

MINUTES
OAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MARCH 15, 2021

The Council of the city of Oakwood, Ohio, met in a work session at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 15, 2021 in the council chambers of the city of Oakwood, 30 Park Avenue. The Mayor of the City, William Duncan, presided.

Council members in attendance were Mayor William Duncan, Vice Mayor Steve Byington, Councilmember Rob Stephens, Councilmember Anne Hilton and Councilmember Leigh Turben. Staff in attendance were City Manager Norbert Klopsch and City Attorney Rob Jacques. Also attending for a portion of the meeting were Public Safety Director Alan Hill, Personnel and Properties Director Jennifer Wilder, and attending via Zoom were Stefanie Campbell and John Hemmert with AES Ohio (formerly DP&L).

Mayor Duncan called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. and began by welcoming Stefanie Campbell and John Hemmert with AES Ohio.

Mrs. Campbell addressed Council about changes at DP&L. Since 2011, DP&L has been a part of the AES family, but had retained the DP&L name. On February 24, the company name was officially changed to AES Ohio to better reflect the innovative work that has been done as an energy company. While the name changed, the company remains dedicated to the community and the AES people continue to remain focused on providing customers personalized, reliable, affordable and seamless energy services. Mrs. Campbell added that March 19 will be her last day with the company. She has been an employee of DP&L for 12 years, and over those years has served as the company's ambassador to Oakwood. Mrs. Campbell then introduced John Hemmert. John has been with AES Ohio almost 15 years, and is currently the Manager of Customer Services. He is an Oakwood resident and will begin serving as the company's new ambassador to Oakwood. Mr. Hemmert greeted Council and expressed his pleasure in being appointed ambassador. Mayor Duncan asked if the DP&L Foundation will remain in place as currently structured and operated. Mrs. Campbell responded yes, and explained that the DP&L Foundation is a standalone organization and is not a part of AES Ohio.

Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Hemmert and Mrs. Wilder departed the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

At 5:26 p.m., Mayor Duncan called for a motion to go to executive session for security arrangements. Motion by Mr. Stephens; Second by Mrs. Hilton. Upon viva voce vote, motion passed and council entered executive session.

At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Duncan concluded the executive session for security arrangements, and Council moved back to work session. Chief Hill departed the meeting.

Mayor Duncan continued the work session by discussing the following items:

- COUNCIL COMMITTEES
 - Finance, Vice Mayor Byington
 - American Rescue Plan: Mr. Klopsch mentioned that Finance Director Cindy Stafford has started gathering information about the \$1.9 trillion federal program to determine how Oakwood will qualify for certain disbursements.

- Law & Minutes, Mrs. Hilton
 - H.B. 146 Prevailing Wage Law: Mr. Jacques summarized key parts of House Bill 146 and the implications for Oakwood if it passes. If H.B. 146 passes, prevailing wage laws would change in Ohio and local governments would have the power to decide if they wished to require payment of prevailing wages on public projects.
- Public Utilities/Waterworks/Sewer, Mrs. Turben
 - Recycling Facility: Mr. Klopsch noted that a grant application was submitted to the Montgomery County Solid Waste District (MCSWD) in connection with planned improvements at the Public Works Center. Based on feedback from MCSWD staff, it appears that a portion of the grant request will likely be awarded.
 - Private Fire Hydrants: Mr. Klopsch reported that city staff sent a letter on March 5 to the owners of the 16 private fire hydrants in Oakwood. The letter informed them of new requirements to ensure that city-approved hydrants are installed and are properly maintained. Mr. Klopsch met last week with three residents on Walnut Lane to discuss the requirements.
- Safety & Traffic, Mr. Stephens
 - Far Hills Sidewalk Railing: Mr. Klopsch shared that a section of railing was again damaged at the southeast corner of Far Hills and Patterson. The broken rail is removed and adjacent concrete restored. He explained staff's plan not to reinstall these two bollards and single rail panel. Mr. Stephens suggested that sidewalk markings be included in the area of removed rail encouraging children to stay safely behind the roadway curb.
- REGIONAL AGENCIES
 - MVCC, Mr. Stephens
 - Phase 2 Fiber Project: Mr. Klopsch reported that work on installing additional 288 strand fiber optic cable for the MVCC/MVECA ring started last week and will continue through June or so. This Phase 2 project will include installation of new underground fiber line through Oakwood along the route from Far Hills Avenue & East Drive, to Far Hills Avenue & Schantz Avenue, to Schantz Avenue & Kramer Road. The Oakwood work is expected to take place in May and June.
 - 20% Rebate: Mr. Stephens mentioned that the MVCC Board is planning to adopt a resolution to discontinue returning 20% of the annual franchise fee revenue to MVCC member cities. This action is needed to address financial shortfalls. The MVCC Board is hoping that the fiber ring will eventually begin generating new revenue to offset shrinking franchise fee revenue.
- BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
 - Historical Society, Mrs. Turben
 - Historical Marker Program: Mr. Klopsch mentioned resident concerns about a proposed marker at the Runnymede Playhouse site. Mrs. Turben commented that the Oakwood Historical Society plans to meet with all persons impacted by marker installations in hopes of garnering support for the project. Mr. Klopsch commented on the history of the "Hawthorn Hill Special Use Conditions and Restrictions". While the conditions and restrictions do not prohibit installation of a marker, Dayton History staff are continually mindful of how any action taken at Hawthorn Hill may impact the neighborhood.

- MISCELLANEOUS

- 2021 Committee Needs: Council discussed the list of 2021 citizen committee needs. Mayor Duncan will continue contacting proposed committee members to determine interest.
- State of Emergency: Mr. Klopsch commented on the Declaration of State of Emergency (Resolution No. 1871) that was adopted as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic on April 6, 2020. Mr. Jacques explained that the declaration allows the City to invoke certain emergency powers that may be critical to continue government operations. He noted that the resolution may be terminated at any time, but he recommends that the declaration continue until the State of Emergency is terminated at the state level and there is no longer a need for the City to collaborate with county or state emergency management agencies.

At 7:40 p.m., Mayor Duncan closed the work session and Council moved to executive session for personnel matters.

At 7:50 p.m., Mayor Duncan concluded the executive session for personnel matters and the meeting was adjourned.



Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk of Council