

**CITY OF ROCKY RIVER**

**January 6, 2020**

The meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole was called to order by Mr. Moran followed by the administering of the Oaths of Office to Mayor Pamela E. Bobst, Law Director Andrew D. Bemer, Jr. Ward Councilmembers Thomas J. Hunt, James W. Moran, Michael P. O’Donnell, John B. Shepherd and Councilmembers At-Large David W. Furry, Christopher J. Klym and Helen Christina Morris. The ceremonial Oaths of Office were administered by the Honorable Judge Terrance O’Donnell. Reverend Dr. Jon Fancher of Rocky River Presbyterian Church, Rocky River, OH presented the Invocation and Benediction. Also in attendance was Prosecutor Michael O’Shea.

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

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

Law Director: Mr. Bemer

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Moran called for nominations for President of Council. Mr. Shepherd nominated Mr. Moran as President of Council for the next two years. Mr. O’Donnell seconded the nomination. Mr. Moran accepted and as there were no further nominations, the vote was taken.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Shepherd – aye	O’Donnell – aye	Furry - aye	
	Morris – aye	Klym – aye	Moran - aye		
	7 ayes		0 nays		<b>PASSED</b>

President Moran then called for nominations for President Pro-Tem of Council. Mr. O’Donnell nominated Mr. Hunt as President Pro-Tem of Council for the next two years. Mr. Furry and Mr. Shepherd seconded the nomination. Mr. Hunt accepted and as there were no further nominations, the vote was taken.

Vote:	Hunt – aye	Shepherd – aye	O’Donnell – aye	Furry - aye	
	Morris– aye	Klym – aye	Moran - aye		
	7 ayes		0 nays		<b>PASSED</b>

President Moran then presented the Standing Committees for 2020:

**Buildings, Equipment and Technology**

James Moran, Chair  
David Furry  
Christopher Klym  
John Shepherd

**Contracts – Government and Judicial**

John Shepherd, Chair  
David Furry  
Thomas Hunt  
Christina Morris

### **Environmental**

David Furry, Chair  
Michael O'Donnell  
Thomas Hunt  
Christina Morris

### **Finance**

Michael O'Donnell, Chair  
James Moran  
Thomas Hunt  
John Shepherd

### **Parks, Recreation and Health**

Christopher Klym, Chair  
David Furry  
James Moran  
Christina Morris

### **Planning, Zoning and Economic Development**

Christina Morris, Chair  
Christopher Klym  
Michael O'Donnell  
John Shepherd

### **Safety**

Thomas Hunt, Chair  
James Moran  
Christopher Klym  
Michael O'Donnell

### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

The Mayor introduced Christina Morris, newly elected Councilwoman-at-Large along with Mr. Rich Snyder who will take over the role of Safety-Service Director. Mr. Snyder was appointed two weeks ago. Rich began in the Parks Department as a special equipment operator, crew chief, lead supervisor of Parks and then Service Commissioner. As Service Commissioner, Mr. Snyder has streamlined leaf collection, snow plowing, refuse and recycling and the tree inventories. Mr. Snyder was also awarded a grant for additional tree inventory work with the County's Urban Canopy Program. Mr. Snyder will now be in charge of all Public Works Projects, Safety and the Service Department. The Mayor and administration is thrilled to have him join the team.

The Mayor introduced Ms. Jackie York, the new Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Foundation. Ms. York is bringing new projects, ideas and energies to the Parks and Rec Foundation. The Mayor also introduced Mrs. Terri Jones, the chair of the Fall Arts Festival that has helped with the financial support for the pavilion at Rocky River Park.

The Mayor announced that leaves are no longer being picked up on tree lawns and will need to be bagged for pick-up. Christmas trees will be picked up through the month of January and after that, trees will need to be delivered to the Transfer Station.

The Mayor updated Council regarding the Police Station. The city has an intent to award several of the contracts-HVAC, electrical, fire suppression, elevator and two final bids will be opened on Friday for the general trades and

plumbing. Previously, the last two bids were over the engineer's estimate by 10% and needed to be re-bid. The Mayor will have more information for Council next Monday.

The Mayor addressed concerns as to why these bids were not finalized during the site preparation. The site preparation continues and it is a very long process. There is a large storm water management system, work continues on plumbing and fire suppression issues. Additional fill has been brought in and is being compacted. The project is three to four months behind because of the rebidding and adjustments that needed to be made.

Elmwood Cabin updates have begun with new cabinetry and counter tops being installed. Elmwood Cabin is used frequently with the cabin being reserved almost every week of the year.

County Councilwoman Nan Baker informed the Mayor that the CCOM Contract has been approved by the Cuyahoga County Board of Control.

Several Little Libraries are being installed by Samantha Lorenc from Girl Scout Troup 70322 with assistance from Director Bob Holub and the Service Department. Three Little Libraries have been built at Morley, Elmwood and Martin Park and potentially one at Goldwood School. This is Samantha's Gold Award Project, which is equivalent to an Eagle Scout Award in Boy Scouts.

The Mayor thanked Director Deb Huff and the Senior Center for the volunteers and staff members who packed 100 bags of needed items for seniors of the Rocky River Community before Christmas. Many of the items were donated by the City of Rocky River employees. The Recreation Department brought in the most items for this project and received the 2019 Employee Giving Award.

This Thursday afternoon from 4:00-6:00 p.m. there will be a Ribbon Cutting at the new Chamber of Commerce Office on Smith Court. Liz Manning, former Executive Director who was instrumental in building the Chamber to over 400 members strong, is in the audience this evening.

President Moran also introduced Director Michael Thomas, the city's Finance Director along with Susan Pease, Clerk of Council. President Moran also recognized Addie Olander and Rev. Dr. Fancher, School Board Members, along with Judge Donna Congeni Fitzsimmons for attending this evenings meeting.

**Environmental:** Mr. Furry announced the Rocky River Watershed Council Annual Meeting being held on Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the South Cuyahoga Sportsmen's Association Chatham Lodge at 5370 Erhart Rd., Medina, OH.

The Cleveland Hopkins Noise and Operations Portal is open and can be accessed at [www.clevelandairport.com](http://www.clevelandairport.com) for any noise complaints. Click on the contact tab and noise complaint tab.

**Planning, Zoning and Economic Development:** Mrs. Morris announced that BZA will have a meeting this Thursday at 7:00 p.m. There will be two items on the agenda, one in Ward 2 and Ward 3. Todd Brandt will also be sworn in by the Mayor for a two-year term.

## **COMMUNICATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS: NONE**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 97-19:** Mr. Hunt said he would like to defer discussion on Ordinance No. 97-19 until next week. Mr. Hunt has discussed this with Director Bemer and has talked about an amendment to the Reckless Operation Section of the Code and possibly make that a companion piece to this legislation.

**ORDINANCE NO. 103-19:** Mr. Furry said 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. 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. This will be read for a third time at next week's meeting.

**ORDINANCE NO. 104-19:** This is a companion 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.

**RESOLUTION NO. 107-19:** Mr. Shepherd stated that this resolution authorizes the Mayor into an agreement with NOACA for the continuation of funding for the paving Wooster Road from the Wooster Road extension from Center Ridge Road to Westover. This will complete the resurfacing of Wooster Road through Rocky River. It is an 80% sharing and under this agreement, there will be \$1,025,018 available for this project. NOACA wants to have participation and this agreement gives them the right to participate in the project kick-off event, project steering, stage design plans and media releases, etc. It will be read for a second time at next week's meeting.

**ORDINANCE NO. 109-19:** This is an annual ordinance for vehicle part purchases for two years. Car Parts Warehouse was the lowest and best bid. This gives the city the opportunity for purchasing but can still purchase on the Open Market.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 1-20:** Mr. O'Donnel said that this is similar to two ordinances Council passed in 2019. This relates to a reimbursement to the City of Cleveland Division of Water for Homeland Drive and Riverwood Avenue Water Main Improvement Project in the amount of \$91,771.77. Funds were advanced by the City of Cleveland and this is unused funds. The total amount of money the Cleveland Division of Water has paid the City of Rocky River since December 2013 is more than \$12,000,000 in waterlines. This will be read for the first time at next week's meeting and passage after a third read on February 10<sup>th</sup>.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: NONE**

As there was no further business by members of Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

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James W. Moran  
President of Council

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Susan G. Pease  
Clerk of Council