

CITY OF OAKWOOD
STATE OF OHIO
JANUARY 3, 2022

The Council of the city of Oakwood, State of Ohio, met in a work session and 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.

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.

City Manager Norbert Klopsch opened the meeting and asked all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following members of Council were present:

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

Officers of the City present were the following:

Mr. Norbert S. Klopsch, City Manager
Mr. Robert F. Jacques, City Attorney
Ms. Carol Collins, Leisure Services Director
Chief Alan Hill, Public Safety Director
Ms. Lori Stacel, Clerk of Council

The following in-person visitors registered:

Mr. Dan Turben, 204 Forrer Boulevard
State Representative Andrea White
Mr. Tom Morrow, 14 E. Dixon Avenue
Mrs. Anja Mortensen, 69 E. Thruston Boulevard
Mrs. Amy Korab, 120 Spirea Drive
Lieutenant Justin Slone and Family
Various Members of Oakwood Safety Department
Mr. Brian Barr, *Oakwood Register*

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

Mr. John Hemmert, AES Ohio

Mr. Klopsch shared that according to Section 2.09 of the Oakwood City Charter, an organizational meeting is held every two years. The meeting includes administering the Oath of Office to the newly elected or re-elected Council Members; and then Council selects a Mayor and Vice Mayor to serve for a two-year period.

Mr. Klopsch asked the City Attorney to swear in the re-elected Council Members.

Mr. Jacques administered the Oath of Office to re-elected Council Members Rob Stephens and Anne Hilton, and newly elected Council Member Leigh Turben. Mrs. Turben was previously appointed to City Council on February 1, 2021 to fill a vacancy created when Councilmember Chris Epley assumed a seat on the bench of the Second District Court of Appeals.

Mr. Klopsch then asked for nominations for Mayor and Vice Mayor.

It was moved by Mrs. Turben and seconded by Mr. Stephens that Mr. Duncan be reappointed as Mayor and Mr. Byington be reappointed as Vice Mayor.

Thereafter, Mr. Klopsch asked Ms. Stacel to call the roll.

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 HILTON	YEA
MRS. LEIGH TURBEN	YEA

Mayor Duncan congratulated Mr. Stephens, Mrs. Hilton and Mrs. Turben on their election/re-election, and Vice Mayor Byington on his reappointment as vice mayor. He expressed his thanks to Council for re-electing him as mayor.

Mayor Duncan continued with the council meeting.

Mrs. Hilton advised Council she had read the meeting minutes of the December 13, 2021 regular session and work session. Mrs. Hilton reported she found the minutes correct and complete. Therefore, it was moved by Mrs. Hilton and seconded by Mr. Stephens 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

Council Committee Assignments – Mayor Duncan explained that City Council members are assigned to several committees of Council that consist of two members that meet as needed to discuss various topics. Mayor Duncan indicated that Council decided to leave the committee assignments the same as last year. The committee assignments are as follows:

2022 COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

William Duncan, Mayor	Steve Byington, Vice Mayor
Court Liaison	Anne Hilton, Chair Leigh Turben
Finance	Steve Byington, Chair William Duncan
Law and Minutes	Anne Hilton, Chair Steve Byington
Planning and Zoning	Steve Byington, Chair Leigh Turben
Public Properties	Leigh Turben, Chair Rob Stephens
Public Utilities/Waterworks/Sewer	Leigh Turben, Chair Rob Stephens
Safety and Traffic	Rob Stephens, Chair Anne Hilton
Streets and Alleys	Rob Stephens, Chair Anne Hilton
Community Relations/Promotion & Appointments	William Duncan, Chair Steve Byington

Regional Agencies - Council Representation

Miami Valley Communications Council	Rob Stephens Leigh Turben, Alternate
Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission and Transportation Committee	Steve Byington William Duncan, Alternate
EMA Regional Advisory Council	William Duncan Norbert Klopsch, Alternate
First Suburbs Consortium	Steve Byington Norbert Klopsch Leigh Turben, Alternate
South Suburban Coalition	Alan Hill William Duncan, Alternate

Boards, Commissions and Citizen Ad Hoc Committees

Planning Commission	Steve Byington
Beautification Committee	Rob Stephens
Sister City	Anne Hilton
Historical Society	Leigh Turben

Note: The Mayor also serves as ex-officio member of each Council committee.

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

Voting Precinct Changes – Mayor Duncan reported that earlier today, the Montgomery County Board of Elections shared that the city of Oakwood will be gaining one additional voting precinct based on population shifts identified in the 2020 Census. The approved precinct boundary changes will be released within the next few weeks. He explained that the legislation scheduled for this

evening to align the Property Maintenance Board with Oakwood's voting precincts is being deferred to the February 7 council meeting pending edits to the voting precinct boundaries.

2021 Committee Appointments – Mayor Duncan explained that there are several vacancies on the citizen committees. City Council and City staff are in the process of identifying citizen volunteers for future appointment.

Lieutenant Balaj Recognition – Chief Hill recognized Lieutenant Chuck Balaj for 21 years of service on the Kettering Regional SWAT Team. On December 31, 2021, Lieutenant Balaj resigned from this position. Chief Hill commented on Lieutenant Balaj being recognized by the Cincinnati office of the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) for playing a significant role in the case where a Beavercreek man pled guilty to involvement in a terrorist organization. Lieutenant Balaj was the first non-Kettering officer to be an active member of the Kettering Regional SWAT Team. Chuck served the SWAT Team as a tactical medic, SWAT operator, team leader, and most recently as assistant team commander, making him the first non-Kettering officer to hold a team commander position. Chief Hill presented Lieutenant Balaj with a plaque to recognize him for representing the Oakwood Public Safety Department with distinction and for becoming a valuable asset through personal sacrifice, dedication, and commitment to the Kettering Regional SWAT Team.

Lieutenant Promotion – Mayor Duncan welcomed Public Safety Officer Justin Slone and his family. He then administered the Oath of Office. Chief Hill reviewed the highlights of Lt. Slone's career and shared that he possesses all the qualities necessary to inspire, influence, motivate, develop, and lead others. Lieutenant Slone's wife pinned the lieutenant bars onto his uniform.

VISITORS

Holiday Decorating Awards – Mayor Duncan shared that the award winners were invited to watch the meeting livestreaming from the city website or on live TV. Mayor Duncan announced the following holiday decorating award winners as the images were displayed via a PowerPoint presentation:

DAYTIME WINNERS

Area 1 – Kristiansen & Anja Mortensen, 69 E. Thruston Blvd
 Area 2 – Todd & Amy Korab, 120 Spirea Drive
 Area 3 – Bridget, Lillian Miner and G Daddy, 20 Greenmount Blvd
 Area 4 – Kristen Zimmerman, 30-32 Hadley Avenue
 Area 5 – The Kitchen Family, 2020 Coolidge Drive
 Area 6 – Ruth & Bob Deddens, 801 Oakwood Avenue
 Business – Park Avenue Needlepoint, 41 Park Avenue

NIGHTTIME WINNERS

Area 1 – The Ostendorf Family, 225 Lookout Drive
 Area 2 – Jen & Evan Clark, 516 Shafor Boulevard
 Area 3 – Jon & Valentina Fulton, 105 Forrer Boulevard
 Area 4 – Daniel & Jacqueline Brown, 2800 Hathaway Road
 Area 5 – Amy & Gary Smith, 30 W. Hadley Road
 Area 6 – John & Shannon Powell, 525 Maysfield Road
 Business – Jaffe Jewelers, 2419 Far Hills Avenue

LEGISLATION

As Mayor Duncan previously noted, the legislation that was scheduled for this evening is being postponed to the February 7, 2022 council meeting pending edits to the voting precinct boundaries.

AN OAKWOOD MOMENT

Mrs. Turben played a video recognizing Santa's tour around Oakwood on December 20, 2021 aboard Fire Engine #26.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Mr. Klopsch thanked City Council for approving the 2022 budget and shared that he looks forward to providing continued public services to the community and completing the approved capital improvements in 2022.

The leaf collection season has officially ended. Fall leaf collection in Oakwood is a major undertaking that takes a partnership between citizens and the Public Works Department. Mr. Klopsch thanked Oakwood citizens for their help with this year's leaf collection process.

The new Recycling Facility grand opening and ribbon cutting celebration took place at the end of November. The full cardboard containers are a true testament to the community's commitment to recycling. Mr. Klopsch is looking forward to the facility being heavily used for many years to come.

Mr. Klopsch recognized Oakwood resident Tom Morrow for his assistance in converting some of the City's official paper copies of public records into digital files. Mr. Morrow approached city staff last year as a member of the Oakwood Historical Society asking if he could volunteer his services and equipment to create electronic files for Oakwood City Council minutes, including the ordinances and resolutions.

Mr. Morrow explained that this project came about when the Oakwood Historical Society was researching Oakwood property records. He volunteered to scan the records because of the amount of historical information that is available in the council minutes. The digital records allow the information to be readily available and searchable, which benefits both the City and Oakwood Historical Society.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mrs. Turben wished everyone a happy and healthy new year.

Mr. Stephens congratulated Lieutenant Balaj for his years of service on the Kettering Regional Swat Team for his SWAT and Lieutenant Slone on his promotion. He closed his comments by thanking the citizens of Oakwood for their votes to re-elect him in November, and wished everyone a happy 2022.

Vice Mayor Byington congratulated Lieutenants Balaj and Slone. He congratulated Mr. Stephens, Mrs. Hilton and Mrs. Turben on their election/re-election, and Mayor Duncan on his reappointment as mayor. He wished much success to newly elected Kettering Mayor Peggy Lehner. Vice Mayor Byington closed his comments by recognizing the passing of Mary Jo Scalzo and Lance Winkler, two friends of Oakwood that passed away in December.

Mayor Duncan closed the meeting by distributing a holiday award certificate to Mrs. Mortensen, 69 E. Thruston Boulevard.

The public meeting concluded at 8:09 p.m.



MAYOR

ATTEST:



CLERK OF COUNCIL