

CITY OF OAKWOOD
STATE OF OHIO
MARCH 4, 2024

The Council of the city of Oakwood, State of Ohio, met in a work session at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room of the city of Oakwood, 30 Park Avenue, Oakwood, Ohio, 45419. Council then met in a regular session at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers of the city of Oakwood.

The meeting was streamed live from the Oakwood city website, telecast live on Cable Access Channel 6 and was available via remote teleconferencing utilizing the Zoom.com platform.

The Mayor, Mr. William Duncan, presided, and the Clerk, Ms. Lori Stacel, recorded. Mayor Duncan asked all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon call of the roll, the following members of Council responded to their names:

- MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....PRESENT
- MR. STEVEN BYINGTON.....PRESENT
- MR. ROBERT P. STEPHENS.....PRESENT
- MRS. LEIGH TURBEN.....PRESENT
- MRS. HEALY JACKSON.....PRESENT

Officers of the City present were the following:

- Mr. Norbert S. Klopsch, City Manager
- Mr. Robert F. Jacques, City Attorney
- Mr. Chris Kuzma P.E., City Engineer
- Ms. Lori Stacel, Clerk of Council

The following in-person visitors registered:

- Kelli Kling, Wright Library
- Michele Schoen, Wright Library
- Randy Honaker, Wright Library
- Youth Library Ambassadors and Family
- Brian Barr, *Oakwood Register*

The following Zoom visitors attended via remote teleconference:

- Jamie
- Rebecca Foley
- Sally McIntyre

Mrs. Jackson advised Council she had read the meeting minutes of the February 5, 2024 regular session, work session and executive session, and February 26, 2024 work session and executive session. Mrs. Jackson reported she found the minutes correct and complete. Therefore, it was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Stephens that the minutes of the sessions of Council aforementioned be approved as written and the reading thereof at this session be dispensed with. Upon a viva voce vote on the question of the motion, same passed unanimously and it was so ordered.

STATUS REPORTS

Citizen Committee Appointment – Mayor Duncan presented the new appointment of Paul Kavanaugh to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

It was moved by Mayor Duncan and seconded by Vice Mayor Byington that the aforementioned appointment be confirmed. Upon a viva voce vote on the question of the motion, same passed unanimously and it was so ordered.

Proclamation – Proclamation recognizing April 7 – April 13 as “National Library Week” – Mayor Duncan read and presented a Proclamation to recognize April 7 – April 13 as “National Library Week.” Wright Library Community Engagement Specialist Kelli Kling, Youth Coordinator Michele Schoen, Library Board President Randy Honaker, and a number of youth library ambassadors accepted the proclamation on behalf of Wright Memorial Public Library.

Mrs. Kling shared that it is an honor that the city of Oakwood recognizes National Library Week and all that Wright Library does for the community. She then presented City Council with solar eclipse glasses for the April 8 eclipse.

Mayor Duncan mentioned that one of the unique annual events that the city offers is the New Resident Breakfast. This year’s event is on Saturday, March 16 and includes a presentation by library staff.

City Council thanked Wright Library for the solar eclipse glasses and then posed for a group photo.

VISITORS – No visitors.

LEGISLATION

A RESOLUTION

BY MR. STEPHENS NO 1919

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF IMPROVING CERTAIN STREETS BETWEEN CERTAIN TERMINI IN THE CITY OF OAKWOOD, OHIO, BY LIGHTING THE SAME WITH ELECTRICITY.

A copy of the resolution, having been placed on the desks of each member of Council prior to introduction, was read by title.

Mr. Stephens explained that this is an annual resolution that is the first step of the 2025 street lighting program.

Oakwood is required by law to pass several pieces of legislation to provide street lighting each year. The first is this resolution, declaring the necessity of street lighting throughout the city. The second piece, is the “Ordinance to Proceed” for the project will be given a first reading this evening and will be voted on at the April meeting. The third piece of legislation, an ordinance to levy assessments for certain street light costs, will be introduced as a first reading at the April meeting, followed by a final assessment ordinance to be introduced after the project has concluded.

Thereupon, it was moved by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Mrs. Turben that the resolution be passed.

Upon call of the roll on the question of the motion, the following vote was recorded:

MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....	YEA
MR. STEVEN BYINGTON.....	YEA
MR. ROBERT P. STEPHENS	YEA
MRS. LEIGH TURBEN	YEA
MRS. HEALY JACKSON.....	YEA

There being five (5) yea votes and no (0) nay votes thereon, said resolution was declared duly passed and it was so ordered.

AN ORDINANCE

BY MR. STEPHENS NO 4994

AN ORDINANCE DETERMINING TO PROCEED WITH THE IMPROVEMENT OF CERTAIN STREETS BETWEEN CERTAIN TERMINI IN THE CITY OF OAKWOOD, OHIO, BY LIGHTING THE SAME WITH ELECTRICITY.

A copy of the ordinance, having been placed on the desks of each member of Council prior to introduction, was read by title.

Mr. Stephens explained that this is an annual ordinance that is the second step of the 2025 street lighting program. It is the ordinance that authorizes the city to proceed with the project.

This was a first reading of the ordinance, so Mr. Stephens made no motion.

A RESOLUTION

BY MR. STEPHENS NO 1920

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF REPAIRING SIDEWALKS AND APPURTENANCES THERETO ON FAR HILLS AVENUE AND CERTAIN OTHER STREETS BETWEEN CERTAIN TERMINI IN THE CITY OF OAKWOOD, OHIO, PROVIDING THAT ABUTTING PROPERTY OWNERS REPAIR THE SAME.

A copy of the resolution, having been placed on the desks of each member of Council prior to introduction, was read by title.

Mr. Stephens explained that this is an annual resolution that is the first step of the 2024 Sidewalk, Curb and Driveway Apron Project. This year’s program area covers Far Hills Avenue through the main business district, from Peach Orchard Road to the south corporate limit. It will also include

the first block of most of the side streets that intersect with Far Hills Avenue through the business district.

Oakwood is required by law to pass three (3) pieces of legislation in order to carry out this program and assess the sidewalk costs. The first piece is this resolution, which declares the necessity of sidewalk repairs in these parts of the city. The second piece, the "Ordinance to Proceed" for the project will also be introduced. After the project concludes, there will be a third piece of legislation, an ordinance to levy assessments for certain sidewalk costs.

Thereupon, it was moved by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Vice Mayor Byington that the resolution be passed.

Upon call of the roll on the question of the motion, the following vote was recorded:

MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....	YEA
MR. STEVEN BYINGTON	YEA
MR. ROBERT P. STEPHENS	YEA
MRS. LEIGH TURBEN	YEA
MRS. HEALY JACKSON.....	YEA

There being five (5) yea votes and no (0) nay votes thereon, said resolution was declared duly passed and it was so ordered.

AN ORDINANCE

BY MR. STEPHENS NO 4995

AN ORDINANCE DETERMINING TO PROCEED WITH THE REPAIRING OF SIDEWALKS AND APPURTENANCES THERETO ON CERTAIN STREETS BETWEEN CERTAIN TERMINI, IN THE CITY OF OAKWOOD, OHIO, AND PROVIDING THAT ABUTTING PROPERTY OWNERS REPAIR THE SAME.

A copy of the ordinance, having been placed on the desks of each member of Council prior to introduction, was read by title.

Mr. Stephens explained that this is an annual ordinance that is the second step of the 2024 Sidewalk, Curb and Driveway Apron Project. Again, this year's program area covers Far Hills Avenue through the main business district, from Peach Orchard Road to the south corporate limit, as well as the first block of most of the side streets that intersect with Far Hills Avenue through the business district.

This was a first reading of the ordinance, so Mr. Stephens made no motion.

A RESOLUTION

BY MR. STEPHENS NO 1921

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE COUNTYWIDE 9-1-1 SERVICES FINAL PLAN AS APPROVED BY THE COUNTYWIDE 9-1-1 PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE.

A copy of the resolution, having been placed on the desks of each member of Council prior to introduction, was read by title.

Mr. Stephens explained that each county in Ohio is required to develop and implement a plan for the operation of coordinated 9-1-1 services throughout the county. The plan is subject to periodic review and updating, as well as a statutory approval process. That process begins with the six-member Countywide 9-1-1 Program Review Committee. Any updates must be further approved by the Board of County Commissioners as well as municipalities and townships making up at least 60% of the county's population.

The 9-1-1 Program Review Committee recently approved an updated Final Plan for the operation of 9-1-1 services in Montgomery County. They have sent it to all Montgomery County municipalities and townships, as well as the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners, for review and approval. Once approved, it will be filed with the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office.

This resolution will formalize Oakwood's approval of the plan, allowing it to be submitted to the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office in time to meet an April filing deadline.

Thereupon, it was moved by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Vice Mayor Byington that the resolution be passed.

Upon call of the roll on the question of the motion, the following vote was recorded:

MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....	YEA
MR. STEVEN BYINGTON	YEA
MR. ROBERT P. STEPHENS	YEA
MRS. LEIGH TURBEN	YEA
MRS. HEALY JACKSON.....	YEA

STAFF REPORT

Engineering Department Presentation: City Engineer Chris Kuzma, P.E., referenced a PowerPoint presentation and updated Council on the following current and upcoming projects: Far Hills Storm Sewer Reconstruction Project; 2024 Sidewalk, Curb, and Apron Program; ODOT Urban Paving Program (Far Hills Repaving); Concrete Street Repair Program; Public Works Yard Improvements; Fiber Optic Line to Smith Gardens; and GIS/Utility Mapping.

The Far Hills Storm Sewer Reconstruction Project is one of the largest city projects in several years. There has been a lot of construction activity along Far Hills Avenue to improve portions of the stormwater infrastructure before repaving the roadway this summer.

The total budget of the storm sewer project is \$2,108,394. The remaining budget for work not yet completed is \$1,039,733.

Mr. Kuzma displayed project maps for design work and progression. The work along Far Hills Avenue is approximately 67% complete and the remaining work should be done by around April 1. Once the storm sewers are replaced, the flooding during heavy rainfall events will be alleviated. He then displayed images from different phases of the project.

Kinnison Excavating crews completed the majority of storm sewer construction along Devereux Drive (Phase 2,) including the main sewer trunk line and most of the storm sewer inlets along the road. Backfilling with gravel was completed. Devereux Drive remains closed to through traffic to prepare for sanitary sewer replacement and full reconstruction of the roadway in the coming weeks. Access to the construction site along Far Hills Avenue from Devereux Drive may still be necessary for the remainder of Phase 2.

Scheduled to begin on March 18, traffic along Far Hills Avenue will shift to the northbound lanes between Oakwood High School and Forrer Road/Forrer Boulevard. Side streets within this zone will be restricted to right-in/right-out-only access. This shift will expedite Kinnison's work along Far Hills Avenue, allowing Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to repave the road later this spring or early summer. The traffic shift is expected to remain in place for about two weeks, weather permitting.

In the final phase of the project, Kinnison Excavating will shift focus to replacing the storm sewer along Forrer Boulevard from Far Hills Avenue through the triangular boulevard at E. Schantz Avenue (Phase 3.) Work on Forrer Boulevard is anticipated to begin at the end of March or early April.

The 2024 Sidewalk, Curb and Driveway Apron Repair Project will take place in the Far Hills Business District, with a focus on the cruise lanes. The project received four bids and was awarded to A to Z Property Maintenance LLC at an estimated cost of \$316,215. Sidewalks and other concrete structures requiring repair will soon be marked and property owners will be notified in April of their responsibilities.

The entire asphalt roadway surface along Far Hills Avenue (SR 48) will be removed and replaced from the south to the north corporation lines in the city of Oakwood. The Ohio Department of Transportation Urban Paving Program will provide 80% of the funding for this resurfacing project. This roadway was last resurfaced in 2011. The project is anticipated to begin late spring or early summer.

Concrete street repairs will be made to Raleigh Road and Grandon Road to enhance the structural integrity of the roadways. The work is expected to begin this summer or early fall. Mr. Kuzma displayed photos of the patchwork along Raleigh Road and Grandon Road.

There are a few improvement projects planned this year for the Public Works Center. The salt dome will be replaced with an expanded poly fabric structure. A storage facility will be added for the smoke safety trailer that is used by the Public Safety Department. This facility will also store items for the Oakwood Rotary hazmat disposal program and other materials.

The fiber optic line from the city building at 30 Park Avenue will be extended to Smith Gardens to service security cameras and telephones. The work should be minimally invasive. The project is currently out to bid.

Mr. Kuzma explained that he has been building the Geographical Information System (GIS) to provide digital data mapping for the city of Oakwood and the general public. This data accurately maps the city's water distribution infrastructure, stormwater infrastructure, sanitary sewer infrastructure, street lights, roads, signage and many other items.

Mr. Stephens asked if the current salt dome will be removed and replaced with a new one.

Mr. Kuzma answered yes.

Mr. Stephens asked if there will be shift in traffic at Forrer Boulevard.

Mr. Kuzma explained that the traffic along Far Hills Avenue will shift to the northbound side at Forrer Boulevard.

Mr. Stephens asked how long the repaving of Far Hills Avenue took back in 2011.

Mr. Klopsch shared that the project took about three weeks. He noted that with the RTA trolley system gone, the trucks will not have to work through the interference this system created which will speed up the project.

Mayor Duncan commented that the historical records for underground infrastructure were maintained manually. The new digital data mapping will provide for high-accuracy data collection and storage.

Mr. Kuzma agreed.

Council thanked Mr. Kuzma for his report.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS – Mr. Klopsch reported on the following:

Mr. Klopsch reflected on various city projects during his 30+ years of employment with the city. Regardless of the size of a community, there is an endless amount of work required to maintain the public infrastructure.

The April/May *Oakwood Scene* newsletter will be delivered at the end of March to every household in Oakwood. This newsletter contains information on the leaf mulch program, Oakwood Rotary hazardous waste pickup, income tax filings, the annual perennial sale, and many other items. The newsletter is a great resource for the community.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mrs. Jackson commented on a series of listening sessions sponsored by "Welcome Dayton" to bring immigrants and local people together to mingle and connect. They are also hosting an International Women's Day celebration on Saturday, March 9 at the downtown Dayton library. Mrs. Jackson encouraged women of all ages to attend. She closed her comments by encouraging Oakwood citizens to reach out to families living in our community who have family members living in war zone areas and express their concern for loved ones.

Mrs. Turben reminded everyone that Monday, April 8 is a total solar eclipse from around 2:45 – 3:45 p.m. People are welcome to visit Katharine Wright Park at the library to watch the eclipse. She then shared a story from the last solar eclipse event where she met a fellow Oakwood resident in Tennessee.

Mr. Stephens thanked the Oakwood citizens and people passing through from other communities for their patience with the construction work along Far Hills Avenue.

Vice Mayor Byington thanked Wright Library staff and ambassadors for attending the council meeting and for the solar eclipse glasses. He reminded everyone that Tuesday, March 19 is Election Day and encouraged everyone to vote.

Mayor Duncan encouraged everyone to support the city's property tax levy on the March 19 ballot.

The public meeting concluded at 8:23 p.m.



MAYOR

ATTEST:



CLERK OF COUNCIL