

City of Bay Village

Council Minutes, Committee Session
Dwight A. Clark President of Council, presiding
Council Chambers; augmented by Zoom.

May 16, 2022
7:00 p.m.

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

Also Present: Law Director Barbour, Director of Public Service and Properties Liskovec, Chief of Police Gillespie, Building Director Tuck-Macalla, Community Services Director Selig, Clerk of Council Kemper, Cathy Flament, President of the Bay Village Historical Society.

Via Zoom: Fire Chief Lyons.

AUDIENCE

Jeff Nichols, 29314 Lincoln Road, Bay Village Girl Scouts Junior Troop 71260 and Brownie Troop 70317, with their Leader, Kim Hart.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Clark welcomed Bay Village Girl Scouts Junior Troop 71260 and Brownie Troop 70317, with their Leader, Kim Hart, who were present working toward their Government Merit Badge. Ms. Hart introduced the members of the troop who were greeted with a round of applause. The girls have been together in their troops since Kindergarten. Ms. Hart noted that Councilwoman Sara Byrnes Maier is one of their troop leaders. A meeting was most recently held regarding City Council, how government works, and what can be done to be a member and part of the community.

Ms. Maier stated that the meeting focused on civic engagement, and an activity was included where the girls came up with their ideas for the Village Green. They created posters of things they would want to see, and posters of things they would not want to see in the Village Green. Ms. Maier displayed the posters for everyone to see the girls' ideas and handiwork. Ms. Maier noted that the girls got to understand their voice is included in the civic engagement, they can be part of the community, let their voices be heard and have the government leaders understand what is going to work for them. Ms. Maier thanked the girls for being excellent sports and giving the city government good input.

Mr. Clark thanked the girls for their creativity on the Village Green. The Village Green is in the planning phase now and will be a wonderful way to connect City Hall to the new library and all the activities in the park.

Emily of Brownie Troop 70317 stated that they are here this evening to talk about the Village Green. Grace of Brownie Troop 70317 commented that they are here as members of the Girl Scouts.

Mr. Clark thanked the girls for their presence this evening and introduced Cathy Flament, President, Bay Village Historical Society, who gave a presentation regarding an Artifact Restoration Project underway at the Rose Hill Museum.

Cathy Flament, President of the Bay Village Historical Society, addressed the audience and members of Bay Village City Council to explain what they will be doing with the portrait gallery at Rose Hill Museum. When the Cahoon Will was drawn, it stated that the City of Bay Village would own those items and take care of them. An organization called ICA, a conservation organization, stated that they need to take the original pictures out of the frames, replace them with copies, and preserve the original prints. Ms. Flament explained that the Cleveland Public Library will scan the originals and print copies. The original prints will be put into archival sleeves and then into an archival box. A conservation expert will work to restore the original portrait of Joel Cahoon which has been altered with tape. A rug that belonged to the Cahoon Family will be cleaned by ICA, backed with an archival fabric and mounted for framing. To accomplish all of this restorative and archival work, the Village Foundation awarded a grant of \$3,000 to the Historical Society. Ms. Flament explained the process of creating hair wreaths which was done by the Aldrich Family in the past. The work of restoring the wreath will be included in the grant, as well as signs for the displays.

Mrs. Flament explained that ICA is an internationally known restorative company, who restored the United States Flag stored in the Smithsonian Institute, and restorations at Play House Square in Cleveland.

Mr. Clark invited Ms. Flament to return to the Bay Village City Council at the end of the work to report on how the process went. On behalf of the City Administration and City Council, Mr. Clark applauded Ms. Flament for her leadership, enthusiasm and stewardship, noting it is second to none, and one of the reasons why the Bay Village Historical Society has done as well as it has and is a gem for Bay Village and northeast Ohio.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

Consolidated Dispatch Update: Mayor Koomar

Mr. Kelly stated that Mayor Koomar will give an update on the notion of regionalizing dispatch for police and fire.

Mayor Koomar advised that there is legislation at the state level to require in 2023 that every Public Service Answering Point (“PSAP”) is to have a minimum of two dispatchers, 24 hours per day, seven days per week. A number of years ago the West Shore communities consolidated fire and emergency medical service calls, but never made the final step for police. With the advent of the state legislation, they have been looking at regionalizing the police dispatch. They have been in contact with the cities in West Com, which is Bay Village, Westlake, Rocky River,

Fairview Park and North Ridgeville, but have pulled in Lakewood and North Olmsted to the conversation. The Police Chiefs have considered different options, e.g., expanding West Com or using the Chagrin Valley Dispatch model. To try to maintain the current Bay Village in-house dispatch it would require eleven full time positions, paying \$72,000 in wages and benefits to each dispatcher. A regional approach would serve the City of Bay Village well.

Mr. Kelly toured the Chagrin Valley Dispatch Center, along with the West Shore Police Chiefs. They currently have about thirty-three communities under that umbrella at the moment. The site they looked at was in Cleveland Heights with six communities served. The mobile command unit was impressive and an interesting set-up in terms of what they are able to achieve. There is concern both internally and externally on the question of where these dispatchers are physically located. The conversation starts at the point of funding issues. The large agreement throughout the region is that the agencies will be pressed in this direction, regardless of what they might otherwise wish to do. The question of regionalizing on this topic is a matter of when and where.

Mr. Kelly continued, stating that the Chagrin Valley presentation was impressive, in terms of their capabilities, scope and how thought-out it is. They welcome any one coming in to check out their operation. The West Shore Chiefs are desirous to all remain together, and the present mood is momentum toward Chagrin Valley. Mr. Kelly stated that he would be happy to speak to anyone more about the Chagrin Valley Dispatch model.

Mayor Koomar stated that the opportunity for grants for capital acquisition costs and revenue streams to offset the operating costs would have a likelihood of success in a large entity, more so than in a small entity. By ourselves, it is virtually non-existent. They have talked with the hospital about an opportunity to expand West Com and will continue to explore both options.

Mr. Kelly noted that some people were looking at Strongsville, which has a dispatch center similar to West Com. West Com is not operated as a Council of Government operations, where Chagrin Valley Dispatch is and what that means is that West Com employees are employees of the City of Westlake. Westlake basically runs the operation. Strongsville has a similar model where Strongsville runs the operation, but they can't take everyone from the West Shore in which is part of why there is some tension on that subject as well.

Mr. Winzig asked about the timing of making the decision. Mayor Koomar stated that the decision would be made by the end of June, or sooner. Some of the new legislation at the state level is asking for compliance in 2023. To make the transition, about six months is needed.

Mr. Clark asked the Mayor if this is something that will be done in lockstep with our West Shore neighbors in terms of timing.

Mayor Koomar stated that is what they have been trying to do, is to keep people together. The Chagrin Valley model is already dispatching Fairview Park Police and Fairview Park West Com for fire. A consolidated dispatch for all of the West Shore where things are uniformly dispatched across the board for all types of units would be the best care scenario.

Mr. Clark asked what commitment of financial resources would be expected.

Mayor Koomar stated that the allocation model to be used going forward is on billable calls. Regardless of whether you were with West Com or Chagrin Valley that is the most equitable model. Applying that to what is already in place between West Com and the police budget estimated for 2023 there is an incremental increase of about \$35,000. The Chagrin Valley Dispatch has multiple locations and in the event one goes down there is a total mobile unit back up and a core connection to the Lake County Sherriff's Department which has Mark's towers and can be used as a final redundancy. West Com only has a single location.

Mr. Tadych asked how this would affect the current City of Bay Village dispatchers, and will they be able to participate in the activities.

Mayor Koomar stated that in any situation, or Chagrin Valley for sure, everyone would be offered employment with benefits carried over. There is more career growth because there are supervisory positions and technical positions for upward migration. There are also technical opportunities available for career growth. The shifts are 12 hours in length.

Mr. Clark stated that the original premise in Bay Village was to hire two full time and six to eight part time dispatchers. The fully staffed stage has never been reached.

Mayor Koomar stated that Rocky River, Bay Village and Fairview Park, until they used North Olmsted to dispatch last year, were always supplemented with full time police officers. The Mayor noted that he gets questions from residents about seeing the bike patrol have more and interaction with the community which, in this day and age, are of paramount importance. This would give the Police Chief the opportunity to reposition his team and even allow more support to the detective bureau.

Mr. Clark asked the Mayor to keep Council apprised.

Donation of Hanging Baskets and Additional Annuals from the Bay Village Garden Club.

Mr. Kelly stated that he will present a Resolution this evening to accept a donation of hanging baskets and additional annuals from the Bay Village Garden Club. This is a lovely, annual gift to the community, for which the City Council is very grateful.

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

Tax Budget for the City of Bay Village for the Fiscal Year beginning January 1, 2023. Second Reading of Resolution No. 22-55 at the Regular Meeting of Council this evening.

Mr. Tadych stated that there will be no increase in millage for the Tax Budget for 2023. The Resolution approving the budget will be presented for second reading at the Regular Meeting of Council this evening.

April 2022 Financial Statements of the City of Bay Village.

Financial statements of April 2022 have been received from Finance Director Mahoney and reflect municipal income tax receipts higher than they have been in four years, not appearing to be threatened at all.

Amended Appropriation Ordinance.

An Amended Appropriation Ordinance will be presented this evening to increase the appropriation for the 2022 Sidewalk Replacement Program in the amount of \$55,000, and an increase in the appropriation for property, liability and cyber insurance in the amount of \$12,262.

General Liability, Property Damage and Cyber Insurance. First Reading of Ordinance for renewal at Regular Meeting of Council this evening.

An ordinance to renew the City's contract for General Liability, Property Damage and Cyber Insurance is scheduled for first reading at the Regular Meeting of Council this evening. The current insurance policy expires on June 15, 2022.

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

Acceptance of the bid of Nick and Nancy Dadas, in the amount of \$1,410,000 for the City owned property located at 502 Cahoon Road. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 22-56 at the Regular Meeting of Council this evening.

Mr. Winzig will present, for second reading this evening, an ordinance to accept the bid of Nick and Nancy Dadas for the City owned property located at 502 Cahoon Road, known as the former library property. It can be moved for adoption this evening, or taken to second reading.

Mayor Koomar stated that Nick and Nancy Dadas are trying to look at the potential of opening this fall on a limited basis. The Mayor stated he would respectfully ask if there could be a quick Council meeting next week for adoption, so that it would not drag out three weeks until after the holiday.

Mr. Clark asked thoughts from Council, noting there is a ready and willing buyer who will pay cash, as is, for the property. His concern about waiting three weeks for the next meeting is it is three less weeks to have to facilitate the sale and the need to get an escrow and title company involved.

Mr. Tadych stated that moving forward with adoption after two readings is acceptable. The sale has been publicized in all the news medias around the City.

Ms. Maier stated that she prefers three readings.

Mr. Kelly stated that he would also prefer three readings because the matter is unusual. An extra meeting is acceptable. Mr. Kelly likes the idea that whoever has an objection to this issue has an opportunity to raise it. Certainly they have had that opportunity, but to the extent they wish to raise it in some other form, as opposed to here, if it goes three readings they cannot say they did not have that full opportunity to do so.

Mr. Clark suggested a special meeting on Monday, May 23, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. with the matter of Ordinance No. 22-56 for third reading and consideration for adoption.

Bay High School PTSA Request for Street Pole Banners for the MB5K to be held Saturday, May 28, 2022. Banners requested to be hung at Dover and Wolf Roads, and Cahoon and Wolf Roads, requested by Melissa Mason, Chair of the Event. Proceeds to benefit Bay High School PTSA Mental Health and Wellness Programs.

Mr. Winzig will present a motion to honor the request for street pole banners for the MB5K Run on Saturday, May 28, 2022, sponsored by Bay High School, at the Regular Meeting of Council this evening.

Mr. Winzig stated that the Tree Ordinance draft has been updated and distributed to the Committee and Law Director Barbour. Law Director Barbour will review for a final version to be shared with the Committee of the Whole and the Tree Commission. This should be completed within the next week or ten days. First reading of the ordinance will be slated for the June 6, 2022 meeting of Council.

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

2022 Sidewalk Replacement Program, Permission to Advertise for Bids.

Ms. DeGeorge will introduce a motion to permit the Director of Public Service and Properties to advertise for bids for the 2022 Sidewalk Replacement Program. Ms. DeGeorge noted that the sidewalk inspection and replacement program is done annually with the difference this year being the outsourcing of the process. Ms. DeGeorge called upon Mr. Liskovec for comments.

Mr. Liskovec stated that the project size has been tripled, covering twenty-seven miles of sidewalks for inspections, and citing two miles of sidewalks for repair, which amounts to over 2000 sidewalk blocks to be replaced. An additional appropriation of \$55,000 has been requested and is included in the Amended Appropriation Ordinance to be submitted to Council this evening.

Mayor Koomar noted that part of the impetus for expansion of the program is for the enhancement of a walkable community. Many comments from residents in Ward 3 have been received, and the goal is to get through Ward 3 and into Ward 2 and the park area for work that needs to be done.

Conveyance of Forfeited Land to the City of Bay Village.

Ms. DeGeorge stated that Council has received a map and a memorandum from Law Director Barbour stated that the Cuyahoga County Land Bank has a parcel of property in Bay Village available on its forfeited lands list that it is offering for sale at a cost of \$1.00.

Mr. Barbour stated that the property is on Bassett Road and is an unbuildable lot because of the topography. The City wants to obtain this parcel to access a sewer line located through the property for maintenance purposes. The parcel is not buildable as it has a substantial drop in elevation from the street, and it is located in the riparian set back due to a creek running through the property. A prior owner of the house to the north owned the parcel. Property taxes were unpaid and the property went into foreclosure. Since no one bought it, the property was forfeited to the State of Ohio, who offered it for sale through the Cuyahoga County Land Bank. The Land Bank process gives the municipalities first choice on forfeited land bank properties. Bay Village has the opportunity to purchase the property for \$1.00. The City Engineer and Infrastructure Manager recommend taking action to permit access to the sewer pipe. The title work was received today and there are no taxes or liens on the property.

Mr. Greco asked if the homeowner adjacent to the property and the homeowner across the creek are being notified.

Mr. Barbour stated that there is not a notice process for the City obtaining the property. The property owner to the south does know about the potential transaction because the builder called the Law Director with questions. As of this time the State of Ohio owns the property. It has been forfeited and in foreclosure for at least five years, perhaps longer. The home adjacent has a u-shaped driveway with the house in the middle. At a couple feet maximum from the north driveway the property drops straight down seven or eight feet. The property is not useful for any residential purpose. The bit of flatland between the creek and the side of the cliff is the pipe. Nothing could be constructed there. It is also in the riparian setback.

Mr. Tadych asked if maintenance of the property will be the obligation of the City. Mr. Barbour stated that it will be City property.

An ordinance to purchase the property is on the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council this evening.

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

Ms. Maier stated that she will be scheduling a Recreation and Park Improvements meeting on either June 6 or June 13. Agenda items will be determined through conversation with Recreation Director Enovitch.

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

Mr. Greco will conduct a meeting of the Services, Utilities and Equipment Committee on Wednesday, May 18 at 6 p.m. in the Bay Village City Hall to host a presentation by the Bay Village Green Team on electric utilities available to residents and the City.

AUDIENCE

There were no comments from the audience this evening.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Barbour advised that the agreement to terminate the lease for the former Bay Village Library was signed by both parties and filed in the office of the Cuyahoga County Recorder.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss this evening, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

/s/ Dwight A. Clark

Dwight A. Clark, President of Council

/s/ Joan T. Kemper

Joan T. Kemper, Clerk of Council