

City of Bay Village

Council Minutes, Committee Session
Dwight A. Clark, President of Council, presiding
Council Chambers.

January 9, 2023
7:00 p.m.

President of Council Clark called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Clark, DeGeorge, Greco, Kelly, Maier, Tadych, Winzig, Mayor Koomar

Also Present: Law Director Barbour, Finance Director Mahoney, Director of Public Service and Properties Liskovec, Building Director Tuck-Macalla, Clerk of Council Kemper.

AUDIENCE

Ed Smith, Patrick McGannon, Tara Wendell, The Kurinsky Family, the Battershell Family.

The meeting was not broadcast via Zoom this evening.

Mayor Koomar – Certificates of Achievement awarded to:

Huck Kurinsky– 8 yr. old, 2nd grade student at Normandy School - National Championship Finals winner of the U8 Division USA BMX amateur series; inspiration for Nowear BMX Hucket bike frame; and introducing “All Kids Bike” learn to ride program and “Put a Lid on It” bike helmet safety program to the Bay Schools.

“On behalf of the City of Bay Village and members of City Council, it is a sincere pleasure to present the Certificate of Achievement in recognition of remarkable achievements. Following your passion in setting a world record at only six years old as the youngest to land a back lift on a BMX bike is certainly impressive, but the continued dedication which has allowed you to compete and win in the USA BMX Amateur Series at the US Cycling and Olympic Training Center in Woodward, PA is truly inspiring. The drive, hard work and dedication exhibited through your many cycling accolades exemplifies who we strive to be as a community. In addition, because of you, the Bay Village Schools and other children in our community will benefit from the Put a Lid on It Bike Helmet Safety Campaign and the All-Kids Bike Program that you promote. This will help future generations of Bay Village children to safely experience the entertainment, exercise and joy that cycling brings to their lives in our community. Not only will the enrichment provided by your efforts have a lasting effect, so will the encouragement it brings to the youth of our community to follow in your footsteps, work hard and achieve their goals. You are a true inspiration and we celebrate you and congratulate you on your achievements, and thank you. Congratulations.”

A hearty round of applause followed.

Wade Battershell – 5 yr. old – very active, outdoor enthusiast Cub Scout that has taken the initiative to pick up and recycle litter that he finds in and around the Cahoon Creek from his grandad’s house in Bay Creek and travelling north to the lake.

“On behalf of the City of Bay Village and the members of Council, it is a sincere pleasure to present a Certificate of Excellence. At almost six years of age, your love and natural appreciation for the outdoors instilled in you by your family is evident in your passion for the Cub Scout activities like hiking, biking, swimming, boating, camping, fishing and skiing. With the help and guidance of your granddad, Phil, your initiative to clean up the creeks in Bay Village by removing unwanted trash while on walks together is inspiring as well as beneficial to both our community members and Eco System. Equally impressive is the effort to recycle much of the debris found. Your conservation efforts to remove this unsightly trash not only helps keep Bay Village beautiful, but also helps to remove the danger it poses to animals and keeps our precious resource, water, cleaner and free of debris. You are a true inspiration and leader. We celebrate your efforts and hope this encourages others to follow in your footsteps and responsibly dispose of their trash or simply take a walk and collect it and dispose of it properly. Thank you for your amazing contribution to our community. Congratulations.”

A hearty round of applause followed.

Mayor Koomar introduced Patrick McGannon, President, and Tara Wendell of the Green Team who presented Wade with the following certificate:

“On behalf of the Bay Village Green Team, you are being presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for your admirable initiative to pick up and recycle litter along Cahoon Creek. We appreciate your dedication in helping to restore our environment by keeping our waterways clean. Thank you.”

Mr. Clark stated, on behalf of City Council, that one of the reasons why Council members run for election and serve is to see what special people are doing in our community. These are two shining reasons why Bay Village is the Number One Suburb in the City of Cleveland.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Establishment of Storm Sewer Maintenance Fund – second reading of Ordinance No. 22-143 at Special Meeting of Council this evening.

2023 Sewer Rental Rate- second reading of Ordinance No. 22-142 at Special Meeting of Council this evening.

Mr. Clark stated that both the establishment of a Sewer Maintenance Fund and the 2023 Sewer Rental Rate are topics that Council has discussed at great length. Council recognizes the need for an increase for the reasons articulated in previous meetings. Mr. Clark called upon members of Council to discuss and talk about their thoughts and the magnitude of the increase proposed by the administration, given the fact of wanting to be in compliance with some of the Environmental

Protection Agency mandates and the plan approved in September of 2021. Mr. Clark noted his desire to bring the ordinance to third reading and adoption with some unanimity on Council's part.

Mr. Kelly stated that he has spoken with Mr. Clark informally and also to some of his colleagues that he does not love the manner in which this needs to be done but agrees, as all of his colleagues do, that the projects that are likely to be forthcoming require Council to take some action. As currently drafted, the legislation contemplates a \$40.00 per quarter sewer rental increase in addition to a \$9.00 per quarter inclusion of a storm water fee. When we were looking at the numbers overall, although it was known that the storm water fee was likely to be proposed and forthcoming, what that really does in terms of the increase is still another \$10 per month. The total increase for both the sewer rental and storm sewer fee is going up \$200 annually, starting in April. Mr. Kelly stated that he would prefer to be less aggressive, and recognizes that based on the analysis provided by the administration that would result in a deficiency much sooner than they would like. In light of the uncertainty and ambiguity in terms of some of the secondary projects that we may see in the future, Mr. Kelly stated, he would like to see a smaller starting point. A secondary thought is that he understands the administration's desire that this funding be housed in its own fund and that it be self-sustaining, self-sufficient, otherwise appropriately addressed. Mr. Kelly stated further that he looks at where there are increases in terms of income tax collections, and other places where revenue might be generated, and wonders if there might not be some other way of blending this together. Simple pictures are best and therefore there is a lot about the administration's proposal that can be appreciated, but if we are going to move forward with some swiftness as both the administration and Mr. Clark have indicated that they would like to do, he would be inclined to see a smaller, more incremental approach and then see if there are other avenues or opportunities to be explored moving forward.

Ms. DeGeorge stated that she knows Mr. Clark asked for feedback on the size of the increase, but since the ordinance has been placed on first reading the feedback from residents is on the flat rate versus the usage rate. There are senior citizens, some on a fixed income, who have asked Ms. DeGeorge to speak on their behalf for a usage-based sewer bill. Council has been provided with communications from residents preferring a usage-based sewer bill, as Ms. DeGeorge noted, she does as well. It was stated during a Finance Committee meeting that there are 1,300 families enrolled in the school system. To gather figures for other households in Bay Village, Ms. DeGeorge went to the United States Census Bureau site and while the Census Bureau states that the margin of error is not enough to affect the bottom line, which is using only owner-occupied numbers from 2021, there were 3182 one and two-person households and 2,458 households comprised of three, four, five, six and seven plus persons. Fifty-six- and one-half percent are one and two person households in Bay. The census results also show that in 2010 59% of Bay was made up of one and two-person households. Eleven years between the census numbers there is still a higher percentage of one and two-person households in the Bay population. Looking no further than this Council table where there are ten of us, there is one five-person household, one four-person household, one three-person household, and seven one to two person households. Again, a higher percentage of one to two person households. Lakewood, Fairview, North Olmsted, Rocky River, and Avon, to name a few, are usage-based systems. We debate the Rocky River Wastewater Treatment Plant figures, we study and install

meters and try to determine problems in an effort to make sure Bay Village is paying their fair share, nothing more, nothing less. The Rocky River Wastewater Treatment Plant bills us on usage; there should be a comparable billing for our residents.

Mr. Tadych stated that Ms. DeGeorge has stated a remarkable fact that we do pay for what sewage goes into the Rocky River Wastewater Treatment Plant by usage. Mr. Tadych stated further that he started off months ago with Finance Director Mahoney trying to work out something in usage, and he firmly believes that it probably is the best way. But talking for a moment about the idea that Mr. Kelly had and that was going from a lower rate to a higher rate that the President of Council also said he would like to do, that's only seven quarters and then you would be pushing another increase onto the citizens. I think that keeping it steady and stern if you would go with the idea of a fixed rate is closer to what we should have. People know it's there; this is what it is going to be, and they can plan. I don't think going for seven quarters at one rate and then increasing it to another rate is the way to go. I actually believe that Lydia has a strong point that we should reconsider the idea of usage.

Ms. Maier stated that she likes the idea of a flat rate because it is a little better for people to understand what their bills are going to be. On one hand going with the usage-based seems like it would be most fair, there are other factors in play in the cost of utilities, the density of how closely built the houses are, impacts the amount of pipes you need to have. It is not as cut and dry as usage; that is why, Ms. Maier stated, she baffles in her thinking on it. Knowing how much of an increase it will be for certain families is another stumbling block. You might actually start impacting people's ability to pay all of their bills by doubling or tripling their sewer rate. I support doing a flat rate. I know the idea of backing it down until we know what our total, fixed costs are going to be is one of the questions that is in play. I could see doing that until we know what the true cost of the equalization tank is going to be, but I am also fine with going with where it is right now with the \$40 increase and stepping up.

Mr. Tadych stated that he agrees with what was stated in certain terms, but the idea that it is impacting certain families is strong opinion. It can also impact the small families on the other side even more because a lot of them are on fixed income. It is a difficult scenario.

Ms. Maier repeated that it is not all totally based on usage; there are other factors included.

Ms. DeGeorge stated that there was a sheet that the Finance Director gave to the Council with the usage-based scenario. Ms DeGeorge verified that with that same scenario it would still be unequal to what we wanted to obtain. Is it easier one way or another? It is easier to explain to a resident why you are suddenly on usage basis as opposed to why your rates went up and you are one senior citizen in a home. That is very difficult. There are a lot of small houses in my ward, and probably in Ward 1. When you get into Wards 3 and 4 there might be bigger houses. We are impacting these little houses and the people I talk to every day. They are very concerned. There was a 2 ½ percent drop in one and two-person households in Bay Village from the 2010 census to the 2021 census. Part of that could be, as we've heard through the years, that for older people there is no place for them to go or they are taxed out; their property taxes are high. This is going to be another hit where they feel they have no control. With the usage-based they can

manage it and it might even work to Tom Kelly's point of if there were a way to do smaller increases along the way. They might see a big jump in their bill, they might not.

Mr. Tadych asked Ms. DeGeorge what cities she said are using usage-based billing.

Ms. DeGeorge answered that she only surveyed five, Lakewood, Fairview, North Olmsted, Rocky River and Avon are usage-based.

Mr. Kelly stated that everyone knows that with the significant issues that the City of Lakewood has had their rates are extraordinarily high and have been for many years. There are two things. One is something that Councilwoman DeGeorge brought up a long time ago. Mr. Kelly noted he does not have enough of the specifics around it to speak intelligently to it. He was speaking to a representative from North Olmsted. They are on usage, but he indicated that there was a base fee, like some of the other utilities. Ms. DeGeorge spoke to something like that and he guesses he could at least be more amenable to that. Mr. McGannon is one of the people who communicated the concern about usage, but he spoke to it for purposes of conservation, which is actually one of the things that gnaws at him in terms of this calculus. If increased rates encourage conservation, then we have this spiraling loop. It is ultimately a revenue problem. We need to raise "x" number of dollars in order to be able to pay for and finance these various projects and if increased rates encourage conservation then we still need to raise that same amount of capital regardless of those conservation efforts. Another thought is the idea if there is some other mechanism that might be more progressive in nature in terms of who it impacts and how it impacts. Is there another mechanism available that might speak to a number of different concerns that have been raised that would not be impacted by conservation efforts one way or another?

Ms. DeGeorge stated that, as with most things, there will not be a lot of feedback until it is done. If the flat rate is structured with an increase by a certain percentage every year would we not do the same with the usage rate, structure the increase every year?

Finance Director Mahoney stated that is the problem. It doesn't matter how large or how small your house is, it is how much water you are using. Also, if these older cottage homes have a lot of infiltration into the system, they might not be using water but their surrounding pipes might be providing more water to the treatment plant. At the beginning, on first look, if I was a resident I would probably say usage-based is fair. But, on looking at usage base versus the flat rate, the more people conserve the more those poor people with two and three person households are going to paying for the one-person household. It is just exponentially more costly. For example, in 2023 if we were on usage base, a single one-person household would save \$7.00 per month whereas a three-person household would be paying \$70 more per month. It is so punitive because Bay Village is a city that doesn't use that much water, and the funds are needed. If it is usage-based cost you really would be taxing. Maybe you are hearing from the senior citizens now, but you would be hearing from the families later.

Mr. Greco asked if these environmentally-based projects can only be paid for by user fees or other money like General Fund.

Mrs. Mahoney stated that General Fund can pay for any city use.

Mayor Koomar stated that there have been notifications from the Rocky River Wastewater Treatment Plant relative to projects. Mr. Liskovec is meeting with them later this week and the goal is to have Don Bierut and Jeff Filarski of Chagrin Valley Engineering present before Council on January 23 to go over the projects because that information will be helpful. The discussion of the sewer rate increase can be left where it is tonight awaiting that information. The goal is to try to tackle this in the first part of winter, but it doesn't have to be by the end of January. The Mayor stated that he didn't want to rush the engineers to provide data that is not as complete as it could be for this discussion.

Mr. Clark stated that we do not want to rush to a decision. He does not want to bring this to a vote and have it go down. He would rather vet it and spend the time necessary to do so. Mr. Clark noted that he would like to hear from Mr. Greco and Mr. Winzig as well in an effort to have everyone weigh in. There is no right answer. The only answer we know is that we need to increase. We are a victim of our own success because rates have not been raised for years. We have been good financial stewards for the City in light of the fact that the costs of the treatment plant have gone up.

Mr. Winzig stated that initially when the usage-based option was presented he was very intrigued by it because he thought there was a fairness factor that made it an even playing field for all the residents. But, when we saw some of the numbers and the drastic increases on certain residents it makes you pause and see if that really is the only way to go. There may be a hybrid option which is a base cost of a flat rate and for those who may drastically exceed that rate there might be a kicker. There may be a billing issue there, and how you would best manage that. But, there could be a minor increase to the quarterly flat rate and then an analysis of usage that could be applied to people over a certain threshold that would pay an additional fee. We haven't really explored it or run the numbers. Perhaps a small committee could be formed to work with the Finance Director and bring forth a couple different options as opposed to just the ordinance that we have. The other comment that Mr. Kelly brought up is the idea of funds transfer. In the event there are General Funds and once we get some pricing we could in a future year set aside some funding through the Finance Committee, to say that we have this project that is going to impact the budget in 2024 or 2025, let's set aside some of the money in the General Fund and move it over into the sewer category. If all of us were dead-set on the quarterly rate increase we would agree that we could do that, but all of us aren't quite sure. I'm glad we are talking about it and looking at a couple of different ways to fund this.

Mayor Koomar stated that when Chagrin Valley Engineering first started working with the City one of the long-term plans was to try to develop different revenue streams for different types of needs. Over the last five years we have been catching up on projects. For our engineers and our teams to do longer term Capital planning, even three, four or five years out, they need to understand where those revenue streams are. One of the things on the horizon would be roads that can no longer be overlaid, but the storm and sanitary pipes need to be replaced. The water lines, then, might need to be replaced. Those go at about \$250 per foot, times three of them. Do

the math on a 50-foot-wide lot and you realize quickly we need to start using the General Fund to carve out for those types of projects. I would only caution in the general discussion of this idea that there is this transfer that could happen because the discussion to come after this in the next year is going to be about capital roads and the replacement of that infrastructure. That is the reason this administration pushed to say this sewer fund is a separate fund and should fund itself. That is why we are cautious about the idea of borrowing from other funds, i.e., Capital funds for repairs on police cruisers and things like that. We really want to start to build out more of a Capital plan which we have never had. The funds that come in, the excess from the income tax that we are benefiting from right now will be for other places where we don't have a revenue source.

Mr. Clark stated that very idea played out this year when quite a bit of funds were transferred to General Capital to finance a number of projects without borrowing, which keeps our powder dry when we need to borrow down the road. In answer to Mr. Greco's question about whether there is other public money or grants available for the equalization tank, I recollect hearing there wasn't anything else available.

Mayor Koomar stated that they continue to work with DOPWIC. He was in Columbus today and looking at the state fund there. The governor has another bill that he is going to sign. There is more money for infrastructure that has traditionally been targeted for cities with lesser resources. We have been down advocating the fact that some of that should come to Bay Village, that we have real needs and are trying to be in compliance with the Clean Water Act and do the right thing.

Mr. Clark stated that he has been a proponent for the flat rate. It is simpler and easier to understand. He certainly understands the usage base. It doesn't mean we wouldn't go to usage-based down the road with some of these projects because we are looking at a ten-year horizon.

Mr. Clark asked Mr. Winzig and Ms. DeGeorge if the City were to go flat rate, we are at \$40 per quarter right now with a 6% increase annually, is that a rate they are comfortable with. Mr. Tadych has indicated he is, but Mr. Clark is seeking people's thoughts on the quarterly rate if we were to stay flat.

Ms. DeGeorge asked the lowest rate we could go and still be able to do these projects.

Finance Director Mahoney stated that the \$40 rate would keep the fund solvent until 2030. If it is lower the fund would run out of money sooner. The Mayor added that the \$40 rate would make the fund balance \$1 million by 2030. Mr. Bierut and Mr. Filarski will bring information on January 23 regarding these projects which is the information that Council will need.

Mr. Clark stated that if the increase is \$30 per quarter with a 6% annual increase that would keep us solvent until 2027. He stated that he has a difficult time supporting the \$40 rate increase we are discussing now for projects that have not yet been done and successfully completed. We are relying on the engineering prowess of Chagrin Valley Engineering to tell us this is the right answer to reduce the amount of flow that goes into the Rocky River Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Mr. Tadych stated that he asked during a Finance Committee meeting whether that \$15 million was in today's cash or in future cash. They said it was in future cash. Mr. Tadych does not know of any city projects, whether small interest or large interest that have come right on the button. He would expect that this one, depending on the economy, would rise past that \$15 million rate.

Mr. Clark noted that the cost of Capital projects or public improvements have gone up as well as the Service products purchased. Everything has seen an increase and it is unimaginable that it would turn around any time soon.

Mr. Liskovec stated that Chagrin Valley will have an update on the cost of the equalization tank and will also bring the contract before Council the contract to officially start the engineering of that project. In addition, \$500,000 is carved out this year for improvements to the lift stations as well. A contractor was out today to look at the forced main which is something else that is going to need, along with other projects, repair and upkeep to keep seams, joints and man-made components assembled together to prevent failures. As the infrastructure gets older it is going to require more resources to maintain.

Mr. Winzig stated that he does like the idea of a storm water fund to draw upon, and also the option of pushing General Fund money into it in the event that something unexpected came up. He emphasized short term, noting it is good that we have that flexibility. Having a fund that could keep an eye on all of those expenses is a benefit for all.

Mr. Greco asked if with the completion of the Ashton Lane bridge, all bridges in Bay Village have been replaced in the last five years.

Mr. Clark stated that much has been done with the completion of the Columbia Road Culvert, Ashton Lane, Lake Road and Queenswood bridges. Mayor Koomar stated that Lake Road by the Metroparks would probably be the next major bridge. Mr. Liskovec stated that would be an Ohio Department of Transportation project.

Mr. Greco stated that the bridges are completed, major roads have been taken care of, the parks have been taken care of, automobile purchases have been taken care of. Mrs. Mahoney has clarified that the General Fund can take care of some of the cost of the sewer projects. It seems like it comes down to where we want to prioritize a budget for the next year or two more focused on sewer related, environmental projects.

Finance Director Mahoney stated that the sewer fund should be self-funded. General Fund revenue can be used for any city purpose.

Mr. Greco asked if, priority wise, do we want this more self-funded or the General Revenue budget to help out with this cause. It seems like the other projects for the City are up-to-date and as time goes on conversation is more focused on the equalization tank and the Rocky River Wastewater Treatment Plant projects.

Mrs. Mahoney stated that we also have road improvements.

Ms. Maier asked Mr. Liskovec if he has a percentage of the roads at the end of their useful life and need a full rebuild.

Mr. Liskovec stated that probably at least half are teetering right now. As an example, Midland Road should really have been rebuilt. There is no base; it is all sitting on clay. There are a lot of streets that were built that way. As you go through the mill and overlay cycle you are going to be facing many base repairs. Another thing that has not been mentioned is the cost of upkeep of facilities. The fire station project is in the works, the Dwyer Center needs attention, space is being outgrown at the Service Center.

Mr. Clark stated that if there were greater confidence that the General Fund would have significant operating surplus over the next three or four years he would buy into Mr. Greco's theory. His concern is based on what happened in 2008 when the Reserve Fund was drained quickly during the recession. Another matter of concern is the trash collection contract increase that will happen next year. It may be sizeable, noting that the City has had a great deal the last twelve years. That is another user fee that will need to be addressed next year.

Mr. Tadych stated that the citizens of Bay actually went to a 7.5% user fee for the schools by their vote. How much money are we talking overall? If they were willing to invest 7.5% in the schools by their vote, they might go along with this.

Mr. Clark stated that being a resident of the City of Bay Village is probably the best buy looking at city government. We have not increased the trash fee, we haven't increased the sewer fee, we charged nobody for the improvements to Wolf Road and Lake Road. There have been no assessments whatsoever. It is highly unlikely, and kudos to the city administration. That is what makes this so difficult. We are going to have to bite the bullet.

Mr. Clark stated agreement with the Mayor to postpone discussion until hearing from the representatives of Chagrin Valley Engineering on January 23.

Mayor Koomar stated that some of the projects discussed by Mr. Liskovec will be costly.

Ms. DeGeorge stated that the size of the increase does not matter to her but if it remains a flat based fee, and it sounds like it will, then she will not be for it. Ms. DeGeorge prefers a usage-based fee and understands the exponential differences that are going to arise. We will have problems that are going to arise anyway, we will smooth them out, we always do, but at this juncture nothing has been said that convinces her that down the road the flat rate is something to stay with. In December Mr. Winzig stated that we can always look at it later. Now is the time, it is in front of us now. At this juncture the rate is not as important as the usage-based versus the flat fee.

Mr. Tadych stated that he would like to refrain from moving the sewer ordinances to second reading this evening. The ordinances will remain on first reading.

FINANCE AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE -D. Tadych, P. Winzig, T. Kelly, D. Clark.

Authorization to sell unusable or obsolete property with a value in excess of \$5,000 via internet auction. Resolution to express the intent to sell in this manner on the agenda of the Special Meeting of Council this evening.

Mr. Tadych stated that, as noted previously, the two sewer related ordinances will stay on first reading this evening.

A resolution expressing the intent of the City of Bay Village to auction unusable or obsolete property in excess of \$5,000 via internet will be introduced and recommended for adoption this evening.

ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE- T. Kelly, D. Tadych, S. Byrnes Maier.

Submerged Land Leases for:

Jeffrey L. and Pamela A. Barker, 27236 Lake Road.

Tammy Rae Morikis, 24300 Lake Road.

Barbara Sullivan, 27320 Lake Road.

Mr. Kelly will present legislation for submerged land leases for three residential properties in Bay Village. Information regarding each land lease has been provided to Council, and all appears to be in order.

Law Director Barbour noted that this is standard fare for lakefront improvement-projects.

Mr. Ed Smith, in the audience this evening, thanked the Clerk of Council and Law Director for keeping him aware of the submerged land leases coming forward for consideration. Mr. Smith does reach out to these residents letting them know there is a Shoreline Special Improvement District in Bay Village that could provide an advantage for financing if they would be so interested. At the same time, Senate Bill 313 died at the end of the last senate session, which was the bill that would have eliminated the requirement for submerged land leases. Mr. Smith has written to two of the senators asking if they will put the bill back on the table, and Mr. Smith believes that they will. Mr. Smith noted further that the Bay Village Special Improvement District is chugging along, not making a lot of progress in part because the interest rate keeps going up. The example of someone who has gotten funding through this mechanism had enough other fees included in the financing package and term sheet that we are seeing questions as to whether it is financially attractive to go with this type of financing rather than using something like a home equity loan. Mr. Smith has suggested that the person working in financing with McDonald Hopkins reach out to Mr. Clark.

Mr. Clark stated that at one point in time interest rates will crest, possibly in 2023, and they will head down at some point in time once we pinch off inflation. He does agree there is scale that goes with a Shoreline Special Improvement District (SSID). It is difficult to get into financing with one or two homes because the fees can be a little more expensive.

Mr. Smith stated that one he is working on right now is being bundled with homes in Lakewood. He is waiting for another one in Lake County to come up with a larger offering for some interested party. His hope is once a property in Bay Village is moving along he can go back to all the lakefront owners and say that they have gained some traction and are finally making progress. The preliminary numbers seen in term sheets do reflect an expectation that rates will come down. There is still a financing attraction to this route, it is just not obvious at this point.

Mr. Smith noted that he is awaiting a submerged land lease for his own project from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Mr. Smith thanked everyone for all their support, noting that Mr. Tadych has reached out to him multiple times.

**PLANNING, ZONING, PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE -P.
Winzig, L. DeGeorge, M. Greco.**

Mr. Winzig advised that at a recent Planning Commission meeting there was a presentation from St. Raphael's Church who are proposing a substantial playground and prayer area on campus. The material has been distributed to various City departments for their review and it will continue through the Planning Commission and then on to the Architectural Board of Review for their input. Mr. Winzig also shared with the Planning Commission the recap of projects of the Service Department from 2022 and 2023.

The St. Raphael's Church plans indicate that their project is .995 acres. Mr. Winzig asked that they look at whether the project will exceed one acre which would trigger requirements of storm water management and tree ordinance matters. They will remove 15 trees from the property along with 10 to 20 shrubs, primarily along the south facing edge of the property. Part of the City's goal with the new tree ordinance is to maintain those trees or put money into a fund for planting somewhere else. More news to follow on their measurements.

**PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS/STREETS/SEWERS/DRAINAGE COMMITTEE -L.
DeGeorge, T. Kelly, P. Winzig.**

Parking on Public Streets during a snow emergency. Ordinance amending Codified Ordinance Section 351.14 on the agenda of the Special Meeting of Council this evening.

Ms. DeGeorge stated that the ordinance she will introduce this evening does not change the parking regulations. It updates the methods of communication during snow emergencies.

Law Director Barbour added that during the last snowfall led to discussion with the Police Department and review of parking procedures. The ordinance stated the requirement to notify the newspapers and radio of emergency parking restrictions. Means of communication have been expanded to include Ready/Notify, the City Website, or by text and email. The new ordinance will reflect the new communication methods during snow emergencies.

Approval to advertise for materials bids for aggregates, concrete and asphalt for yearly service operations.

Ms. DeGeorge noted that the advertisement for bids for road improvement supplies is done annually.

Authorization for the Mayor to sign the LPA Federal ODOT-LET Project Agreement Amendment with the Ohio Department of Transportation to execute the Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Project.

Ms. DeGeorge will introduce legislation that will authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to move forward with the Safe Routes to Schools Infrastructure Project. The cost has increased by \$41,600.

Director Liskovec stated that originally the City was awarded \$207,000 from the state for the project. With escalation of prices, the price for the project is funded 100% at \$248,600 by ODOT.

Mr. Tadych noted that this is an example of price increases and contracts passing their markers.

Final legislation for the Safe Routes to Schools project will be presented at the January 23 meeting of Council with a start date projected for late spring or early summer. Mr. Winzig asked that information be provided to Council as to what the project entails.

RECREATION AND PARK IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE –S. Byrnes Maier, M. Greco, D. Tadych.

Acceptance of State Capital Improvement Grant through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) for Village Green Improvements.

Ms. Maier will introduce legislation this evening to accept the State Capital Improvement Grant through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) for the Village Green project.

Mayor Koomar noted that HBM Architects will be present at the January 23 meeting of City Council to provide an overview of the project.

Mr. Greco asked what the grant money will be used for in relation to the project. Ms. Maier informed him that it will be used for construction. The total project is budgeted at \$500,000.

SERVICES, UTILITIES & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE –M. Greco, S. Maier, L. DeGeorge.

Authorization for Finance Director to participate in various cooperative purchasing programs. Resolution to authorize participation on the agenda of the Special Meeting of Council this evening.

Mr. Greco will introduce a resolution this evening authorizing the Finance Director to participate in cooperative purchasing programs. This is an annual requirement to enable the Finance Director to find the best prices when purchasing city equipment.

Approval to purchase the following vehicles per the 2023 Capital Vehicle Replacement Schedule:

- (1) F550 Super Duty Chassis-Cab
- (1) F250 Super Duty Reg. Cab 2WD
- (1) F250 Super Duty Crew Cab
- (1) F250 Super Duty Reg Cab 4WD with plow

Approval to purchase the following vehicles from the 2021 Capital Vehicle Replacement Schedule:

- (1) F250 Super Duty Reg. Cab 4WD with plow
- (1) F550 Super Duty Chassis-Cab

Mr. Greco reviewed the vehicle purchases that will be authorized by resolutions to be introduced at the Special Meeting of Council this evening. Service Director Liskovec noted that two of the vehicles are from the 2021 Capital Vehicle Replacement Schedule when prices skyrocketed. Although they waited to purchase thinking that prices would return to normal, it is necessary to move forward now to keep the fleet in place.

Mr. Barbour stated that the resolutions state which vehicles are under the 2021 Budget and which are under the 2023 Budget.

Mr. Greco noted that the total cost for all vehicles is \$469,138.00. Delivery is expected in late summer of 2023. Once the vehicles are secured, body packages will be slated for purchase.

Mr. Clark noted that purchase of these vehicles is amortized over a period of five years.

AUDIENCE

There were no comments from the audience this evening.

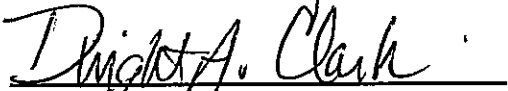
MISCELLANEOUS

Committee Meeting of Council
January 9, 2023

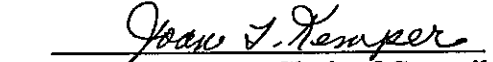
The next meeting of City Council will be held on Monday, January 23 beginning at 7 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion this evening, the meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.



Dwight A. Clark, President of Council



Joan T. Kemper, Clerk of Council