

CITY OF OAKWOOD
STATE OF OHIO
APRIL 5, 2021

The Council of the city of Oakwood, State of Ohio, met in a work session and an executive session at 6:30 p.m. in the second floor training room of the city of Oakwood, 30 Park Avenue, Oakwood, Ohio, 45419. Council then met in a regular session at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers of the city of Oakwood.

City Council was present at City Hall for these meetings while respecting social distancing guidelines. Five staff members were present for the regular session and dispersed throughout the council chambers. The meeting was streamed live from the Oakwood city website, telecast live on Cable Access Channel 6 and was available via remote teleconferencing utilizing the Zoom.com platform.

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.

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

MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....	PRESENT
MR. STEVEN BYINGTON	ABSENT
MR. ROBERT P. STEPHENS.....	PRESENT
MRS. ANNE S. HILTON.....	PRESENT
MRS. LEIGH TURBEN	PRESENT

Officers of the City present were the following:

Mr. Norbert S. Klopsch, City Manager
Mr. Robert F. Jacques, City Attorney
Chief Alan Hill, Public Safety Director
Mr. Douglas Spitler, Engineering and Public Works Director
Ms. Lori Stacel, Clerk of Council

The following in-person visitors registered:

Mrs. Kristi Hale, Wright Memorial Public Library Director
Ms. Justine Bauer, Goodwill/Easter Seals Opioid Disposal Campaign

Attending via remote teleconference utilizing the Zoom.com platform were the following visitors:

Mr. Joe Fulford, Wright Library Board President
Mr. Robert Eling
Mr. Larry Cooper
Ms. Gail Dafler, Goodwill/Easter Seals

It was moved by Mayor Duncan and seconded by Mr. Stephens that the absence of Vice Mayor Byington be excused. Upon a viva voce vote on the question of the motion, same passed unanimously and it was so ordered.

Mrs. Hilton advised Council she had read the meeting minutes of the March 1, 2021 regular session, work session and executive session and the March 15, 2021 work session and executive session. Mrs. Hilton reported she found the minutes correct and complete. Therefore, it was moved by Mrs. Hilton and seconded by Mrs. Turben that the minutes of the sessions 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

Citizen Committee Appointments – Mayor Duncan presented the appointment of Don O'Connor to the Oakwood Board of Zoning Appeals.

It was moved by Mayor Duncan and seconded by Mr. Stephens that the aforementioned appointment be confirmed. Upon a viva voce vote on the question of the motion, same passed unanimously and it was so ordered.

Mayor Duncan noted that there are several other vacancies on the citizen committees. City Council and city staff are in the process of identifying citizen volunteers for appointment at the May 3 Council meeting.

Best Place to Live – Mayor Duncan read a commendation from the Ohio Senate recognizing the city of Oakwood as the “Best Place to Live in Ohio”.

“HONORING THE CITY OF OAKWOOD AS A BEST PLACE TO LIVE

On behalf of the members of the Senate of the 134th General Assembly of Ohio, we are pleased to commend the City of Oakwood on being selected as the number one Best Place to Live in Ohio by Niche.

Throughout its history, the City of Oakwood has been known for its residents' civic pride and willingness to work hard, and they have supported its economic well-being, its superior school district, and its beautiful parks, recreational facilities, and residential streets. Oakwood has given all those who call it home a reason to revel in their community, which has been nationally acclaimed for its charm and character.

The City of Oakwood has gained a reputation as an amiable and pleasant community, offering wonderful places to live and explore, and it has flourished in its efforts to achieve great progress. As a result, the city and all those who reside within it are afforded the opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of the past and to look forward to a future filled with promise.

Thus, it is with genuine applause that we congratulate the City of Oakwood as the Best Place to Live in Ohio and extend best wishes for the years to come.”

VISITORS

Wright Library Revitalization Project – Director Kristi Hale thanked the community for their overwhelming support of the levy that passed last year to fund the library revitalization project which will ensure that the physical building of the library can support its 5-star services for generations to come. It is a \$5.1 million-dollar project funded with 75% tax dollars and 25% philanthropic dollars.

Mrs. Hale referenced a PowerPoint presentation and briefed Council on the project.

The first phase of work in the lower level began in January. The repairs address HVAC, elevator, lighting, and other infrastructure needs. When completed, the lower level will house the children and teens area as well as audio-visual materials.

The second phase of work will start mid-summer and will renovate portions of the main level to house the Community Room, a new conference room, ADA-compliant restroom, seating area, and adult computer area.

Mrs. Hale displayed renderings of the first and second floor renovations.

The work on the main level will not impact the historic restorations completed in 2018. Aside from the ADA-compliant vestibule necessary to reopen the park side entrance, renovations will remain within the current footprint of the building.

Site work is ongoing and will continue into the fall of this year. It will include construction of ADA-compliant handicap parking spaces on Aberdeen Avenue. The spaces will be built in an angle configuration. Improving library accessibility is a major goal of the project.

Mrs. Hale thanked City Council and city staff for their assistance in this project. She noted that hard hat tours are available if Council is interested. She closed her comments by saying that she is excited about the work being completed and celebrating the opening with the community.

Mayor Duncan congratulated Mrs. Hale on Wright Library being named a Five-Star library in national ranking.

Mrs. Hale congratulated City Council on Oakwood being recognized as the “Best Place to Live in Ohio”.

Goodwill/Easter Seals Opioid Disposal Campaign, Justine Bauer – Mayor Duncan welcomed Ms. Bauer and shared that as of tomorrow he becomes an honorary member of the Goodwill/Easter Seals Board of Trustees after serving for 40 years.

Ms. Justine Bauer referenced a PowerPoint presentation and shared information about the Goodwill/Easter Seals Opioid Disposal Campaign program called “Generation Rx: Safe Medication Practices for Life”.

“Generation Rx” focuses on teaching safe medication practices for life. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that prescription drug misuse is a “national epidemic”.

Research indicates that millions of Americans misuse prescription drugs by taking them differently than the prescriber intended, and thousands do so for the first time every day. Prescription drugs are among the most misused substances in the United States, more than all illicit "street" drugs combined except marijuana. The most commonly misused prescription drugs include opioid pain medications (e.g., Vicodin, OxyContin), sedatives (e.g., Xanax, Valium) and stimulants (e.g., Adderall, Ritalin).

Ms. Bauer displayed a chart representing the preliminary number of accidental overdose deaths in Montgomery County as reported by the Montgomery County Coroner's Office. The chart reported that there were 21 accidental overdoses in Montgomery County during the month of March.

The good news is that prescription drug misuse can be prevented. This epidemic can be stopped with four safe medication practices: Only use prescription medications as directed by a health professional; do not share or take someone else's medication; keep your medications safe; and model safe medication practices. Ms. Bauer closed her presentation by discussing ways people can act in their home and their community to educate others about the drug safety.

Ms. Bauer closed her presentation by announcing that DEA National Drug Takeback Day is on April 24. She also suggested using a free app called "Get Help Now." The app helps people in need of alcohol, drug addiction or mental health assistance.

Mrs. Hilton thanked Ms. Bauer for her presentation. She then asked if the Get Help Now app provides local service information.

Ms. Bauer explained that the Get Help Now app links directly to a network of service providers in Montgomery County.

There were no other visitors wishing to address City Council.

LEGISLATION

AN ORDINANCE

BY MR. STEPHENS

NO 4933

DETERMINING TO PROCEED WITH THE IMPROVEMENT OF CERTAIN STREETS BETWEEN CERTAIN TERMINI IN THE CITY OF OAKWOOD, OHIO, BY LIGHTING THE SAME WITH ELECTRICITY.

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 annual ordinance that is the second step of the 2022 street lighting program. The ordinance was introduced with a first reading at the March 1, 2021 Council meeting, and is the ordinance that authorizes the City to proceed with the project.

Thereupon, it was moved by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Mrs. Hilton that the ordinance be passed.

Upon call of the roll on the question of the motion, the following vote was recorded:

MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....	YEA
MR. ROBERT P. STEPHENS.....	YEA
MRS. ANNE HILTON	YEA
MRS. LEIGH TURBEN	YEA

There being four (4) yea votes and no (0) nay votes thereon, said ordinance was declared duly passed and it was so ordered.

AN ORDINANCE

BY MR. STEPHENS

NO 4935

AN ORDINANCE LEVYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF CERTAIN STREETS BETWEEN CERTAIN TERMINI IN THE CITY OF OAKWOOD, OHIO, BY LIGHTING THE SAME WITH ELECTRICITY.

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 ordinance is the third step of Oakwood’s 2022 street lighting program. The ordinance allows for the costs of street lighting to be certified to the Montgomery County Auditor for assessment.

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

AN ORDINANCE
BY MR. STEPHENS NO 4934
AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION OR RECONSTRUCTION OF SIDEWALKS AND
APPURTENANCES THERETO IN THE CITY OF OAKWOOD, OHIO.

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 ordinance is the third piece of legislation for last year’s Sidewalk Repair Project authorizing the assessment of the sidewalk repair costs that have not already been paid directly by affected homeowners. The ordinance was introduced with a first reading at the March 1, 2021 Council meeting.

Thereupon, it was moved by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Mrs. Turben that the ordinance be passed.

Upon call of the roll on the question of the motion, the following vote was recorded:

MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....YEA
MR. ROBERT P. STEPHENS.....YEA
MRS. ANNE HILTONYEA
MRS. LEIGH TURBENYEA

There being four (4) yea votes and no (0) nay votes thereon, said ordinance was declared duly passed and it was so ordered.

AN ORDINANCE
BY MAYOR DUNCAN NO 4936
AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE 2022 TAX BUDGET FOR THE
CITY OF OAKWOOD, OHIO, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING
JANUARY 2022.

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

Mayor Duncan explained that in order to comply with Section 6.01 of the City Charter, this is the annual housekeeping ordinance to estimate the City’s revenues and expenses for calendar year 2022.

This was a first reading of the ordinance, so Mayor Duncan made no motion.

AN ORDINANCE
BY MR. STEPHENS NO 4937
AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE AND ADOPT A CIVIL
PREPAREDNESS PLAN FOR THE CITY OF OAKWOOD.

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 one of the great lessons of recent years is the importance of planning for civil emergencies. “Civil emergency” is a very broad category of events that threaten the operation of local government or the delivery of essential governmental services. It includes medical emergencies like the current COVID-19 pandemic, but could also include extreme weather events; the release of a dangerous chemical or biological compound; riots; or any other non-military event that could pose widespread threats to life, limb, or property.

Over the last two years, Chief Alan Hill and Captain Kevin Pruszynski have updated the City’s Civil Preparedness Plan, and they are planning a series of training events to ensure that all city department heads have a good working familiarity with the City’s emergency procedures.

Under Section 150.04 of the Oakwood Administrative Code, the City’s Civil Preparedness Plan must be approved by Council. The plan was reviewed in Executive Session with City Manager

Klopsch and Chief Hill, and Council believes that adopting it is in the best interests of the City. As such, the ordinance is being introduced to approve the Civil Preparedness Plan as an emergency measure so that it can take effect as quickly as possible for the protection of the public peace, health, safety and welfare.

Mayor Duncan invited Chief Hill to comment on the Emergency Operations Plan.

Chief Hill commented on the Goodwill/Easter Seals Opioid Disposal Campaign presentation. Since 2015, the Oakwood Public Safety Department has responded to 22 overdoses in the Oakwood community. Many overdoses are a direct result of prescription drug abuse. He stated the no community is immune from this epidemic.

Chief Hill then referenced a PowerPoint presentation and provided the following information.

The purpose of an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is to provide structure and processes that an organization will utilize to respond to and initially recover from an event. Oakwood's current EOP recently underwent a comprehensive revision. The plan is comprised of three major sections: Basic Plan, Emergency Support Functions, and Appendices.

Oakwood's EOP is based on the National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS is a standardized national incident management system comprised of several components that work together as one to provide a framework for preparing for, preventing, responding to, and recovering from domestic incidents. The first priority of emergency management is saving and rescuing human lives. The second priority is saving property from destruction, or taking action to prevent property damage. The third priority is to restore roads, water systems and utilities, and to assist citizens with disaster recovery.

Oakwood does not maintain an office solely tasked with Emergency Management. The Oakwood City Manager serves as Oakwood's Emergency Manager, and department heads have key areas of responsibility. Oakwood participates in regional emergency management efforts through coordination with the Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management. Chief Hill highlighted the responsibilities of City Council, the City Manager and the department heads during an emergency. He explained that city staff members periodically engage in training exercises called "tabletop exercises" to remain familiar with the roles and to find ways to improve performance and/or processes.

Mayor Duncan asked if there has been an improvement in communication among jurisdictions since the public safety radio system was updated.

Chief Hill answered yes. He explained that communication has been much better since the technology system was updated in 2015. The update placed all Montgomery County jurisdictions on a single system making it easier to get in contact with local and state partners.

Mr. Stephens thanked Chief Hill and Captain Pruszyński for focusing their time over the past two years to update the Emergency Operations Plan.

Thereupon, it was moved by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Mrs. Hilton that the ordinance be passed as an emergency measure.

Upon call of the roll on the question of the motion, the following vote was recorded:

MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....	YEA
MR. ROBERT P. STEPHENS.....	YEA
MRS. ANNE HILTON	YEA
MRS. LEIGH TURBEN	YEA

There being four (4) yea votes and no (0) nay votes thereon, said ordinance was declared duly passed and it was so ordered.

STAFF REPORT

Public Works Department Presentation: Mr. Doug Spitler, Engineering and Public Works Director, referenced a PowerPoint presentation and updated Council on various Public Works projects and operations.

From December 2020 to February 2021, the Public Works Department worked through 17 winter events. The department dedicated 540 hours of overtime to address these snow and ice events. The department used 822 tons of salt totaling \$36,974 through the winter season.

Mr. Spitler displayed a map depicting the asphalt street resurfacing project. The work will take place on Patterson Road, Ridgewood Avenue, Schenck Avenue, Runnymede Road, Runnymede Lane and Sweetwood Lane at a cost of \$381,454.

In addition to the asphalt street resurfacing project, the Public Works Department will also be working on the following projects: Annual Pavement Marking; Traffic Signal Conflict Monitor Testing; Asphalt Pavement Rejuvenation; Recycle Center Improvements; Fiber Optic Installation to Orchardly Park; Far Hills Stormwater Inlet Repairs; and Automated Meter Reading Software Upgrade.

The multi-year Vectren gas line project work began in 2010 and is scheduled for completion in 2023. This is a project to replace the original bare steel and cast-iron pipeline infrastructure and installation of new gas services to each property. The 2021 work was broken down into two project areas. Project Area A includes work on Ridgeway Road from Park Road to the southern border; Fairforest Circle; Oak Knoll from Ridgeway west to Deep Hollow Lane; and Deep Hollow Lane. Project Area B includes work on Triangle and Orchard; Shroyer between Triangle and Orchard; and also includes work on the alleys in these areas.

There are several large equipment purchases scheduled for this year. The purchases already made include: Refuse Packer Truck: \$245,687; Refuse Scooters (4 units): \$89,100; and Dump Truck: \$140,819. Pending purchases include: Pickup Truck - Streets: \$35,000 (budget); and Public Works Storage Building: \$175,000 (budget).

The Public Works Department provides a broad range of municipal services such as: weekly trash/recyclables collection; yard debris and special pickups; and leaf disposal/leaf mulch. Mulch deliveries will take place on five Saturdays from April 10 to May 8. On the same five Saturdays, residents can obtain free mulch from the Foell Public Works Center at 210 Shafor Boulevard between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on those Saturdays. There are also several self-service options available such as: drop-off containers for recycling cardboard, yard debris, and co-mingled materials at a 24/7 site in the Creager Field (Dog Park) parking lot at Shafor Boulevard and Irving Avenue; the Foell Public Works Center at 210 Shafor Boulevard is open from 8 a.m. until 12 noon on the first Saturday of each month for Oakwood citizens to drop off refuse items; and refuse dumpsters are available for disposal of a mixture of debris from "do-it-yourself" homeowner projects.

Mr. Spitler displayed a line graph showing refuse collection trends over the past six years. The line graph showed a substantial increase in collection beginning in March of last year. This increase follows COVID-19, suggesting that many property owners disposed of more household debris during the pandemic.

Mayor Duncan asked if the increase in collection is related to people staying home because of COVID-19.

Mr. Spitler responded by answering that he believes that it is, however the data will continue to be tracked.

The next Oakwood Rotary hazardous waste pick up event is on Saturday, April 24. Citizens desiring a pick up simply call (937) 296-5155 before noon on Friday, October 23 and leave their name and address.

Construction on the Ridgeway Road Bridge, which is being performed by the city of Kettering, has started. There will be road closures on sections of Dorothy Lane, and Ridgeway Road from Oak Knoll Drive to Canterbury Drive in Kettering. Mr. Spitler displayed a bridge rendering, vehicular detour map, and a bicycle and pedestrian detour map.

Mr. Spitler shared several personnel changes that have occurred. Shawn Huffman retired on November 30, 2020 after 31 years. Gary Dursch retired on December 31, 2020, after 14 years in Oakwood. Mr. Dursch is assisting the department in a part time capacity to train the new employee operating our water plants. The Public Works Department welcomed Chris Branscomb, Water Plant Technician on December 7, 2020; Tristen Upton-Hayslett, General Service Worker – Refuse on February 8, 2021; and Scott Loper, Water Plant Superintendent/Water & Sewer Foreman on April 5, 2021.

Mrs. Hilton inquired about the cost of leaf mulch.

Mr. Spitler stated that residents can obtain free mulch at the Public Works Center on the five Saturdays mentioned, or the department will deliver either 3 cubic yards of mulch for \$100 or 6 cubic yards of mulch for \$150.

Mayor Duncan thanked Mr. Spitler for the excellent department summary. He shared his appreciation for all of the work done by the Public Works Department this past year.

Mr. Stephens asked if all of the stormwater inlets on Far Hills will be replaced.

Mr. Spitler answered no, and explained that only the inlets with deteriorating concrete will be repaired.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS – Mr. Klopsch provided an update on the following items:

A fiber optic line is in the process of being extended from Far Hills Avenue to Orchardly Park. Once the work is done, security cameras will be installed at Orchardly Park. In 2001, the city of Oakwood built a city-wide fiber optic network. The system allowed the City to connect traffic signals, operate and control the City's water system, interconnect computers between public facilities, and transmit security camera data from primary facilities to the Public Safety Dispatcher. At the time, the fiber work did not extend to Orchardly Park.

The annual fire hydrant flushing began today and will last approximately four weeks. The hydrants are flushed annually to test the hydrants functionality and to flush out the piping system. There is additional information on the City website (www.oakwoodohio.gov), and in the *Oakwood Scene* newsletter.

Concrete street work is taking place on Ridgeway Road to repair concrete panels that were damaged as part of the Vectren gas line project. This work is being done at Vectren's expense.

The 2020 Annual Report has been delivered to every property owner and business in Oakwood.

Today marked the official opening of Orchardly, Shafor, Fairridge and Cook parks. The basketball hoops are back up at Orchardly Park and Shafor Park. The restrooms are open and operational at the parks, and at Lane Stadium.

The Leisure Services Department is planning for the upcoming swim season at Gardner Pool. Pool protocols will be similar to last year. City staff will continue to evaluate the pool protocols and make adjustments as needed based on guidance and directives from the Ohio Department of Health and Public Health – Dayton & Montgomery County.

Mayor Duncan and Mrs. Hilton commented on the excellent work of the Leisure Services Department in planning the opening of Gardner Pool last year.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Leigh Turben mentioned that the Oakwood Historical Society is planning to have a single house tour in mid-June at the original home that the Gardner's built.

Mrs. Hilton suggested that people continue to wear their masks and get vaccinated. She said that she registered for an upcoming program through the Oakwood Community Center's new website and it worked perfectly.

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



MAYOR

ATTEST:



CLERK OF COUNCIL