

City of Bay Village

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

March 1, 2021
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, Police Chief Leasure, and Clerk of Council Kemper. Via Zoom – Director of Public Service and Properties Liskovec, Fire Chief Lyons, Project Manager Kathryn Kerber, Human Resource Director Demaline, Director of Community Services Selig, Director of Building Tuck-Macalla.

AUDIENCE

Via Zoom –Aaron Lenafirechief60, Erin and Cary, Claire Banasiak, Bill, CarrieAnneRosebuds4, Jim Blocksidge, Clare Schlegel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Koomar advised of the groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Bay Village Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library at 11 a.m. on March 24, 2021. Mr. Tuck-Macalla will provide more details on the work that is being done leading up to the groundbreaking when he reports to Council at the Regular Meeting of Council this evening.

The Mayor stated that there will be an update on the Finance Department system and the closing out of some of the Capital projects before transitioning to the new system. The Finance Committee will take a look at that as well at their next meeting.

The Cahoon Memorial Park restrooms are not functioning adequately at this time. The engineering for the bid for that project is being freshened up so that the project can be reviewed with the possibility of moving forward with Capital funds that will be freed up.

Chief Lyons will report on the planning for Bay Days 2021. The administration has been working with the Kiwanis Club for about six weeks on the event to determine what it may look like. The Governor will be issuing updates on those types of events, probably this Thursday, as well as additional announcements next week. Last year a decision was made regarding Bay Days on May 10, so there is plenty of time to watch the numbers after St. Patrick's Day and Easter.

It appears there will be a Federal Infrastructure Bill with some of that money coming down to state and local governments. It will be skewed by those communities that receive more Community Development Block Grants. Either way, there will be dollars coming down for infrastructure, opportunities relative to the fire station, and security access for some of the City buildings.

At the state level, the budget process is being watched. It appears there will be money for safety forces in Capital dollars. When we see where that is headed, the Mayor noted, he will be working with Police Chief Leasure.

The Governor's State of Emergency has stopped any changes in Municipal Income Tax at the legislature. There are two or three lawsuits in Columbus that are being watched. The Mayors and City Managers Association have established a Municipal Income Tax Committee and a subcommittee to provide feedback and guidance moving forward. The Mayor advised that he sits on both of those committees. The court cases will be settled first which will then provide state government with some direction. The issue is the employees working at home and not working in the larger cities such as Cleveland, Independence or Strongsville, and what that tax shift will look like. Multiple residents have contacted the city in regard to amending their returns because they have been assigned permanently to home. If they want to do that they can appeal to the Regional Income Tax Agency, but they have said they will hold their appeals and refunds until they get guidance from the state. This policy could likely be in effect until the end of this year.

Mr. Clark stated that Finance Director Mahoney has mentioned before that if a resident falls within the situation described by the Mayor, a form should be filed with the Regional Income Tax Agency with the box checked that this is in relation to the pandemic. The refund application will be held until there is a decision.

Mayor Paul A. Koomar administered the Oath of Office to Michael T. Greco, appointed unanimously as Councilman of Ward 3 at the meeting of Council held February 22, 2021.

Presentation: Jodie Hausmann, Superintendent, Bay Village City School District
Char Shryock, Director of Teaching and Learning, Bay Village City Schools
Holly Schafer, Director of Human Resources, Bay Village City Schools

Jodie Hausmann, Superintendent, Bay Village City School District, thanked the administration and Council for the opportunity to be present this evening to provide an overview of their strategic plan that will be coming forward and officially published in the fall.

Char Shryock, Director of Teaching and Learning, proceeded to explain that two key words for the schools are Learn and Lead. As a City of Bay Village we are known as leaders, both in the City government and as a School District across the state. Ms. Shryock highlighted a few key pieces about their COVID 19 response. In the learning piece, Bay Schools are one of the few districts in the state who have offered as their main mode of instruction a five day week, in-building model, with e-learning supports and opportunities for their families. As we hear today in the news about how many districts as of March 1 are back in their building for the first time since last year at this time, Bay Schools are proud of the work they have done as a district to offer those learning opportunities to our students. The Difference Made Campaign co-sponsored with the Parent-Teachers Association this past fall by the joint leadership team of the building administrators, teachers, and classified staff leaders moved everything forward.

Holly Schafer, Bay Schools' Director of Human Resources, stated that it was a herculean effort to try to pull everything together to get everyone in the building five days a week. The three words focused on are Care, Create, and Communicate. Resources are used to develop this program under this umbrella. In the Care setting there is a picture of the Rocket Pledge which is displayed all over the School District and reinforced often to remind everyone they are taking care of the greater good as well as themselves.

The nupner app which is used daily was developed by a Bay resident and serves as the daily wellness check for students as to how they are feeling and if they have symptoms that day.

The second segment, Create, was highlighted through a series of videos asking people to help the Schools reinforce their message of safety. A second picture showed the "cubbies" used in the classrooms that helped keep the distancing piece for students. A third slide shows all the things instituted for cleaning and sanitation to keep the students and staff healthy and safe.

The Communication section of the page contains a picture of the Schools dashboard which is updated every Friday at 3 p.m. and includes the updated COVID cases and quarantines. The last communication piece shown is the "Monday Minute" hosted by Ms. Schafer and Dr. Michelle Moore every Monday at 2:30 p.m., updating their staff in terms of COVID 19 and the vaccine program.

Superintendent Hausmann explained the new and updated vision statement, "One Rocket Nation is a caring community that empowers children to be happy and successful." Ms. Hausmann stated that it was very important to the 100+ stakeholders that wanted the schools to focus on the caring community. She noted that this was certainly amplified when Police Chief Leasure and her amazing team helped during the recent lockdown of Bay High School. Ms. Hausmann stated that while they do not define happiness and success for children, they open pathways for children to find that and give them lots of opportunities. The tag line is Learn, Launch, and Lead.

The first driving factor is "Courageously Stand for Equity" which is to expand the Diversity and Equity Committee by adding student, staff and community representation, develop a yearly calendar of events, and provide ongoing training and professional learning to committee members, students, staff and the community. The desired outcome is for a district culture to be safe, welcoming and inclusive for all staff and students. This will include a Board Resolution focusing in this area, corporate partnerships with Cuyahoga Community College, the Ohio School Boards Association, the YWCA, and FDSU for promotion. They recently sponsored a Black History Month Challenge and are participating in the YWCA Greater Cleveland 21- day Challenge which started today. Monthly meetings are held with the team and they are in the process of working with an equity audit, rolling that out district-wide.

Lead Educational Excellence is the second driving factor with the desired outcome of student-driven learning that builds expertise. This is the technology commitment piece which includes working on the infrastructure the last few years. The Schools have been upgrading a lot of behind-the-scenes technology with devices. This enabled keeping the technology running like a top this year. Technology is looked at now as a utility that cannot stop and will keep moving

forward. They are also looking at the new workforce skills, programming, coding, and the collaboration through technology that has now taken a whole new meaning. They have grown with technology which helped accomplish what was needed this past year so quickly. The teachers and staff are committed to taking on brand new cameras and technologies in August, volunteering their time to be trained over the summer. The Bay District is one of the only districts that have that technology where they can have live streaming for children who are in school as well as at home. They all have the same teacher, which is really special. Programming will be changed in the Middle School next year with technology. We know now that our children are so capable and we must keep moving forward for them, innovating and adapting.

The third driving factor is prioritizing service to others and the opportunities for leadership that comes through that service. Bay is a community that is centered on service, looking at the Bay Village Foundation and the good work that they have done supporting programs in our community, and the Bay Education Foundation and what they have done in the schools. They would like to build on those opportunities for service through the Kiwanis, Rotary, the Key Corp organization, and the work that our high school students have done for the Latino Lymphoma Society that was the recent spotlight. The commitment is to give children from pre-school all the way through their senior year opportunities to build leadership through those service experiences. They will look for opportunities to partner with the community experience and also with the natural resources, knowing we need to be good stewards of our lakeshore as well.

Driving factor No. 4 is to promote a school/life balance with the desired outcome towards mental health and wellness as essential components of the learning community and a commitment to develop a standards-based model of mental health tiered supports. There are new social/emotional rating standards by the State of Ohio, integrated from pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12. Those new standards are developing mental health tiered support. Something that would have typically been a Tier One Mental Health Support is being tiered up to provide, especially after this year, more individualized supports for children and families. They are so appreciative of Bay Family Services and very hopeful that it will be continued. They are working with Recovery Resources, and MetroHealth, and actually have a clinician that comes into the schools now – a child psychologist two days per week – with plans for expansion. They welcome having the City work with all those different people too and believe that partnership will continue. They will also look at new curriculum in the classroom, adding more health lessons next year.

Recognize growth and celebrate success is the fifth driving factor with the desired outcome for students to identify and act on personal and academic goals, celebrating their own success and growth. Part of the strategic plan is to involve student voice and this came to light when the students wanted to recognize their achievements and their growth along the way. Community support is needed through internships, partnerships and mentoring opportunities. Our community has leaders of organizations and businesses from across the Greater Cleveland area and across the country. It is hoped to tap into those experiences to build a network of mentors and thought partners for the students and their passion projects moving forward.

The sixth driving factor is to foster real-world work skills with the desired outcome for students to master the skills required to participate in a diverse, collaborative culture of work. The commitment is to teach in-person, virtual and written communication skills that build trusting relationships that are respectful of individual perspectives. Teaching students intentionally about up-skills, specifically communication skills – both written and verbal, will be implemented through a progression of Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12 authentic communication tasks. The focus will be on teaching ethics and responsible behavior. Social media is sometimes painted as a villain, but it is a networking tool and leveraging all of those items together to help in career and life will be taught through developing a collection of ethics lesson activities and resources.

The last driving factor, No. 7 is to inspire creativity and innovation with the desired outcome to design responsive, sustainable learning spaces that inspire creativity for all learners, while maximizing financial resources. Ms. Hausmann stated that the commitment is to apply elements of design thinking to learning spaces as an essential component to learning, also called the Third Teacher. The work will involve designing a Bay Village model classroom, establishing a five-year classroom refresh plan, and to reimagine common learning spaces. Ms. Hausmann stated that this work will be done by the students and teachers together, and what comes out of it is something that couldn't even be imagined.

Ms. Hausmann thanked everyone for the opportunity to present this evening, and asked for the possibility of returning from time to time with quick updates.

Mr. Clark thanked Superintendent Hausmann, Ms. Shryock and Ms. Schafer for their time this evening and called for comments and feedback from the Council members on the presentation.

Mr. Winzig commented regarding the amount of work that was done when the pandemic struck last year and the work that was put in over the summer and continues with the shifting of classes. There was a sense that things were figured out and all set, but when you see a document like the one presented this evening it is impressive to know that it has gone to the next level.

Ms. Hausmann replied that they did not want to be stuck in the pandemic and not turn towards tomorrow.

Mr. Tadych congratulated Ms. Hausmann on the ability to put something in place and be willing to look at it a month later and say this isn't working and go on to something else, over and over again.

Mr. Clark stated that he has had an opportunity to work with Ms. Hausmann for almost two years now through the Bay Village Education Foundation. He mentioned a special shout out to Char Shryock because he worked with her for the better part of the last ten years or so on the Education Foundation when smart boards were the rage. What she has done with the technology and curriculum budget is nothing short of phenomenal, given the limited resources. Mr. Clark welcomed Holly Schafer to the School District as well.

Mayor Koomar stated that he has received telephone calls from many parents who are very happy with the option for their children to be back in the classroom which is important for emotional health as well. The Mayor thanked Ms. Hausmann and her staff for their work.

ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE-DeGeorge, Tadych, Maier

Update on Deer Culling.

Ms. DeGeorge asked Police Chief Leasure for her comments on deer culling. Chief Leasure stated that deer culling in January and the beginning part of February resulted in the culling of 14 deer total which includes 7 in the Saddler Road area, 3 deer in the wooded area next to the Police Station, and 4 deer by Crossroads Church on Bassett Road near the railroad tracks. Five different areas throughout the City were looked at including the eastern part of the City. The City of Avon Lake culled 7 deer in Walker Road Park, 4 from a park near the Brunswick Road, Electric Road area and 11 from the Division Road Water Tower which is at the Lear Road, Electric Road area.

Chief Leasure thanked the Bay Village Auxiliary Police for donating 119 hours of time during the culling season to make sure that marked units were in all the areas that deer were being culled in case anyone had any questions.

The Metroparks have not made a definitive decision to cull any deer in the Metroparks this year.

All of the venison has been donated to homeless shelters via refrigerated vehicles. The carcass of the animals goes to Cleveland Metroparks Zoo for the animals.

Mr. Clark noted that the culling efforts over the years might have right-sized the population. Chief Leasure added that motor vehicle accidents involving deer have gone down as well.

FINANCE & CLAIMS COMMITTEE-Tadych, Winzig, Kelly, Clark.

Mr. Tadych stated that a Finance Committee meeting will be held on Monday, March 8 at 6 p.m. to review December year-end, January and possibly February financial reports.

Mr. Clark stated that it would be timely to consider if a Council meeting will be held next week, and asked if there is any pending legislation from the administration that is time-sensitive for next week.

Mayor Koomar stated that at this point a Council meeting is not needed on March 8. Chagrin Valley Engineering has been talking with the Federal Environmental Protection Agency. They would like to fine-tune some things on the modeling of the sanitary sewer overflow plan before the City submits.

Mr. Tadych will speak to Finance Director Mahoney regarding the timing of a Finance Committee meeting for Monday, March 8.

Mr. Clark stated that there will be a Regular Meeting of Council on Monday, March 15. There are five Mondays in March so there will likely be a meeting either on March 22 or March 29 as well.

PLANNING, ZONING & PUBLIC GROUNDS & BUILDINGS COMMITTEE-Maier, DeGeorge

Ms. Maier reported that a Planning, Zoning, Public Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting was held earlier this evening to discuss trees. Another meeting will be scheduled to continue that discussion.

St. Raphael School Request for the Installation of a "Now Enrolling" sign on their property at 525 Dover Center Road.

Ms. Maier stated that the sign requested by St. Raphael School is a fairly large sign to be installed for the months of March and April, 2021.

Mr. Clark thanked the Committee members, as well as Law Director Barbour for their work on the tree ordinance, noting that this is not an easy ordinance to go through. It is taking the necessary time for a full review, and it has been on the docket and discussed for the past four years. The good work will continue to bring an ordinance to Council for approval.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, STREETS/SEWERS/DRAINAGE COMMITTEE-Maier, Kelly

Ms. Maier had no report this evening.

RECREATION & PARKS IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE-Winzig, DeGeorge, Tadych.

Mr. Winzig had no report this evening.

SERVICES, UTILITIES & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE-Kelly, Winzig.

Mr. Kelly had no report this evening.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Clark stated that he is working on the assignment of committee responsibilities and Mr. Michael Greco will be welcomed as one of the Council committee chairs. A motion will be made at the next Council meeting to finalize assignments.

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Ms. DeGeorge stated that last week Council talked a little bit about the snow removal ordinance. She asked if Council intends to continue that conversation, and looking at the pieces and parts of it and how will we go about that.

Mr. Clark stated that Council will certainly continue the conversation. The conversation certainly, pardon the pun, melts away with the snow that goes away, but it is certainly something Council needs to try to look at in a bit more discernable way to figure out whether there is a need to amend the ordinance as the case may be, and also understand the challenges of trying to enforce it as well. Mr. Clark stated further that he does think we have a continued conversation on that, just like we did in terms of the selection of Council people.

Ms. DeGeorge stated that we didn't really have that conversation yet, did we?

Mr. Clark stated no, but we will, those are the things on the docket that he is thinking about.

AUDIENCE

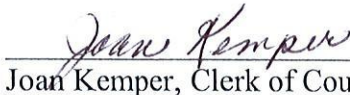
There were no comments from the audience this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion this evening, the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.



Dwight A. Clark, President of Council



Joan Kemper, Clerk of Council