

APRIL 6, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING

City Council met in public session on April 6, 2020. Here are the highlights.

Council meeting minutes were approved for the March 2 regular session, work session and executive session.

PROCLAMATION & RESOLUTION DECLARING STATE OF EMERGENCY

Mayor Bill Duncan reported that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the city council meeting format has been modified. Under Oakwood's Administrative Code, City Council has the option to appear by video or audio teleconference, which may need to be done for future meetings. City Council intends to participate in person as long as it can be done safely. The meeting is limited to essential attendees only including the five members of City Council, the City Manager, and the City Law Director who is also acting as the Clerk of Council. The meeting agenda has been streamlined to include essential business only. The meeting is physically closed to the public, but is being broadcast live on television and live-streamed on the City's website and the Miami Valley Communication Council's website. For those watching the meeting, contact information for City Council is being scrolled at the top of the television or computer screen. This information is also available on the City's website at www.oakwoodohio.gov. City Council is always open to hearing resident concerns and encourages residents to contact City Council or City Staff at any time. This pandemic may change procedures, but City Council will not let it interfere with responsiveness to resident concerns.

City Council approved a Resolution to approve the modified meeting format.

STATUS REPORTS

- **Proclamations** – Mayor Bill Duncan recognized the month of April as “Fair Housing Month;” the week of April 20 as “Arbor Week;” and the month of May as “Motorcycle Awareness Month”.

LEGISLATION

Oakwood City Council approved the following legislation:

- An Ordinance to levy special assessments for the 2019 Sidewalk Repair Project.
- An Ordinance to Proceed with the 2020 Sidewalk Repair Project.
- An Ordinance to Proceed with the 2021 Street Lighting Program.
- An Ordinance to adopt a credit system from the Stormwater Utility for stormwater runoff reductions.
- An Ordinance to amend rental inspection requirements.
- An Ordinance to levy special assessments for Energy Special Improvement Districts.
- An Ordinance to amend 2020 appropriations to provide \$400,000 to acquire and prepare real estate for a storm sewer capital project.

Oakwood City Council conducted a first reading on the following legislation:

- An Ordinance to levy special assessments for the 2021 Street Lighting.
- An Ordinance adopting the 2021 tax budget.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

City Manager Norbert Klopsch shared that during these difficult and unprecedented times, Oakwood city staff is continuing to provide essential government public services such as water, sanitary sewer, refuse collection and disposal, and public safety services. He provided an overview on how city staff has responded to COVID-19 to ensure the safety of the Oakwood community, employees and the general public.

The annual leaf mulch program begins this Saturday, April 11. Mulch deliveries will take place on the five Saturdays from April 11 to May 9.

Leisure Services Director Carol Collins and her staff are able to work independently, following social distancing guidelines, to beautify our boulevards and city.

City staff will be working closely with roadway improvement contractors on the upcoming annual construction projects to make sure the social distancing guidelines are being followed. The sidewalk repair program has been delayed by four weeks. The other work will begin as soon as contractors are ready.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Councilmember Anne Hilton encouraged people to support local businesses.
- Councilmember Rob Stephens referenced the March 30 Proclamation and encouraged residents to participate in the daily “Oakwood Neighborly Salute.”
- Vice Mayor Steve Byington commended city staff for providing a sense of normalcy to the community by continuing to provide essential city services. He encouraged people to support local businesses.
- Mayor Bill Duncan thanked Oakwood resident Joe Hix for suggesting that American Flags be placed along Far Hills Avenue. The City has received a lot of positive feedback on the flags, so they will continue to be displayed as long as the national and state emergency is in existence. A local UPS driver, Aaron Hayline, suggested a community prayer. Mayor Duncan told Mr. Hayline that if he prepared a prayer, he would read it at the meeting. Mayor Duncan read the prayer that he prepared.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.