

FEBRUARY 1, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING

City Council met in public session on February 1, 2021. Here are the highlights.

Council meeting minutes were approved for the January 4, 2021 regular session, work session and executive session, January 12, 2021 executive session and January 20, 2021 executive session.

STATUS REPORTS

- Citizen Committee Appointments – City Council appointed the following Oakwood residents to citizen committees:

Andy Aidt to the Planning Commission; Kevin Hill to the Board of Zoning Appeals; Dr. Elizabeth Maimon to the Board of Health; John Jervis (Precinct A) Bill Frapwell (Precinct B), Yusaku Kawai (Precinct D), Ella Himes, Ellen Fodge, and Doug Kinsey (Precinct E), Chas Kidwell (Precinct F) and Pete Luther (Precinct G) to the Budget Review Committee; Arik Sherk to the Tax/Water & Sewer/Assembly Appeals Board; and William Stephens to the ADA Compliance Board.

LEGISLATION

Oakwood City Council approved the following legislation:

- An Ordinance to provide an appropriation from the Fire Insurance Trust Fund.

STAFF REPORT

- Public Safety Department Presentation: Chief Alan Hill, Public Safety Director, referenced a PowerPoint presentation and updated Council on the following topics: Crime Statistics; EMS Trends; Fire Trends; Personnel Changes; In-service Training Program; the Citizen Police Academy; and Ohio Collaborative.

RESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL MEMBER

Mayor Bill Duncan explained the actions that City Council has taken to address the pending council vacancy created by Councilmember Chris Epley being elected to a judicial position on the Second District Court of Appeals. Mr. Epley presented his resignation from Council, and the remaining four members voted unanimously to accept the resignation. The four remaining members then voted to appoint Mrs. Leigh Turben to the vacant seat. Mr. Jacques administered the Oath of Office.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

City Manager Norbert Klopsch provided an update on city staff continuing to provide essential government public services during the pandemic; the January 28 Oakwood Inclusion Coalition's (OIC) first general membership meeting; how the Public Works Department addressed the snow and ice conditions over the past weekend; and the 2021 budget book in the process of being finalized and that it will soon be available on the website.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Councilmember Leigh Turben thanked Council for the opportunity to serve on Oakwood City Council. She said that it is an honor and privilege to serve the Oakwood citizens.
- Councilmember Rob Stephens shared that it was an honor to serve with Judge-elect Epley over the past 6 ½ years. Mr. Stephens welcomed Mrs. Turben to City Council and said that he looks forward to working with her.
- Vice Mayor Steve Byington thanked all of the citizens who applied for the vacant council position. He commended Mrs. Jackson, an applicant who was in the audience, for everything she does for the community. He then congratulated Mr. Epley on being elected to Judge of the Second District Court of Appeals. He closed his comments by welcoming Mrs. Turben and stating that he is looking forward to working with her.
- Mayor Bill Duncan opined that Mr. Epley will be a great judge because he has the ability to look at both sides logically and without prejudice. He shared that Mrs. Turben has been active with the Oakwood Historical Society and was a member of the 35-member Budget Review Committee. He said that he looks forward to working with her. Mayor Bill Duncan shared that he officiated his first 2021 wedding ceremony. He noted that he does not charge for his services, but asks that a donation be made to the Oakwood Historical Society. He closed his comments by saying that he looks forward to continuing to serve the city of Oakwood.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.