

**CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 17, 2021**

IMPORTANT COUNCIL DATES:

January 3, Monday, 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session (30 Park)
January 24, Monday, 5 p.m. – Work Session (30 Park)
February 7, Monday, 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session (30 Park)
February 21, Monday, 5 p.m. – Work Session (30 Park)
March 7, Monday, 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session (30 Park)
March 21, Monday, 5 p.m. – Work Session (30 Park)
April 4, Monday, 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session (30 Park)

BUSINESS UPDATE:

- Holiday of Lights: The event last Sunday was wonderful... with perfect weather. Enclosed are *Register* photos.
- Christmas: City offices, the OCC and Public Works are closed next Friday for Christmas. Enclosed are *Register* and *DDN* articles.
- Santa Tour: Enclosed is a *Register* article about the second annual Santa Tour planned to begin at 6 p.m. on Monday, December 20.
- Mayor Don Patterson: Enclosed is Mayor Don Patterson's last *DDN* message about the city of Kettering. Don is retiring at the end of this year after serving on Kettering City Council for 24 years, 16 of those years as mayor.
- 2022 Personnel Ordinance: Enclosed is a memo to staff about the 2022 pay increase. On behalf of all staff, thank you. Also enclosed is a *Register* article.
- Codification Update: Enclosed are updated pages for our Admin and Traffic & General Offenses codes.
- PSOs Green and Staley: Enclosed is a *Register* photo of Ross Green and Matt Staley's swear-in ceremony.
- Propaganda/Hate Messages: Enclosed is a *Register* article about the stickers that were found posted to street signs and street light posts in the Shroyer Road right-of-way. Also enclosed is a *Register* letter to the editor from the OIC Leadership Team.
- Electric Scooters: Enclosed is a *DDN* article about Kettering allowing the use of dockless electric scooters after implementing regulations to improve safety and communication for the visually and hearing impaired. The article mentions that we prohibit the use of shared mobility devices.
- Leaf Collection: Our 10-week leaf collection program officially ended today, but we will continue to pick up leaves as residents place them to the street for pickup (preferably in the tree lawn) over the next couple weeks. In early January, we will again begin enforcing the "no debris in the streets" policy.

- January PC & BZA Meetings: We did not receive any applications, so there will be no January meetings.
- Greg Ramey: Enclosed is a *DDN* article about Greg Ramey's sentencing.

HAVE A GREAT WEEKEND!

ENCLOSURE LIST

Register Photos re: Holiday of Lights

Register & DDN Articles re: Christmas

Register Article re: Santa Tour

DDN Article re: Mayor Don Patterson

Memo & *Register* Article re: 2022 Personnel Ordinance Memo

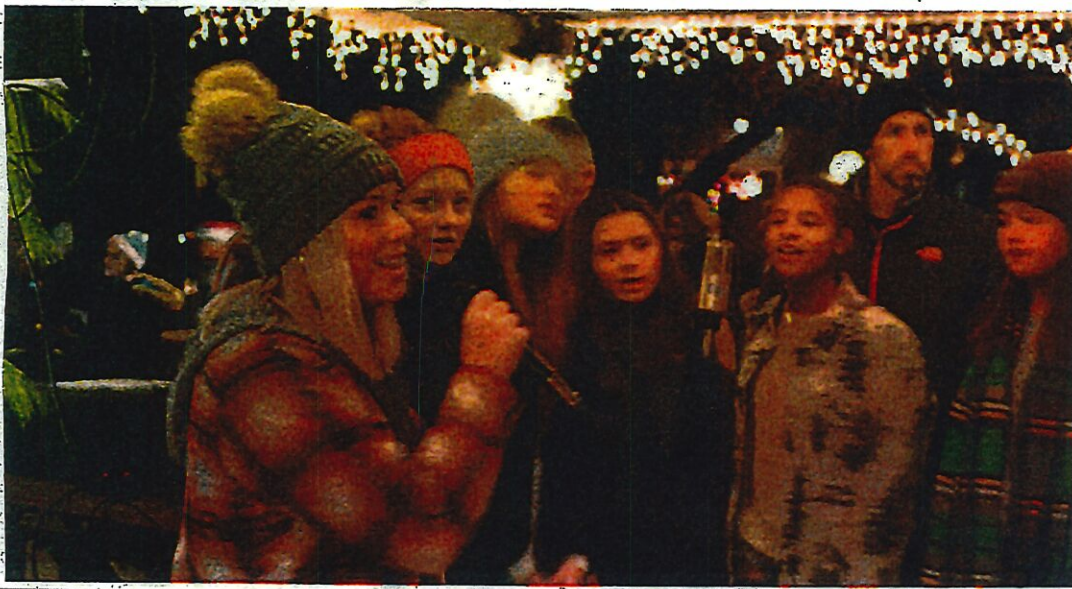
Codification Update

Register Photo re: PSOs Green and Staley

Register Articles re: Propaganda/Hate Messages

January PC & BZA Meeting Memo

DDN Article re: Greg Ramey



Holiday of Lights

Children of all ages gathered at Shafor Park in Oakwood on Sunday evening for Oakwood's Holiday of Lights celebration, a slate of seasonal festivities capped off with the arrival of Santa Claus in a city firetruck.

Oakwood Mayor William Duncan presided over the annual tree lighting ceremony while visitors were treated to hot chocolate, snacks, and musical performances by the Oakwood High School Band and Synergy, the school's a cappella group, as well

as horse-drawn hayrides to see displays of luminaries lining the boulevard.

Santa added to his nice list while handing out candy canes to a long line of children waiting to share their Christmas wishes.

Oakwood city offices will close on Dec. 24 for Christmas, Dec. 31 for New Year's Holiday

Oakwood city offices will be closed on Friday, Dec. 24, in observance of Christmas and on Friday, Dec. 31, in observance of New Year's Day. The city's refuse collection schedule during the Christmas and New Year's holiday weeks remains the same as a normal week.

OR

12/15/21

OAKWOOD

City office closures

Oakwood city offices are closed on Friday, Dec. 24 in observance of Christmas and on Friday, Dec. 31 in observance of New Year's Day. The refuse collection schedule during the Christmas and New Year's holiday weeks is the same as a normal week.

For additional information, contact Norbert S. Klopsch, City Manager, at 937-298-0600 or klopsch@oakwood.oh.us.

STAFF REPORT

DDN 12/17/2021

Save the Date: Santa Claus is Coming to Oakwood, will visit city on Dec. 20

Santa reached out to the Oakwood Public Safety Department and has requested assistance from the Safety Department on Monday, Dec. 20.

Santa is looking to finalize his route plans for Christmas Eve and his reindeer are unavailable. Therefore,

Santa will be riding aboard Oakwood Fire Engine #27, and will be escorted by a police car through the city of Oakwood. Santa would love to see everyone, so please come out and give Santa a big wave as he passes by. Santa will be departing Lane Stadium at

6 p.m. on Dec. 20 and making a trip through the new Element apartment complex to start his route.

Follow the Oakwood Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 107 on Facebook for live location updates throughout the evening.

OR

12/15/21

Mayor says farewell after 24 years on council

Dear Neighbors:

Each month, the Dayton Daily News graciously helps me convey important messages about the great city of Kettering. While the focus of my messages varied in each issue relative to volunteer activities, City initiatives, upcoming changes and community events, I hope you felt my pride and gratitude to serve in each. Of all the columns I've been fortunate to write, the December issues are my favorite. This is the note in which I offer my well wishes and blessings to all of you for a happy and healthy holiday season. And, this year is no exception as I bid you those same good tidings.

This note has extra meaning this year as it is my last. As many of you know, my final term as Mayor ends Dec. 31. I am amazed at the speed at which these past 24 years have flown. When I was elected to serve as a City Council member in 1997, I had no idea what life had in store for me and the extent of my love for public service. Here we are, five presidents later, having made it through Y2K, the recession in 2008 and currently in the



Don Patterson is the mayor of Kettering.

midst of a pandemic, a city stronger than ever. And things about Kettering still excite me like I'm just embarking on my first term.

During my service to the residents of Kettering, my wife Maureen and I became empty nesters, in-laws and grandparents. Through it all, my family supported my desire to make a difference, and on many occasions, excused my absence from family time to meet the obligations of public service. I am blessed every day to have them in my life.

Two and a half decades is a long time, and I've had the pleasure to work with incredible people who hold the same hopes for our city. Our ideas to achieve the ultimate goals were sometimes very different, and we were not always happy with one another. As soon as we left the meeting room where conversations may have gotten tense, our friendships pre-

vailed. That's how passionate we are about improving our beloved Kettering, as well as maintaining our relationships with each other. My fellow Council members are selfless public servants who care about this community and have made it their mission to safeguard the quality of life for its residents. They are wonderful people and I am the lucky one to have been able to work alongside every one of them.

City staff has been a huge part of my love for public office and my desire to be a part of so many initiatives and solutions for the residents. These men and women are the most supportive, brilliant, compassionate people with whom I've had the pleasure to work. I am deeply grateful for the safety and security they provide along with the protection of our infrastructure and the exceptional city services they offer Kettering residents every day.

It has been my distinct honor to work with City Manager Mark Schwieterman during my time as Mayor. From the beginning, Mark and I agreed that no matter what side of the fence we stood, we would always

remain respectful and understanding of different perspectives. We upheld that pact and have enjoyed an incredible working relationship. Kettering residents are fortunate to have this talented steward leading our city. You will never meet a kinder, more caring individual who is equally, if not more, proud to call Kettering home. Because of him, we all feel it. That Kettering feeling is indescribable and something we all share. Mark is a huge part of that. I'm proud of him and blessed to have his friendship.

The number of volunteers, organizations and service groups that support the City in carrying out services is beyond measure as well. Most are just a phone call away when we need their ideas or their willingness to take on projects for the betterment of our city. One thing remained constant throughout my journey in public service—people are good and want the best for others. Pay attention on your own walks through life. Humankind is always the safety net that catches us and gives us just enough bounce to get back on our feet.

Kettering residents are like


no other. During my tenure, we have had a couple of long Council meetings because of the love and fierce protection our residents have for the city they call home. I hope you felt my appreciation as you spoke to Council despite that pesky five-minute rule in place. I will cherish your five-minute messages at the podium, your emails, your phone calls and our chats at the grocery store or at community events. You used your voices when you needed to, and you gave me strength and different ideas to consider. Most importantly, you are the reason my love for Kettering keeps getting stronger. It's all about the people. At the Community Block Party back in September, people were happy. It was a warm night at Lincoln Park and we were reminded why we feel so strongly that Kettering is home. It's home because of all of you.

Thank you, my friends, for allowing me to be part of your life's journey. Together, we accomplished most things we set out to do. I couldn't have asked for better travel companions.

Take care.

DDN 12/11/21

MEMORANDUM

TO: MANAGEMENT, OFFICE AND COURT STAFF
FROM: NORBERT KLOPSCH 
SUBJECT: 2022 PERSONNEL ORDINANCE
DATE: DECEMBER 14, 2021

At their public meeting last night, Oakwood City Council unanimously approved the 2022 Personnel Ordinance.

The Ordinance includes a 2.95% pay increase for management, office and court staff. The increase will be effective the pay period beginning December 20, 2021.

City Council's approval of a pay increase is a statement of their continuing appreciation of our work and recognition of the fine services that we provide to our Oakwood citizens and businesses.

Thank you for all you do in service to our community and have a wonderful holiday season.

NSK:ls

cc: Members of Council
Judge Peggy Quinn

City Council gives non-union employees 2.95 percent raises

Oakwood City Council on Monday approved 2.95 percent pay raises for non-bargaining unit city employees and approved 2022 appropriations as part of next year's budget.

The 2.95 percent pay raises for non-union city workers and court employees is in line with pay raises negotiated with various bargaining units representing union employees in Oakwood, city officials said.

Council also approved appropriations for current expenses and expenditures in the city for the fiscal year ending Dec. 31, 2022. Total major operating fund expenditures for the city in 2022 are budgeted at \$20,061,083. That figure represents \$14.87 million allocated to the city's general fund, including \$7.8 million in personnel costs and \$1.4 million in operating expenditures. Another \$1.3 million is budgeted for street maintenance and repair, with \$983,830 allocated for personnel costs and \$223,300 for operating funds. Just over \$1.3 million is budgeted to the city's leisure activity fund in 2022, including \$905,167 in personnel costs and \$420,135 in

operating expenses. Other budget allocation for 2022 in the city include \$169,900 in the city's health fund, \$369,000 allocated to the general equipment replacement, \$1.04 million in capital improvements, \$176,700 to sidewalk and curb repair and maintenance, and \$712,560 in the service center fund, including \$253,225 in personnel costs and \$459,335 in operating expenses. Total net expenditures for 2022 are projected as \$19.9 million for Oakwood.

Council approved a "top salary" schedule of compensation for non-seasonal city employees which caps the city manager's compensation at \$162,579. Other compensation rates for city employees include: public safety director, \$129,360.73; director of personnel and properties, director of engineering and public works, finance director, leisure services director, and law director, \$127,265.85; public safety captain, \$120,162.56; staff engineer, refuse foreman and streets foreman, \$102,406.44; income tax administrator, \$93,714.28; and horticulturalist, \$75,652.96.

OR 12/15/21

MEMORANDUM

TO: MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
MR. KLOPSCH
MS. COLLINS
MRS. STAFFORD
MR. JACQUES
MRS. WILDER
MR. SPITLER
MR. KROGER
MR. SANDERS (6 COPIES)
MRS. URBAN

FROM: LORI STACEL, CLERK OF COUNCIL

SUBJECT: CODIFICATION UPDATE

DATE: DECEMBER 15, 2021

Transmitted herewith are 2021 replacement pages for the Traffic and General Offenses Codes of Oakwood from legislation that was adopted at the December 13, 2021 City Council meeting.

All new replacement pages have the footnote "2021 Replacement". Please discard old pages and insert these new replacement pages immediately as directed on the attached Instruction Sheet.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

attachment

cc: Year-End File
Website
Desk Copy

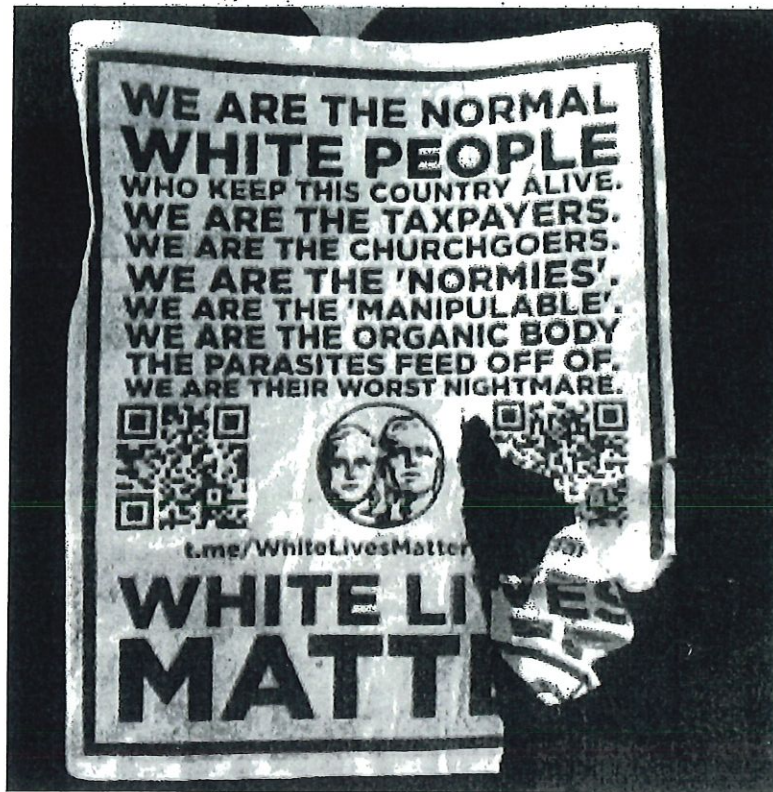


Two new Public Safety Officers hired in Oakwood

Oakwood Mayor William Duncan administered the oath of office to two new Public Safety Officers during a City Council meeting on Monday, Dec. 13. PSO Ross Green, above, previously served as a firefighter in Oxford and as a firefighter, paramedic and reserve police officer in Middletown. PSO Matt Staley, below, previously served as a firefighter, paramedic and police officer in Xenia, as well as a part-time deputy with the Greene County Sheriff's Office.



OR 12/15/21



One of the White supremacist posters placed along Shroyer Road in Oakwood last week.

Oakwood police investigating White supremacist stickers placed along Shroyer Road

The Oakwood Public Safety Department is investigating a criminal mischief complaint regarding unknown subject(s) defacing property within the Shroyer Road public right-of-way with propaganda stickers including hate messages.

Oakwood police are asking anyone who lives in the area with a security or ring-type camera facing Shroyer Road, to check their camera footage. "If you see anything suspicious, please immediately contact the Oakwood Public Safety Department. Your help may provide information that will lead to the identity and prosecution of the responsible subject(s)," the police department said in a release seeking public assistance in the case.

"Messages like this have no place in Oakwood," Oakwood Public Safety Director Alan Hill told City Council

on Monday night, adding "we need the community's assistance...we're going to need something to go on" in identifying the suspects who placed the stickers along Shroyer Road between Dec. 4 and Dec. 9.

"This kind of expression is not welcome in our community," Madeline Iseli, interim chair of the Oakwood Inclusion Coalition, said.

Due to their location on a busy thoroughfare, Oakwood Mayor William Duncan opined that the stickers, which promote White supremacy, may have been placed in the public right-of-way by unknown suspects transiting through the city, rather than residents of the community. They were "likely posted by someone passing through the area," Duncan told Council. "At this point we do not know who posted these stickers."

OR

12/15/21

What We Believe in and Value about Oakwood

Those who have always called Oakwood home, and those who have moved here over time, celebrate the city for its friendly neighbors, excellent schools, and safe and walkable neighborhoods. As we have raised our families within the context of these shared civic attributes, we have come to appreciate further the opportunities to become involved in school and community activities, to get to know our neighbors better and to understand that while we may not agree on everything, we do agree that an unprejudiced acceptance and advancement of all is at the core of what we value most about Oakwood.

Recently, stickers promoting white supremacy and the denunciation of others were affixed to Oakwood traffic signs and streetlight poles along our shared corporation lines with Dayton and Kettering. These postings represent the antithesis of what we believe in and value about Oakwood. This is precisely why the Oakwood Inclusion Coalition (OIC) was founded in 2020 to maintain and further promote *all* that is good about Oakwood as a welcoming

and increasingly diverse community and to share that inclusivity with all who live in and visit the city, to the *exclusion* of no one. The OIC holds that there are constructive, civil, and elevating methods for sharing the many rich heritages, faiths, practices, and beliefs of Oakwood citizens and visitors, methods that will help us build an even stronger *community*, not just for Oakwood residents but for those who reside throughout the entire Dayton region. These anonymous postings represent the opposite of those methods as they're instead designed to drive wedges between people and possibly even to foment violence against others.

As the excellent Oakwood Public Safety Department continues to investigate the origins of this contemptible action, let us look beyond the postings and what they represent. Rather, let us focus on how all of us, as Oakwood citizens who want the best for our region and our city, work together to celebrate our rich differences in a civil community founded on the principles and practices of constructive

discourse. And let us, above all, identify that which we hold dearest about our chosen city of Oakwood and all that makes it the special place we have found it to be. Oakwood is a community because it represents and defends community in all its good, constructive, and welcoming forms. Please join the Oakwood Inclusion Coalition and its undersigned Leadership Team in this unwavering advance of what does and does not characterize a healthy, forward-looking community by signing on as a member of the Coalition at www.oakwoodic.org.

OIC Leadership Team

Judy Cook, Vice Chair

Roger Crum

Leigh Ann Fulford

Kate Furmanski

Joshua Green

Kristi Hale

Madeline Iseli, Interim Chair

Healy Jackson

Norbert Klopsch

Jeremy Newport

Kyle Ramey

Dan Turben

OR

12/15/21

City lifts electric scooter ban, works on safety guidelines

By Nick Blizzard
Staff Writer

KETTERING — Future operators of shared mobility devices such as electric scooters will pay fees in Kettering, and their number could be capped at 500 citywide, according to guidelines being considered by the city.

They will also be required to abide by regulations aimed at improving safety and communication for the visually and hearing impaired.

Changes for the impaired were adopted by Kettering at the urging of the National Federation of the Blind of Ohio, which said the city addressed most of their concerns.

"They were one of the easiest cities I've ever worked with on any accessibility issues," said Todd Elzey, treasurer of the Ohio group. "They were very interested and very willing to do it."

The advocacy organization "came up with some pretty good" ideas, Kettering Mayor Don Pat-

erson said. "They were happy with us working with them and making these modifications."

Kettering last week joined Dayton — which approved them in 2019 — and other area cities allowing the shared scooters.

They have been outlawed in Oakwood, which labeled dockless electric scooters and bicycles a public nuisance.

Centerville has introduced a measure to ban the scooters, but has taken no action since July. That city had earlier passed a 12-month moratorium, which expires in March.

Kettering also approved a moratorium until February 2022, giving city staff time to draw up guidelines for "residents to reap the benefits of such devices while limiting the risks," records show.

The amount of Kettering's application and permit fees will be "calculated based upon the fleet size requested and approved," states the city council-approved

Scooters continued on B4

Scooters

continued from B1

legislation, which takes effect by Christmas.

The maximum number of devices between all permittees in Kettering would be 500, with the city having discretion to increase that total, according to the legislation.

Fleet size requirements would be at least 50 and a

maximum of 100 for bikes/electric bikes or electric scooters operators, according to the proposal.

The range for permitted operators of a combination of those vehicles would be 50 to 150, documents state.

The ordinance also calls for the following:

- All operators must affix a tactile sign that identifies an operator's name and contact information.

- All shared device pro-

gram websites and apps must be accessible to blind individuals.

- Incorrectly parked devices must be moved within two hours. If it is a hazard, they must be moved immediately.

- Shared device riders on a sidewalk must disengage the motor and yield the rights of way to pedestrians, making an audible signal before overtaking and passing pedestrians.

The only unresolved issue, Elzey said, is that Kettering will allow the vehicles on sidewalks.

"(The vehicles are) so quiet, they go by without people hearing it, and often can scare people," Elzey said. "It can be dangerous for seniors (and) people with hearing loss."

Contact this reporter at 937-610-7438 or email Nick Blizzard@coxinc.com.

BBN

12/12/21

MEMORANDUM

TO: PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS
FROM: ETHAN KROGER
SUBJECT: CANCELLATION OF JANUARY 5 MEETING
DATE: DECEMBER 16, 2021

The Planning Commission meeting on Wednesday, January 5, 2022 has been cancelled due to lack of agenda items. The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Wednesday, February 2, 2022.

On behalf of our elected officials and city staff, we wish you all the best during the holiday season.

EK:ls

cc: Members of City Council
Norbert Klopsch, City Manager
Robert Jacques, Law Director
Jennifer Wilder, Personnel and Properties Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS MEMBERS
FROM: ETHAN KROGER
SUBJECT: CANCELLATION OF JANUARY 13 MEETING
DATE: DECEMBER 16, 2021

The Board of Zoning Appeals meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 2022 has been cancelled due to lack of agenda items. The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Wednesday, February 10, 2022.

On behalf of our elected officials and city staff, we wish you all the best during the holiday season.

EK:ls

cc: Members of City Council
Norbert Klopsch, City Manager
Robert Jacques, Law Director
Jennifer Wilder, Personnel and Properties Director

Prominent Dayton child psychologist sentenced to jail

Gregory Ramey placed in sex offender program, 6 months jail, \$30K in fines.

By Josh Sweigart and Parker Perry
Staff Writers

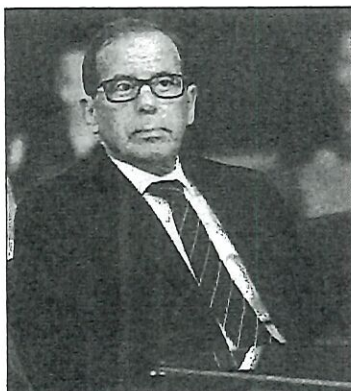
A Greene County judge on Thursday sentenced prominent former child psychologist Gregory Ramey to six months in a locked down sex offender treatment program, up to six months in Greene

County jail, up to five years of supervised release, \$30,000 in fines and court costs.

Ramey pleaded guilty Sept. 21 to six counts of endangering children and one count of tampering with evidence. In exchange for his plea, other charges involving child pornography were dropped.

Prior to sentencing, Ramey told Greene County Common Pleas Judge Adolfo Tornichio that he took responsibility for his actions.

Ramey continued on A5



Gregory Ramey listens as Greene County Judge Adolfo A. Tornichio tells him his crime contributed to the exploitation of children, and that he knew what he was doing was wrong. MARSHALL GORBY / STAFF

DAN
12/17/2021

Ramey

continued from A1

“It was wrong. I believe it was harmful and hurtful to others,” Ramey said, calling it a “private behavior” unrelated to his professional work.

Ramey said he is making progress in court-recommended weekly therapy.

“All I can tell you is in the strongest terms, if given the opportunity to continue my outpatient therapy, you will never see me in this court again,” he said. “There are not many things I know for sure, but I know that for sure.”

Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost, whose office prosecuted the case, said in an interview with the Dayton Daily News earlier this week that prosecution of the case was complicated by Ramey destroying the computer that housed many of the images flagged online as inappro-

priate.

“There’s a reason you take a ball-peen hammer to a hard drive,” Yost said. “You don’t want cops to see what’s on the hard drive. Frequently, we can forensically recover the images. In this particular case, we were not able to.”

Yost said his prosecutors originally thought the remaining images they had access to were pornographic images involving children, but as the case unfolded it became clear they don’t meet the strict definition in state law.

“An awful lot of your readers would look at them and go, ‘Yeah that’s child pornography,’ but we live by the standard of proof beyond a reasonable doubt,” he said. “The key thing here from my point of view is this guy is not going to be around kids anymore.”

Ramey’s medical licenses expired in July, according to the Ohio Board of Psychol-

ogy website.

Ramey’s defense attorney Jon Paul Rion, in arguing for his client to get probation, told the court Thursday that the case “may very well have been over-indicted from its inception.”

Tornichio said the children in the images they did review in the case are still victims, and Ramey contributed to their victimization.

“Somebody’s little girl or somebody’s little boy was involved in your crime,” Tornichio said. “The court, in the presence of both the state and defense, have seen those photographs. Yeah, I can say that no child’s genitalia was shown. I can say that there’s no sex acts between children, between children and adults. But those children were exploited, and you contributed to their exploitation.”

Ramey knew what he was doing was wrong, the judge said, because as soon as he learned in July 2019 that AOL

had frozen his email account – after the service provider was contacted by the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force – Ramey ran out and bought a new computer.

“You knew your house of cards was about to fall,” Tornichio said.

For years Ramey was a leading voice on issues of child endangerment and exploitation. He was a long-time employee of Dayton Children’s Hospital, where he last served as executive director for pediatric mental health resources. His employment was terminated in August 2019, the hospital said, and none of the allegations involved any activity at Dayton Children’s.

Teri LaJeunesse, director of the Greene County Prosecutor’s Office victim/witness division, read a victim impact statement on behalf of the unidentified children in the images.

“This criminal behavior

subjects exploited children to a lifetime of victimization from which they can never escape,” she said.

“Greg Ramey has taken the position that the particular images he possessed aren’t all that bad, that they were merely erotica,” LaJeunesse said. “Such attempts to defuse the seriousness of the exploitation to which these children were subjected through the creation and distribution of the images are simply incredulous, especially coming from a mental health professional whose primary occupation for decades has revolved around treatment for the psycho/social trauma of children.

“His masquerading as a champion of children, when he was in fact a consummate exploiter, is perhaps one of the most egregious aspects of this case,” LaJeunesse said.

Teresa Wiles, director of Michael’s House, a Fairborn nonprofit that helps

child abuse victims, said she worked with Ramey on abuse cases for 36 years and called for him to face the maximum sentence allowed.

“Silence, minimization, denial and inaction allows child exploitation to thrive. I am respectfully asking the court to do the opposite,” she said. “Although we do not know their names, we need to collectively see and acknowledge the child victims in this case.”

Ramey faced up to 21 years in prison on the charges he pleaded to, and could still be subject to that if he fails to comply with the terms of his probation. He could also have his jail or probation term shortened if he abides by the provisions, which include not getting on the internet without prior approval from the courts.

Contact this reporter at (937) 554-0876 or email josh.sweigart@coxinc.com.