

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

September 21, 2020

The meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole was called to order by Mr. Moran, President, immediately following the Special Meeting via Zoom.

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

Administration: Mayor Bobst, Director Thomas, Director Snyder

Law Director: Mr. Bemer

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor reported that on Saturday there was a Planting Day sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Groundworks Land Design did the design and supplied the material. There were many volunteers and completed the work early. Thank you to the leadership of the Chamber of Commerce, the Service Department that took out the old shrubs and prepared everything, Director Holub, Director Snyder and Dave Arendec for all their work. A special thank you to Councilman Klym for his idea and leadership to beautify the Recreation Department buildings.

There was a ribbon cutting on Saturday for Heidi Glynias Dance Studio's expansion on Ingersoll Drive. Saturday was "National Dance Day" and dance companies across the United States learned a two-minute dance routine and performed it. Heidi's studio performed it about 9:00 a.m. with television cameras and speeches. Heidi has had great influence on the youngest members of the community. Students are taught joy, commitment, responsibility and leadership traits. The Mayor thanked Heidi for her presence in the community and for including the city on her special day. Thank you to the Chamber for the loan of their large scissors for the actual ribbon cutting.

The Mayor announced last week that Chief Stillman is retiring from the City of Rocky River after 36 years and has accepted a new position in the City of Beachwood as their Chief. The process of selecting a new chief has already started and the process will take approximately 6 weeks. The Mayor named the Lieutenant George Lichman as the Interim Chief. Many residents know George because of his book reading at the library and being the head of the Citizen's Police Academy. More than 100 cadets have graduated from the Police Academy since it began and is a model for other communities. The Mayor will swear Lt. Lichman in on Friday with his duties beginning on Monday.

The Mayor also announced that Superintendent Carrieann McConnell has accepted a position with the Northeast Regional Sewer District. She will be the Superintendent of the Westerly WWTP, a very large plant that rivals this regional sewer plant. The Mayor and the other Mayors of the WestShore are sorry to see Superintendent McConnell go, but this is an opportunity that she cannot pass up. Carrieann will be in Rocky River through the middle of October. Her position has been updated and posted. The administration wishes her well. The Mayor will miss both Chief Stillman and Superintendent McConnell.

This past Saturday was the “Wheels and Reels” with “Sonic the Hedgehog” played on a big screen on City Hall Campus. The Mayor thanked the approximately 120 people that attended.

Director Snyder and the Mayor are engaging Crain, Langner & Co. to evaluate and review the city’s property and casualty insurance. This is in the context of cost and risk analysis. They will also develop the specification of the RFP process. They will review the RFP’s along with the administration and provide recommendation to forward to Council. They are not brokers and have a very good reputation. They have worked for Westlake, the Turnpike and other public entities and they are an expert in their field. The engagement will range from \$14,000 - \$18,000. Director Snyder said that there are few firms that do this process. Rocky River City School District uses them and they feel they can help the city with cost savings. The Mayor thanked Council for supporting this and encouraging the administration to begin this process.

The Mayor discussed the Riverdale construction. The construction is completed, but there are still beautification efforts to be completed with the cleanup of brush, tree removal and planting trees along with ornamental grasses. In the spring, there will be a sewer project along with repaving South Island, Riverdale and the parking lot. Thank you to the residents for their patience and thank you to Great Lakes Construction, QCI and Director Snyder for all their efforts.

The Senior Center is open consistent with the Ohio Department of Health mandates. The Center has been open virtually but will hold small classes in person and monitoring how all that is proceeding.

Halloween is planned for Saturday, October 31st from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Residents will be asked to follow the guidance of the Ohio Department of Health. They will be monitoring the situation as October 31st comes closer.

The Board of Elections will celebrate National Voter Registration Day tomorrow. If you are 18 or over, please register to vote. There are several locations to register listed on the County Board of Elections website. Voter registration forms are also available at City Hall, the library and the Senior Center.

The Mayor forwarded a proclamation on behalf of City Council and the administration to the Disabled American Veterans who are celebrating Disabled American Veteran’s Day on September 25th along with it being their 100th anniversary of providing services and exhibiting their commitment to veterans, families and caregivers. This organization was established September 25, 1920 by Judge Robert Marks, a WWI Veteran. This organization empowers all veterans to live high quality, productive lives with respect and dignity. They have accomplished many things that will ensure that veterans have a full range of benefits that they need. They are incredible advocates in this community for veterans. The Mayor is pleased to present a proclamation to thank them for their good work. Chris Grau is very much a part of this organization as well as the Joint Veterans Council that always participates in the Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade. The Mayor proclaimed Friday, September 25th, 2020 as Disabled American Veterans Day in the community of Rocky River. The city continues to thank them and honor them for their service to our Country and to other veterans.

- President Moran thanked the Mayor for providing this proclamation.

Councilman Klym mentioned that the Mayor will be providing a State of the City address via zoom for the Chamber of Commerce members at noon this Thursday. There is a \$5.00 fee for non-members who would like to participate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE

COMMUNICATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS: NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 66-20: Mr. O'Donnell said this was passed at the Special Meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 67-20: Mr. O'Donnell said this was passed at the Special Meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 68-20: Mr. O'Donnell said this was passed at the Special Meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 69-20: Mr. Klym said this was passed at the Special Meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 70-20: Mr. Furry said this was passed at the Special Meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 71-20: Mr. Shepherd said this was passed at the Special Meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 72-20: Mr. Moran said this was passed at the Special Meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 73-20: Mr. Klym said that these funds are reserved in the Capital Improvement Budget. The city has money reserved from the income tax that can only be spent on Capital Improvement. General Operation money will not be used. Mr. Klym also stated that this ordinance is only for the pier itself. There is casino money being used to help with this cost. The second phase will be the Pedestrian Bridge over Spencer Creek along with erosion protection. The third phase will be the boardwalk connecting the Pedestrian Bridge with the pier along with parking lot changes. The shelter is not included in this. Mr. Klym would like the chain link fence to be replaced at Bradstreet's Landing also.

- Mr. Moran said this is an important piece of legislation. This has been years in the making and appreciate the funds already received. This will be a great area for the City of Rocky River and Cuyahoga County.
- Mr. Furry asked about the SmithGroup who had done some vetting on projects that DSR Enterprises has done. Mr. Furry said their background is horizontal directional drilling which sounds like fracking. The Mayor stated that DSR owns their own concrete facility. There are also several subs that will be part of this project. DSR will not do the steel sheeting. They will do the decking, demolition and the replacement. The project manager lives in Bay Village and the Mayor and Director Snyder had an opportunity to speak with him and SmithGroup JJR. Director Snyder had similar concerns. DSR will handle concrete and the steel sheeting will be done by Huffman Equipment Rental and Construction. They have worked with DSR in the past. Huffman has a lot of projects and feel they can work complimentary with DRS specifically to get this project done well. Director Snyder said that recent projects have been marine experiences. He vetted these companies critically and they swayed Director Snyder. With DRS, Huffman and the construction manager, this project will be done successfully and well.

- Mr. Furry said that he has heard enough complaints about Bradstreet's Landing and is in favor of this ordinance. He also suggested placing the city logo on the medallion that will be placed at the knuckle of the pier.
- The Mayor said that they have told the companies that this is a highly visible and scrutinized project. People have been asking when this project is getting done. The companies understand the visibility of this project. The Mayor said this was a huge stakeholder process that developed into a Master Plan so significant it became a part of the larger Master Plan. This will be done in phases and the pier has to be the first phase. The other phases will be done as time and money permit. The fence will be the last phase, but they have ideas on how to do it similar to Rocky River Park. The Historic aspects of this park will be maintained.
- Mr. Snyder said that breaking this up into phases will enable the project to be completed in a fiscally responsible manner.
- Mr. Moran asked if there will be a plaque placed at Bradstreet's Landing. The Mayor said there is a plaque at Bradstreet's Landing currently along with some interpretive signage in the Master Plan that is built as part of the walkway along with the medallion on the pier. The Museum for the Great Lakes in Toledo has some holdings from Bradstreet's Landing that will be helpful also.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 74-20: Mr. Shepherd said that this is an annual contract that went out to bid with two responsive bids. Specialized came in with the low bid at \$41,650. The difference is \$35,350 less than the next bid and below the engineer's estimate of \$62,000. Specialized has done this work for the city the last couple of years, and the administration has been happy with their work. The city received a preventative maintenance grant from Cuyahoga County for county roads within the city, which covers the materials, not labor. The city will be reimbursed in the amount of \$14,078 for materials used for Hilliard, Spencer, Wagar and Wooster. The other streets included in this project are Addington, Avalon, Dale, Erie, Gasser, Homeland, Laurel, Palmer, Purnell, River Oaks, Riverwood, Stratford, Sunnyhill and Whittlesay. \$8,350 was added to round it up to \$50,000 in case there are unforeseen needs for additional work. This amount is still lower than in previous years. Mr. Shepherd forwarded an email from Director Snyder to Council this afternoon. Mr. Shepherd will be asking for a rules suspension at next week's meeting.

- Mr. Moran asked if this ordinance is usually upwards to \$70 or \$80,000 in past years. Mr. Shepherd said that was his recollection as well.
- The Mayor asked about Wooster from Center Ridge to Carolyn. Isn't that the section ODOT is repaving? Mr. Snyder said it is being cracked sealed to provide drive-ability and will protect the base from further issues. Mr. Snyder said the city did receive favorable bids from Specialized.
- Mr. Moran commented about other streets that need edge repair. Mr. Snyder will discuss that with Specialized.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: Councilman Furry thanked Pack 390 for attending both meetings this evening.

Mr. Moran said the next scheduled meeting is Monday, September 28th at 7:00 p.m. The Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

James W. Moran
President of Council

Susan G. Pease
Clerk of Council