MINUTES OAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION JULY 7, 2025

The Council of the City of Oakwood, Ohio, met in a work session on Monday, July 7, 2025, in the conference room at the city building, 30 Park Avenue. The Mayor, William Duncan, presided.

Council members in attendance were Mayor William Duncan, Vice Mayor Steve Byington, Rob Stephens, Leigh Turben, and Healy Jackson. Staff members were City Manager Katie Smiddy and City Attorney Rob Jacques. Also attending for a portion of the meeting were Public Works Director Doug Spitler and City Engineer Chris Kuzma.

Mayor Duncan called the work session to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Kuzma and Mr. Spitler updated Council on several ongoing projects, including: the Caton Drive water main replacement; construction of a new salt dome at the Public Works facility; the connection of fiber optic cabling to Smith Gardens; concrete street repairs; filter media upgrade at the Iron-Manganese water plant; "clear well" water project; and water tower improvements.

Peggy Finke joined the meeting at 6:25 p.m. as an observer.

Mr. Kuzma and Mr. Spitler departed at 6:40 p.m.

Mayor Duncan then reviewed the agenda for the regular session this evening and led a discussion on the following agenda items:

- STATUS REPORTS: None scheduled.
- VISITORS: None scheduled.
- LEGISLATION:
 - o A Resolution to participate in a Natural Gas Aggregation Program, Mrs. Turben
 - o A Resolution Approving the Merger Plan of the Miami Valley Communications Council, Mr. Stephens
 - A Resolution to authorize and direct the Director of Finance to certify certain delinquent charges for cutting noxious weeds and nuisance plant material to the County Auditor for collection, Mr. Stephens
 - o A Resolution to continue emergency management services in conjunction with the Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management, Mayor Duncan
 - o A Resolution opposing House Bill 335, Mayor Duncan

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- o Business Districts' Liaison, Mrs. Turben
- o Community Relations/Promotion/Appointments, Mayor Duncan
- o Court Liaison, Mrs. Turben
- o Finance, Vice Mayor Byington
- o Law & Minutes, Mrs. Jackson
- o Planning & Zoning, Vice Mayor Byington
- o Public Properties, Mrs. Turben
- o Public Utilities/Waterworks/Sewer, Mrs. Turben
- o Safety & Traffic, Mr. Stephens
- o Streets & Alleys, Mr. Stephens
- o Community Relations/Promotion/Appointments, Mayor Duncan

REGIONAL AGENCIES

- o MVCC, Mr. Stephens
- o MVRPC, Vice Mayor Byington
- o Mayors & Managers, Mayor Duncan
- o First Suburbs, Vice Mayor Byington

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

- o Planning Commission, Vice Mayor Byington
- o Beautification Committee, Mr. Stephens
- o Sister City Association, Mrs. Turben
- o Historical Society, Mrs. Jackson
- o Board of Health, Mayor Duncan

MISCELLANEOUS

- O Mrs. Smiddy discussed the upcoming contract renewal for Miami Valley Communication Council's electricity aggregation program. It appears that the selected bidder may not accept communities on an "opt-in" basis. Council discussed the merits of opt-in versus opt-out participation and decided to continue opt-in, even if it means not renewing our participation in the program.
- o Mrs. Smiddy updated Council on her recent meeting with the Beautification Committee.

At 7:05 p.m., Mayor Duncan adjourned the work session to convene the special session. The work session resumed at 7:15 p.m.

- o Mrs. Smiddy updated Council on the status of the Public Works/Leisure Services organizational assessment.
- Mayor Duncan inquired about private landscapers working on city boulevards. Mrs. Smiddy noted that due to issues with staff turnover and weather, Liapis Landscaping is assisting the City on a short-term basis.
- o Mr. Jacques provided Council with an update on the vacant land just north of the entrance to Pointe Oakwood. He was recently contacted by a realtor looking for information about the property's zoning. A prospective buyer may have interest in a residential townhome project on the site.
- O Mayor Duncan noted that he and Mrs. Smiddy have scheduled a meeting in the near future with representatives of Kettering Health Network. They will be discussing the future of the building at 2600 Far Hills Avenue.

At 7:25 p.m., Mayor Duncan adjourned the work session, and Council moved to regular session.

William D Throm-

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council