

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

March 7, 2022

The Committee-of-the-Whole 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.

Council Members Present: Mr. Hunt, Mr. Shepherd, Mrs. Gallagher, Mr. Furry,
Mrs. Morris, Mr. Sindelar, Mr. Moran

Administration: Mayor Bobst, Mr. Snyder

Law Director: Mr. O'Shea

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor updated Council that First Energy has responded to the residents of West River Estates and is planning an upgrade on circuits with four new cutouts, a new transformer on Sunnyhill and several other things in that area. The Mayor forwarded First Energy's response to the residents who emailed her regarding their concerns. There have been a lot of issues and in addition there will be some tree trimming in that area. First Energy performed thermal scans and did not find any issues, but did locate a potential issue at the substation. This reinforces how important it is when residents send good detailed information and the administration can forward it to a utility for a response. David Conley, the Regional Representative for First Energy was very responsive to the residents.

The Mayor announced that Safety-Service Director Rich Snyder successfully secured a grant from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District through their Community Recycling Awareness Grant. With this grant, the city will offer two shredding dates and a recycling sculpture. This sculpture is in the shape of a steelhead fish that residents can fill with cans and plastic bottles and will be located at Bradstreet's Landing. Congratulations to Rich for securing these funds.

The Oak and Culver engineering is 95% complete and the city will be going out for bids shortly with the project commencing soon. The Mayor said that as the Morewood Project is winding down, this project will be winding up. There will be meetings with the residents at which time the city will capture resident's email addresses so the city can communicate on a regular basis before and during the project.

The Mayor stated that the administration is beginning to work on legislation regarding fireworks. State Legislature opened up the door to allow fireworks to be shot off and left it up to communities to have local control regarding storage, sales or shooting them off. Fire Chief Lenart sent the Mayor updates on the legislation and the Mayor has received several drafts that local communities have considered and passed. This legislation needs to be in place by July 1st, although the Chief shared that the state rules have not yet been drafted.

- Mr. Sindelar commented that from a technical standpoint, the city did have something in place and it would not be a free for all. Mr. O'Shea stated that the city can do anything they want relative to the way it was outlawed prior. The state did a reverse home rule and returned home rule back to the cities. What the City of Rocky River said was illegal before is still illegal. The Mayor stated that Bay Village referred back stating this is what we've been doing and will continue to do. There will more information forthcoming.

The Swim-A-Thon was yesterday and was very well attended. A huge thank you to Harlan Radford and the Lakewood/Rocky River Rotary Club. Funds were being raised for the Lakewood and Rocky River Fire Departments as well as Elle's Enchanted Playground where additional musical instruments will be added that children can play. This was a contribution and donation in honor of one of the city's employee's parents that passed away. A big thank you to Harlan for putting it all together and all the swimmers who obtain sponsorships and others who support this effort.

The Mayor said that Director Huff of the Senior Center drafted a new grant to submit to Home Depot in the amount of \$1,000 to assist seniors with adaptive uses in their homes. This will be for seniors, disabled individuals, veterans, etc. There will be a financial need component and administered through the Senior Center. Home Depot is securing trade volunteers to assist with the installations. This is the first grant like this in this area. Home Depot is always very supportive of so many things including the community garden and other things the city needs. They are an important part of the community.

- Mr. Furry asked where the city stands with the railings at Bradstreet's Landing. Mr. Snyder said the contractor has been working with the fabricator for the steel and they are fabricating all the pieces for the center octagon. They will begin installing within the next week or two. The Mayor said the installation will be weather dependent as she would not want waves to hit the rail without it being stabilized. Director Snyder wants to be sure it is done correctly the first time. The benches will be installed after the railings.
- Mr. Sindelar asked if Christianson Estates will also have improvements completed with First Energy. The Mayor responded that Christianson Estates does not have the same issues. Mr. Moran said that all their electrical is underground. This is a nominal situation where many voices are necessary to have the issues recognized and repaired.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Parks, Recreation and Health Committee: Councilman Furry stated that there will be a Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting this Thursday morning at 7:45. Mr. Furry will be in attendance.

Planning, Zoning and Economic Development Committee: Councilwoman Gallagher updated Council on the Public Hearing that was held on March 1st regarding Ordinance No. 105-21. The Rocky River Partners LLC preliminary review was approved by the Planning Commission without opposition and recommended rezoning to Council.

- The Mayor asked when the Planning Commission recommended rezoning it wasn't to an R-6 but to an R-5. This current ordinance may need to be amended. Mr. Shepherd said that it was an R-6 and R-4 going to an R-5. This will be discussed and ready for Council next week.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL: President Moran thanked President Pro-Tem Hunt for filling in for him last week.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 71-21: Mrs. Morris said this continues to be referred to the Planning Commission and is still on hold.

ORDINANCE NO. 105-21: Mr. Moran said this continues to be referred to the Planning Commission and until Council receives the information back from the Planning Commission is still on hold.

RESOLUTION NO. 6-22: Mrs. Gallagher stated that this resolution is supporting the placement of a proposed shore structure and a submerged land lease from the ODNR adjacent to Permanent Parcel No. 302-01-009. This will be read for a third time and placed on a consent agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. 7-22: Mrs. Morris stated this ordinance authorizes the Safety-Service Director to purchase two pumps for the WWTP. There has not been much discussion but these are critical for the operation of the WWTP. This will be added to the consent agenda.

RESOLUTION NO. 8-22: Mr. Moran stated that Councilman Furry is the Chair of the Parks, Recreation and Health Committee and per the Charter needs to be appointed as a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission. This will be added to the consent agenda.

RESOLUTION NO. 9-22: Mr. Moran stated that Councilwoman Morris is appointed to be the representative for S.A.F.E. which stands for Safe Air for the Environment as Mrs. Morris is the representative for the Environmental Committee. This will be added to the consent agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. 10-22: This ordinance is for the purchase of one ice resurfacing machine. Mr. Furry equated the name Zamboni to a facial tissue as a Kleenex and petroleum jelly as Vaseline so when an ice resurfacing machine is mentioned, we think Zamboni. When the current primary Zamboni was purchased, Zamboni had over 90% of the market share and that has not changed. The city did receive two bids for the ice resurfacer and although Zamboni was not the lowest bid, after discussion with the city mechanics who have the responsibility of maintaining this unique vehicle, based on maintenance knowledge, parts inventory and operational training, the Zamboni albeit not the lowest was the best bid. The city is getting a small trade in allowance and although appropriated for 2022, it will not be received until 2023. The last machine lead time was 6 plus months and the lead time has only gotten worse. Zamboni Company USA, Inc. had no findings in the Auditor of State's Database. This will be read two more times.

- Mr. Sindelar asked if there are opportunities to purchase a demo. The Mayor and Director Snyder stated that typically those are not available and if there are the savings would be lost in warranty.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-22: This ordinance is for the purchase of replacement flooring for the Hamilton Ice Arena at a cost not to exceed \$95,500. Three bids were received and although Snap Sports Athletic Surfaces was not the lowest bid, after vetting from the Parks and Recreation Commission as well as the recreation department staff, Snap Sports Athletic Surfaces was determined the best bidder for a myriad of reasons because all had an apple to oranges comparison. The current surface is more than 20 years old and has reached the end of its useful life. The replacement cost for that alone would have been approximately \$250,000. Snap Sports had multiple features that made it more attractive than the other bidders. It is a modular multipurpose floor that can be lined for a variety of indoor sports. It is similar to the rubber modular flooring outside the actual rink. Another major factor in Snap Sports product is the ease of cleaning which the lowest bid did not have. The useful life on this product should be at least 15 years and Snap Sports has a depreciating warranty of 16 years. The flooring is not made out of recycled plastic, but is recyclable. This company also had no findings for recovery from the Auditor of State's Database. This will have two more reads.

- Mrs. Morris asked if the different individual modules can be replaced individually? The Mayor responded yes and there will be a sample of the product at the next meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 12-22: Mr. Shepherd said this will be for the asphalt resurfacing of Wooster Road between Center Ridge Road and Westover Avenue. It will include full depth concrete repairs and curb ramp upgrades. This was put out to bid and received six bids in response. The Karvo Company's bid was only \$647 below the next lowest bid and \$132,000 below the engineer's estimate. References checked out for Karvo including Elyria, Trumbell County, ODOT District 4 and the Lake County engineer and a conversation with a representative from ODOT District 12 which relayed that Karvo complies with all of ODOT's pre-qualifications and DBE requirements. There were no results in the search of the Auditor of State's Database. The project is scheduled to begin in April or early May.

RESOLUTION NO. 13-22: Mr. Shepherd said that Resolution 13-22 authorizes the Mayor to renew an agreement with NOPEC for the Energized Community Grant. This agreement needs to be in place to accept these funds. Once the numbers are determined regarding sign up for electrical or gas supplied by NOPEC, the amount is determined. Last year the city received \$59,397 and the total amount of grants received from NOPEC is \$374,995 which paid for the Civic Center generator in the amount of \$216,919 with \$12,000 in design and will be utilized for the electrical upgrades necessary to install the EV charging stations at the rec center.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 14-22: Mrs. Gallagher stated that this resolution supports the placement of a proposed shore structure and approval of a Lake Erie submerged land lease from ODNR adjacent to Permanent Parcel No. 301-05-007 which is located at 19722 Frazier Drive. This is in support of the placement of a concrete deck with stair access and placed at the base of the cliff in the northwest corner of the lot. There is already an existing erosion control that may also need maintenance during construction. This request is part of the process for the granting of the submerged land lease through ODNR. Next week will be the first read.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: President Moran said the next meeting will be March 14th in Council Chambers. Masks are no longer required but anyone attending are welcome to use them.

Mr. O'Shea asked Council if anyone has heard from any residents regarding the firework legislation. He is under the assumption that no one has received any feedback. They Mayor and Mr. Moran stated that that is why Legislation is discussed for feedback. The Mayor said it makes sense to have the Safety Committee review the legislation as well.

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