

CITY OF OAKWOOD
SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

The Council of the city of Oakwood, State of Ohio, met in a work session at 6:30 p.m. in the large classroom at the Oakwood Community Center (OCC), 105 Patterson Road, Oakwood, Ohio, 45419. Council then met in a regular session at 7:30 p.m., in the Great Room of the Oakwood Community Center.

The Mayor, Mr. William Duncan, presided, and the Clerk of Council, Ms. Lori Stacel, recorded.

Mayor Duncan opened the meeting by asking all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Duncan reported that City Council is present in the Great Room of the Oakwood Community Center while following facial covering protocols and respecting social distancing guidelines. All persons entering and leaving the OCC must wear a face covering. Once you are seated, you may remove your mask if you so desire. If you wish to speak to Council from the podium, you should wear the mask on your way to and from the podium, but may remove the mask while at the podium.

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

- MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....PRESENT
- MR. STEVEN BYINGTONPRESENT
- MR. ROBERT P. STEPHENS.....PRESENT
- MRS. ANNE S. HILTON.....PRESENT
- MR. CHRISTOPHER B. EPLEYPRESENT

Officers of the City present were the following:

- Mr. Norbert S. Klopsch, City Manager
- Ms. Carol Collins, Leisure Services Director
- Mrs. Cindy Stafford, Finance Director
- Chief Alan Hill, Public Safety Director
- Ms. Lori Stacel, Clerk of Council

The following visitors registered:

- Oakwood Public Safety Captain Mike Jones
- Oakwood Public Safety Lieutenant Damian Baggett
- Oakwood Public Safety Officer Steve Norris
- Oakwood Public Safety Officer Rob Wilson
- Oakwood Public Safety Officer Greg Ortel
- Mr. Brian Barr, *Oakwood Register*
- Friends and Family of Dr. Darrell Apt:
 - Cynthia & Dick Robinson
 - Lisa Apt
 - Jerry Apt
 - Evan Apt
 - Brendan Apt
 - Scott Apt
 - Darrin & Molly Goudy
 - Mary-Kate Reed
 - Timothy Reed
 - Bill Collins
 - Jay & Ann Weiskircher
 - Vicki Gerhardt
 - Scott & Christy Martin
 - Evan Brooks & Kyra Wasson
 - Kelly Parisi
 - Wayne Furay
 - Sandy Clifton
 - Jodi Clifton
 - Clara Brooks
 - Emmett Brooks
 - Amanda Cline
 - Katy Dalrymple
 - Polly & Bob Page
 - Judy Cook
 - Brian Caldwell
 - Mike Kelly

Mrs. Hilton advised Council she had read the meeting minutes of the July 20, 2020 regular session and the August 24, 2020 work session. Mrs. Hilton reported that she found the minutes correct and complete. Therefore, it was moved by Mrs. Hilton and seconded by Mr. Stephens that the minutes of the session 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

Auditor of State Award – Mayor Duncan reported that the Oakwood Finance Department was again awarded the Auditor of State Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting. He shared that the Auditor of State’s office audits more than 6,000 state and local government agencies. Entities that receive this award must meet a number of criteria in addition to qualifying for a “clean” audit report. Mayor Duncan invited Finance Director Cindy Stafford, CPA to speak about receiving this award.

Mrs. Stafford thanked and recognized members of the Oakwood Finance Department for all of their hard work. She added that this award not only represents the hard work of all city employees, but also City Council in overseeing the use of public resources.

Mayor Duncan thanked Finance Director Cindy Stafford for her outstanding leadership, professionalism, and commitment to fiscal integrity and financial transparency. He then asked Mrs. Stafford to relay City Council’s appreciation to the Oakwood Finance Department.

Recognition of Oakwood Patrol Officer Claude McCormick – Mayor Duncan invited Chief Hill, along with Lieutenant Damian Baggett and Public Safety Officer Greg Ortel, to comment on the only known line-of-duty death in the Oakwood Public Safety Department.

Chief Hill shared that a fatal on-duty accident involving Patrol Officer Claude McCormick was recently brought to the Oakwood Public Safety Department’s attention. Research found that Officer McCormick was never formally memorialized on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Wall. Oakwood Public Safety Officers dedicated themselves to ensure that Officer McCormick’s line-of-duty death be properly recognized. Chief Hill shared that it is only fitting that the council meeting tonight be held at the Oakwood Community Center because Officer McCormick lived in the upstairs apartment here at 105 Patterson Road. He explained that the recognition of Officer Claude McCormick being added to the National Law Enforcement Memorial was to be included in the annual Montgomery County Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony, but due to COVID-19, the event was cancelled. In lieu of the traditional event, the organization conducted a “Cruiser of Lights Caravan”. Chief Hill recognized Carl Suchomel with Miami Valley Communications Council (MVCC) for recording the “Cruiser of Lights Caravan.” He then invited Lieutenant Damian Baggett and Public Safety Officer (PSO) Greg Ortel to provide additional information.

PSO Greg Ortel shared that Officer McCormick served in the department in the 1930’s. The Oakwood Public Safety Department was made aware of Officer McCormick’s death during a local FOP meeting. He was involved in a motorcycle accident at Far Hills and Harman, suffering a head injury. PSO Rob Wilson began the efforts in researching the accident to ensure that Officer McCormick’s line-of-duty death was properly recognized.

Lieutenant Damian Baggett referenced a PowerPoint presentation and shared that Claude McCormick was born on August 15, 1888 in Atlanta, Missouri, to Patrick and Mollie McCormick. In 1911, just two years before the Great Flood, Mr. Claude McCormick and his wife Maude (Anna) moved to Dayton, Ohio. Claude McCormick served in the United States Army from November 1917 until his honorable discharge in March 1919.

Patrol Officer Claude McCormick joined the Oakwood Public Safety Department in 1930, and served the city of Oakwood as a motorcycle patrolman. At that time, he lived in an upstairs apartment at 105 Patterson Road. On August 29, 1933, while serving the Oakwood community, Officer McCormick was involved in a fatal on-duty accident on Far Hills Avenue at Harman Avenue. Officer McCormick is the only line-of-duty death in the Oakwood Public Safety Department. He was laid to rest at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. After further research was conducted, it was determined that Officer McCormick has no known descendants.

Peace Officers Memorial Day and Police Week is an observance in the United States that pays tribute to the local, state, and federal peace officers who have died, or who have been disabled, in the line of duty. It is celebrated on May 15th of each year. In 1982, the first memorial services to remember line-of-duty deaths inflicted on those who serve the law enforcement profession occurred. Currently, Police Week draws between 25,000 and 40,000 in Washington D.C.

The National Police Officer Memorial is located in Washington, D.C. at Judiciary Square. The following message is mirrored in the water of the memorial's reflecting pool: "This memorial is dedicated to all law enforcement officers in the United States of America. Inscribed on these walls are the names of those men and women who died in the line-of-duty." Bronze lion statues stand at the entrance and exit of the memorial. The lions represent the strength, courage, and valor of law enforcement officers and they symbolize the protective role they play. The memorial contains more than 21,000 names dating back to 1786, and new names are added each year during National Police Week. On May 13, 2020, Patrol Officer Claude McCormick's name was forever memorialized on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Wall.

Lt. Baggett closed his presentation by playing a video of the May 15, 2020 "Cruiser of Lights Caravan" coordinated by the Montgomery County Law Enforcement Memorial. The event included a parade of local police department vehicles traveling to the cities of Oakwood (to recognize Officer Claude McCormick), Dayton (to recognize Detective Jorge Del Rio) and to Dayton Children's Hospital (to pay tribute to the children who are hospitalized, and the medical and hospital staff).

Mayor Duncan thanked the Oakwood Public Safety Department for going above and beyond to recognize Officer Claude McCormick. He noted that Oakwood City Council holds the Public Safety Department in very high esteem, and the Council appreciates the department's efforts more than ever.

Lieutenant Baggett commented that the Oakwood Public Safety Department appreciates the City's support.

Chief Hill thanked Lieutenant Baggett and PSO Ortel for honoring Officer McCormick by getting his name added to the National Memorial.

Oakwood Public Safety Officer Overcomes COVID-19 – Mayor Duncan invited Chief Hill to recognize an Oakwood Public Safety Officer who overcame COVID-19.

Chief Hill reported that Oakwood Public Safety Officer (PSO) Steve Norris was one of the first two people in the Dayton area to donate plasma after testing positive for COVID-19 in March 2020. He shared how PSO Norris became ill on March 13, 2020 and was the fourth person tested for coronavirus in Montgomery County when the testing site was opened at UD. After recovering from coronavirus, PSO Norris helped others battling symptoms of COVID-19 by donating plasma. Plasma from recovered patients has virus-fighting antibodies, which can be used to help people battling symptoms of COVID-19. Chief Hill shared that he would like to show a video that was originally aired on May 11, 2020, on Spectrum News 1. Spectrum News 1 is a Columbus-based cable news station operated by Charter Communications, and they have graciously given Oakwood permission to show the video at this public meeting and to link the video on the City's website. He shared that when this video was taken, PSO Norris' wife, Terra, was very ill from coronavirus. The Norris family endured many challenges to overcome coronavirus.

After playing the video, Chief Hill shared that Public Safety Officer Norris recently received a Master's Degree in Ministry. Many men and women enter the law enforcement profession to serve and protect with professionalism and integrity.

Chief Hill closed his comments by presenting PSO Norris with a recognition award plaque. The inscribed text on the plaque reads:

Recognition Award

*Presented to
Officer Steve Norris*

*In Recognition of Your Dedication and Commitment to
Helping Others During the Initial Outbreak of the COVID-19 Pandemic*

September 21, 2020

Mayor Duncan thanked Officer Norris for his actions and thanked Spectrum News 1 for granting the City permission to rebroadcast this video. He encouraged people to tune in to Spectrum News 1 for local news and information.

Mayor Duncan introduced a resolution to honor Dr. S. Darrell Apt and invited Director of Leisure Services Carol Collins to say a few words about her late husband.

Ms. Collins thanked everyone for attending the meeting to recognize Darrell. She introduced family members in the audience. Ms. Collins shared that her husband, Dr. S. Darrell Apt, was a wonderful person. He was the love of her life and she was fortunate to be with him for almost 25 years. He was an inspiration to others and was compassionate about life. Dr. Apt was always willing to help others, especially his little furry friends, and lend a helping hand. He loved THE Ohio State University, where he was an All-American lacrosse player, and graduated from OSU's College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Apt loved the city of Oakwood and Smith Gardens. Ms. Collins commented that Dr. Apt's spirit was with us this evening as his life is being celebrated. She shared that in his loving memory, the two memorial benches displayed at the meeting will be placed at Smith Gardens. Ms. Collins thanked City Council and City Manager Klopsch for this tribute to Dr. Apt.

Mayor Duncan then read the following resolution, adding that a slideshow will be presented as he reads:

A RESOLUTION
BY MAYOR DUNCAN NO 1876
TO HONOR THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF
DR. S. DARRELL APT II, DVM
TO THE CITY OF OAKWOOD

WHEREAS, Dr. S. Darrell Apt passed away on Thursday, March 19, 2020, and Council wishes to honor his life and community contributions with this Resolution of sincere appreciation; and

WHEREAS, Darrell Apt was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan in 1931, received his undergraduate degree from The Ohio State University in 1955, and in 1957 he received a DVM in Veterinary Medicine from OSU; and

WHEREAS, Darrell Apt was a stalwart and lifelong fan and supporter of The Ohio State University; and

WHEREAS, while a student at Ohio State, Darrell Apt was one of the pioneers in OSU Men's Lacrosse, for which he was publically honored in the Ohio Stadium "Horseshoe" in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Darrell Apt excelled in the rigorous sport of lacrosse, was captain of the OSU team, and led the team to several winning years; and

WHEREAS, following veterinarian school, Dr. Apt opened his own practice, Apt Veterinary Clinic, and for over 45 years lovingly and compassionately cared for thousands of pets throughout Oakwood and the Dayton Region; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Apt treasured his city of Oakwood and was a dedicated member of the Oakwood community for several decades, providing volunteer public service in numerous capacities, including:

- *Member of the Oakwood Board of Health from 1978 – 1985.*
- *Member of the Oakwood Environmental Committee, now called the Oakwood Beautification Committee, from 1994 until his passing, many of those years as the committee chair. As committee member and chair, Dr. Apt was heavily involved with the annual Property Beautification Awards Program.*
- *Chair of the Friends of Smith Gardens Committee.*
- *Member of the 2004 City Comprehensive Planning Committee.*

WHEREAS, Dr. Apt was particularly devoted to Smith Gardens and demonstrated this devotion through his diligent work as chair of The Garden Committee that was charged with public relations and fundraising for "The Greening of Smith Gardens"; and

WHEREAS, as a veterinarian, Dr. Apt assisted the Oakwood Public Safety Department on many occasions over the years when the department responded to calls regarding wounded or dangerous pets and wild animals, with much of this assistance being provided late at night and on weekends; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Apt will be fondly remembered as a man known for his kindness and an ever present sense of humor, and as a dedicated volunteer in the Oakwood community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAKWOOD, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION I.

The Council of the City of Oakwood accords special public recognition to the life and service of Dr. S. Darrell Apt II, and to the many contributions he made to our Oakwood community.

Mayor Duncan invited former Mayor Judy Cook to say a few words. Mrs. Cook read the following statement:

"If someone asked me to describe the ideal Oakwood citizen, my thoughts would turn to memories of Darrell Apt. He was a man that treasured Oakwood and responded by participating and giving back. He began serving Oakwood as a member of the Oakwood Board of Health in 1978. It was an avocation he continued the rest of his life. At the time of his death he was still a member of the Oakwood Beautification Committee. Darrell not only served, but he served well. I remember his time on the important Comprehensive Planning Commission. He attended meetings and came prepared. It is a pattern he repeated throughout all his years and variety of service.

One of Darrell's special commitments was his role as Chairman of the Friends of Smith Gardens Committee. This was a lengthy and challenging assignment. The Committee was a delightful, successful group of people who campaigned for enhancement of our community treasure, Smith Gardens. Under Darrell's leadership, funds were raised to finance the master plan improvements, including the lovely garden house we enjoy today. These were happy times. Typically, Darrell always made sure we had fun together while we worked.

Of course, some people knew Darrell as their pet's doctor. Along with being a very respected veterinarian, he was immensely popular. Everyone knew that all medical treatments were given with a dose of love. You know, it was well known that Darrell spoke to the animals. I always suspected that they talked back and Darrell knew exactly what they were saying.

During the last few years of his life, Darrell struggled with physical limits. He never allowed them to diminish his spirit. With the help and support of his ever-present wife, Carol Collins, Darrell lived each day to its fullest and looked forward to the next. I share a church membership with Darrell. Every Sunday, if at all possible, Darrell was there participating in the life of the church. He was loved and admired by his church family. Darrell was a source of inspiration to all of us.

Darrell, by his example, taught many of us how to be a good citizen. He is no longer with us but the legacy he leaves creates a presence we treasure and will not forget. We are forever grateful for his contributions."

Ms. Collins closed her comments by thanking everyone for attending this evening to memorialize Dr. Apt and for their continued support.

Mayor Duncan noted that three former Oakwood employees are present this evening. They are former City Manager Mike Kelly, former Assistant City Manager Jay Weiskircher and former Leisure Services Program Supervisor Vicki Gerhardt.

VISITORS – There were no visitors wishing to address City Council.

LEGISLATION

A RESOLUTION
BY VICE MAYOR BYINGTON NO 1877
A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS
DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND
AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING
THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.

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

Vice Mayor Byington explained that each tax year, the Montgomery County Budget Commission is required to certify its determination of the millage rates and amounts the City will receive from its existing property tax levies. For 2020 – 2021, the Budget Commission has determined that Oakwood will receive \$1,131,795 from inside-millage and \$1,523,751 from outside-millage tax levies. These figures are consistent with the City's projections.

This is the annual resolution to accept the county's determination.

Thereupon, it was moved by Vice Mayor Byington and seconded by Mrs. Hilton 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. ANNE S. HILTON.....	YEA
MR. CHRISTOPHER EPLEY.....	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 4918

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 521.12, PLACING SNOW ON PUBLIC STREETS OR DEBRIS ON PAVED STREETS, OF THE OAKWOOD GENERAL OFFENSES CODE, TO EXPAND THE PROHIBITION THEREOF TO APPLY TO SIDEWALKS AND OTHER PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY.

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 ordinance to update an existing provision of Oakwood's General Offenses Code. It has always been unlawful to place snow, grass clippings, or other debris in public rights-of-way. However, the City has experienced issues with contractors doing line clearance work for utility companies, who trim street trees, sometimes leaving limbs and branches in large piles along the tree lawns and sidewalks. In some instances, these piles have blocked pedestrian traffic along the sidewalks.

The updated ordinance being introduced makes it clear that "debris" includes limbs and tree trimmings, and expands the prohibition to include both paved rights-of-way, such as sidewalks and streets, and unpaved rights-of-way, such as tree lawns. The ordinance retains an exception for homeowners who put ordinary yard debris out for refuse collection.

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

AN ORDINANCE

BY MR. STEPHENS

NO 4919

AN ORDINANCE TO ENACT NEW CHAPTER 907, VISIBILITY HAZARDS, OF THE OAKWOOD STREETS AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE.

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 Oakwood is a predominantly residential community and public safety is always a paramount concern. The City prides itself on the safety of its streets for drivers, cyclists, joggers, dog-walkers, and stroller-pushers.

As a local government with jurisdiction over public streets, the City has certain responsibilities to keep them free of obstructions and hazards. This includes things that block critical visibility. Oakwood Public Works and Leisure Services Departments routinely trim trees, bushes, and other vegetation near roadways to ensure that critical sightlines are kept open.

Occasionally, there are situations where sightlines are blocked by trees or vegetation growing on private property, adjacent to the street and outside the public right-of-way. In some cases, the City is able to trim as needed with the property owner's consent, but on rare occasions the property owner will not consent. This normally results in enforcement action under the City's Property Maintenance Code, which can involve a lengthy court process before the safety hazard is finally addressed.

The ordinance being introduced will create a streamlined mechanism to deal with these situations more quickly and effectively. It will allow the City to provide written notice to the property owner when trimming needs to be done, which will be based on objective traffic engineering standards promulgated by the Ohio Department of Transportation. The property owner can then

choose whether to do the work himself or herself, or allow the City to perform the work. It also provides an appeal process in the event of a disagreement as to whether the work is necessary.

The goal of this ordinance is to establish a clear procedure that protects private property rights and affords due process to residents, while acknowledging the reality that safety concerns need to be addressed quickly.

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

AN ORDINANCE
BY VICE MAYOR BYINGTON NO 4920
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION I, 2020 ORIGINAL
APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 4897 AND SUPPLEMENTAL
APPROPRIATION ORDINANCES NO. 4912 AND 4917 TO PROVIDE
FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF:

- 1. AN ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF \$64,330.87 TO BE EXPENDED FROM THE LOCAL CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND TO COVER COSTS CONSISTENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 5001 OF THE CARES ACT;

FOR THE CITY OF OAKWOOD, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020.

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

Vice Mayor Byington explained that this is a supplemental appropriation ordinance to address coronavirus reimbursement funding the City is eligible to receive under the federal CARES Act. Council adopted a similar ordinance in July when the City learned that the city of Oakwood was eligible to receive up to \$128,661.73 in CARES Act funding. Oakwood’s eligibility has now been increased by \$64,330.87, for a total of \$192,992.60 in CARES Act funding. Council is required to adopt a supplemental appropriation ordinance in order to use that money.

Under Section 3.04 of the City Charter, this appropriation ordinance will take effect immediately.

Thereupon, it was moved by Vice Mayor Byington and seconded by Mr. Epley that the second reading be waived and that the ordinance be passed tonight.

Mayor Duncan noted that four yes votes are required in order to waive the second reading of the ordinance. He explained that these funds can only be spent on qualified COVID-19 expenses.

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. ANNE S. HILTON.....YEA
- MR. CHRISTOPHER EPLEY.....YEA

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

AN ORDINANCE
BY VICE MAYOR BYINGTON NO 4921
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO
MAKE AMENDED ENTRIES WITHIN THE FINANCIAL RECORDS
OF THE CITY TO REFLECT THE RECENT ESTABLISHMENT OF
THE LOCAL CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND; AND TO DECLARE
AN EMERGENCY.

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

Vice Mayor Byington explained that the CARES Act, which was adopted in March, made federal coronavirus relief funding available to the states. Subsequently in June, Ohio adopted legislation to establish a procedure for making those CARES Act funds available to municipalities.

The Ohio procedure requires each municipality to establish a fund known as the Local Coronavirus Relief Fund, and to run all qualified reimbursable expenses through that fund. Council adopted legislation to establish that fund in July. However, reimbursement funding is available for qualified expenses made between March 1, 2020, and December 30, 2020, which means some of our qualified expenses were made via other city accounting funds prior to the establishment of our Local Coronavirus Relief Fund.

In order to seek reimbursement, all of the City's qualified coronavirus expenditures need to be consolidated within the Local Coronavirus Relief Fund. Council believes it is fiscally prudent to ensure that Oakwood qualifies for the maximum reimbursement for which the City is eligible. The ordinance being introduced will authorize the Finance Director to make the necessary adjustments to the City's financial records. This ordinance is being introduced as an emergency measure so it will take effect immediately, ensuring that these adjustments are made in a timely fashion to allow the City to pursue its full CARES Act reimbursement.

Thereupon, it was moved by Vice Mayor Byington and seconded by Mrs. Hilton that the ordinance be passed as an emergency measure so that it can take effect as soon as possible before this funding is received, with no second reading required.

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
MR. CHRISTOPHER EPLEY.....	YEA

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

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Mr. Klopsch provided an update on the following:

He thanked the Oakwood community for their extra efforts in respecting the protocols in place during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Klopsch also thanked city staff for continuing to work and provide essential services through the pandemic.

The October/November *Oakwood Scene* newsletter will have an article about Halloween. The article states that a decision will be made in early October on safety protocols for Halloween and trick or treating. Oakwood city staff will be working with local government officials to develop a unified plan.

Mr. Klopsch thanked Finance Director Cindy Stafford and the Finance Department for their hard work and successful 2019 audit. He also thanked Chief Hill for leading the safety department during this difficult time, and Leisure Services Director Carol Collins and Program Supervisor Karen Earley for putting in the extra work to open Gardner Pool and by offering creative summer activities.

Mr. Klopsch closed his comments with two stories about Dr. Apt. Like many others, Mr. Klopsch witnessed Dr. Apt's compassion for animals through his veterinary office. He was a wonderful man who found the right profession. Mr. Klopsch recalled going to his first Ohio State Buckeyes football game in 2006 with Dr. Apt. Although he did not recall what team OSU played that day, he was "certain" that Ohio State won the game.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Stephens shared that he enjoyed greeting and directing the cars that attended Oakwood's Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 30. The event had a good turnout and it was great to see so many families drive through. Mr. Stephens also shared some memories of Dr. Apt noting that he was always fun to be around and that it was an honor to know him. Mr. Stephens then thanked the Oakwood Public Safety Department for the wonderful work they do on a daily basis. He noted that Oakwood City Council continues to support them.

Vice Mayor Byington commended Finance Director Cindy Stafford on another successful audit. He stated that the videos displayed this evening and presentations made show just how special of a place Oakwood is. The outpouring of love and support for Darrell Apt, and the efforts that were made to memorialize Officer McCormick make him proud.

Mayor Duncan stated that we received two letters from citizens that he would like to read recognizing the Leisure Services Department. He read the first letter:

"I wanted to commend the Oakwood Community Center on providing a safe and fun environment for our family this past summer. My children participated in the Kiddie Kamps, Camp Shafors, Tennis Lessons and Beginner Golf, and as a family we all enjoyed going to the pool all summer long.

With so many camps and events cancelled, we were very grateful that the OCC had many offerings that appealed to our children and they had an absolute blast!

A huge thank you to the OCC staff for not "cancelling summer" and working hard to keep our kids safe and active this summer!"

He then read the second letter:

"As this most unusual summer draws to a close, I want to thank you and the City of Oakwood for supporting our favorite summer activity, swimming at our beloved Gardner Memorial Swimming Pool. In the spring as Covid-19 increased and fear with it, we watched communities cancel their community pool seasons. Instead, Oakwood Community Center developed an approach that allowed the pool to open. We were so thankful!

The swim season has been a great success for swimmers of all ages! We have observed the kids enjoy a normal, good time with little risk to their health. Lap swimmers have enjoyed their time for regular swimming, as well. The program, with fixed time periods and limited numbers of swimmers in each period, allowed many, but not too many, members to swim safely. The online reservation system managed by Karen Early with the excellent OCC staff was easy to use. Once we learned how to navigate the system, we could find available swim times on most days.

We have thanked the OCC Staff numerous times for their work to allow a lovely summer at the pool. It seemed that we should thank you, and the city, for your support for a program that truly was a highlight of the season for so many Oakwood residents.

Mayor Duncan shared that he had the honor of congratulating Richard Back on the occasion of his 100th birthday and issuing a proclamation declaring September 15, 2020 as Allen Richard Back day.

Mayor Duncan closed his comments by sharing that he mailed in his completed absentee ballot registration. He understands that there is a way to track the progress online, but he is curious to see how long the ballot will take to get back.

The public meeting concluded at 8:50 p.m.



MAYOR

ATTEST:



CLERK OF COUNCIL