. The Rec Center is implementing a new part-time recreation staff manual; departmental risk management manual and an emergency action plan for the buildings. An implementation of new coordinating uniforms at the Rec Center along with name badges that will make it easy to identify staff.

Renovations will continue at Elmwood Cabin with new cabinets and countertops along with the restrooms at the park. The ice arena chimney will be repaired soon and money has been allocated for this project.

Mr. Dave Ford, of the Recreation Center, has announced his retirement at the end of December.

**Finance Committee:** Mr. O'Donnell said that the Budget Ordinance No. 94-19 has been read once and will be read two more times prior to the end of the year. If Council has any questions regarding this ordinance, please contact the Mayor, Director Thomas or Councilman O'Donnell. The Finance Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> beginning at 8:00 a.m. Council has received a draft of the agenda for that meeting. If a Director cannot make it on the 6<sup>th</sup>, they can present their budget at Monday's meeting. Mr. O'Donnell asked Council to meet with their Directors prior to this meeting.

**Planning, Zoning and Economic Development:** President Moran said that there was a Design and Review Meeting this evening along with a Planning Commission Meeting tomorrow with four items on the agenda. This will be another pre-preliminary for Preservation Partners.

#### **COMMUNICATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS: NONE**

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 76-19:** Mr. Hunt said this has been discussed since the beginning of October authorizing the Mayor to enter into a School Resource Officer Agreement with the Rocky River City School District for a third SRO Officer to be placed at Kensington, Goldwood and Beach Pre-School. This was placed on hold at last week's meeting due to issues being worked through by the School District regarding the proposed Memorandum of Understanding. These issues have been resolved and this will be read for a third time and placed on the consent agenda for next week's meeting.

**ORDINANCE NO. 78-19:** This ordinance is for a one-year renewal of an agreement with James Diaz for the removal of digested sludgecake at a cost of \$30.50 a ton. Two bids were received, one from James Diaz for \$30.50 a ton and one from Quasar Energy Group for \$49.33 a ton. This reflects an increase of \$8 a ton but is still the least costly alternative during the non-winter months. Mr. Diaz was the lowest and best bid and this is a one-year renewal at an increase. This will be placed on the consent agenda

- Mr. Sindelar asked if this ordinance should be amended to read James Diaz Farms as it is listed on the bids. Law Director Bemer said this is a repeat vendor and he will discuss this with Mrs. McConnell of the WWTP.

**ORDINANCE NO. 79-19:** This ordinance is for the one-year renewal of an existing agreement for the removal of grit and screenings from the WWTP. Grit is removed by the grit tanks by the screening building and screenings are separated by the bar screens at the Headworks building and are removed by mechanical means and must be sent to landfill. Rumpke of Northern Ohio, Inc. has been the current provider for the last two years and was the sole bid at \$36 a cubic yard. This will be placed on the consent agenda and will also not use emergency language and is necessary for compliance with the NPDES permit.

**ORDINANCE NO. 80-19:** This is for the removal of digested sludgecake for the WWTP to a landfill. Two bids were received, one from Rumpke of Northern Ohio, the current provider, who was the lowest bid at \$42.87 a ton, a very slight increase from \$42.10 a ton. The other bid was Quasar Energy Group at \$63.65 a ton. This is for the months the city cannot send it to Mr. Diaz with the companion Ordinance 78-19 due to regulations set by the EPA for the renewal of the NPDES permit last year. This will be placed on the consent agenda and will also not use emergency language and is necessary to comply with the NPDES permit.

**ORDINANCE NO. 81-19:** This ordinance is for the purchase of sodium hypochlorite. This is used in three different application points, effluent, pre-chlorination and primary sludge. The first stage is effluent or disinfection, the second or pre-chlorination is odor control and the third or primary sludge is a thickener to settle the sludge. This is a renewal with the current provider Bonder Chemicals of Columbus at the same price. It was bid last year with three bids with a range of \$.769 to \$1.255 a gallon. This will be placed on the consent agenda and will not be using emergency language and is necessary to comply with the NPDES permit.

**ORDINANCE NO. 82-19:** This ordinance is for the purchase of sodium bisulfite, which is added to the final effluent and excess flow and is used to remove chlorine in the plant effluent. This is a one-year renewal with the current provider PVS Chemical Solutions at the current rate of \$1.26 a gallon. This was last bid in 2018 with four bids received with a range from \$1.26 to \$2.1273 gallon with PVS Chemical Solutions, Inc. being the lowest and best bid at \$1.26 a gallon. This will be placed on the consent agenda and non-emergency language is being utilized and is necessary to comply with the NPDES permit.

**ORDINANCE NO. 83-19:** Mr. Sindelar said this ordinance authorizes the administration to purchase tires on the Open Market at the best prices for January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. Purchasing on the Open Market instead of bidding tires that the city may need for the entire year or using the State Coop, will allow the city to obtain various prices from different vendors. This will have two more reads.

**ORDINANCE NO. 84-19:** Mr. Sindelar said this ordinance authorizes the administration to purchase gasoline, fuel oil and allied products on the Open Market for January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. The city seeks quotes from different vendors. This will have two more reads.

**RESOLUTION NO. 85-19:** This resolution authorizes the administration to participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation Cooperative Purchasing Program for the years 2020 and 2021. This is a bi-annual resolution. There is no requirement for the city to use this program to make purchases of vehicles and salt. This will have two more reads.

**ORDINANCE NO. 86-19:** Mr. O'Donnell stated this is a refund for money that was paid from the City of Cleveland to the City of Rocky River for the Purnell Watermain Replacement Project. Through the Water Service Agreement, the City of Cleveland is required to pay for these projects. The project came in under the estimated and budgeted amount, so the City of Rocky River needs to refund \$59,664.22 back to the City of Cleveland. This ordinance will authorize the Finance Director to return these funds to the City of Cleveland.

**ORDINANCE NO. 87-19:** Mr. O'Donnell stated this is for the Watermain Replacement Project on Laurel. This project came in at \$64,572.05 under budget. These funds were advanced to the City of Rocky River from the City of Cleveland and this amount needs to be returned to the City of Cleveland. Mr. O'Donnell anticipates two more reads on Ordinance Nos. 86-19 and 87-19.

**ORDINANCE NO. 88-19:** Mr. O'Donnell stated that this ordinance will need amended next week as initially it was sponsored by President Moran. This is an emergency ordinance creating positions and fixing the annual salaries of the city's employees. This is an annual ordinance that is passed every year. This will set up the wages for positions within the city. This will be read for a second time next week.

**ORDINANCE NO. 89-19:** This authorizes the city to enter contracts providing health coverage through Medical Mutual, prescription coverage and optional visual coverage for the full time employees. This coverage service will allow the city to fulfill their obligations under the collective bargaining agreements and also for the other employees. The Mayor said that the plans are the same as last year. Last year, the city introduced a health savings account that has been well received by the employees. There is no change in coverage and the renewal is about a 3.8% increase which is a percentage the city can absorb. For a third year in a row, there will be no premium increase for the employees. Employees currently pay 15% of the premium. The dental contract is in its second year and the vision is optional. The dental will have an additional cost of \$1.00 for single and \$1.18 for

a single plus one per pay. Mr. Shepherd clarified that the overall increase is about 3.8% for the premium cost, which is tremendous in today's environment. The Mayor said that the plan design has been in place for several years and the employees are very good stewards of their health insurance and use it effectively. Thank you to Director Thomas for his good stewardship of making sure it is funded appropriately so these small increases can be absorbed and not passed along to the employees. These plans were already in compliance with the Affordable Care Act.

- Mr. Sindelar asked what percentage of employees use the health savings account. The Mayor estimated less than 20% but expects it to grow with this contract.

**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 discussed this with Commissioner Reich and the cost changes are included in the exhibit. Mr. Moran asked Mr. Reich why the request for an increase. Mr. Reich stated that there are expenses that the fees do not fully cover. After the increase, the City of Rocky River will be in the middle to the upper end compared to other communities.

- Mr. Klym has questions regarding sections of Miscellaneous Fees in Section 1321.02 and 1321.05. He feels these should be combined. Fire alarm systems have been moved, but possibly should be its own paragraph. In Chapter 1321.99 under penalty, the language used talks about tripling fees and Mr. Klym is asking if the language makes sense or should it be tightened up.

**ORDINANCE NO. 91-19:** This is amending the Business Regulation Codes adding permissions to the Building Commissioner as opposed to the Safety-Service Director. Safety-Service Director was stricken and Building Commissioner was added.

**ORDINANCE NO. 92-19:** This is amending the Development Code for specific section 1141.11, permits, failures to obtain certificates and orders. Fines will be tripled as in 90-19.

**ORDINANCE NO. 93-19:** This is amending the Development Code for specific section 1141.21 entitled abatements of violations. This adds the Zoning Administrator along with the Mayor to initiate an injunction.

**ORDINANCE NO. 94-19:** Mr. O'Donnell said this was read for the first time last week. Mr. O'Donnell stated that this is probably the single most important ordinance that is passed all year long. This makes appropriations for the current expenses of the city for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020. This is the Budget Ordinance for next year. The Finance Committee Meeting will be held on December 6<sup>th</sup> beginning at 8:00 a.m.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 95-19:** This is for the purchase of Ferric Chloride from PVS Technologies at \$558.00 per dry ton. This will be discussed more at next week's Legislative Meeting.

**RESOLUTION NO. 96-19:** Mr. Klym stated that Council received a revised resolution at their places this evening. The revision reflects the fact that it is a ratification of filing the grant as opposed to the approval as it needs to be submitted by December 13<sup>th</sup>. This is a Coastal Management Assistance Grant in the amount of \$100,000 to remove and reconstruct a bridge that is over Spencer Creek. The city will match 50% of the funds and absorb the remaining costs of the project. Mr. Klym would like to know if there is an estimate of cost for the replacement of the bridge and if the replacement of the bridge requires the approval of any state agencies or the Army Corps of Engineers.

President Moran will discuss at next week's meeting the possibility of moving the second Legislative Meeting next month to December 16<sup>th</sup> and incorporate a Special Meeting that day along with the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting. This will be discussed further at next week's meeting.

As there was no further business by members of Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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James W. Moran  
President of Council

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Susan G. Pease  
Clerk of Council