

MINUTES
OAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

The Council of the city of Oakwood, Ohio, met in a work session on Monday, September 21, 2020 in the large classroom of the Oakwood Community Center, 105 Patterson Road. 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 Chris Epley. Staff in attendance was City Manager Norbert Klopsch.

Mayor Duncan called the work session to order at 6:30 p.m. and began by reviewing the agenda for the regular session this evening. Thereafter, Mayor Duncan led a discussion on the following agenda items:

- **STATUS REPORTS:** Council discussed the following four status reports planned for the regular session this evening:
 - Auditor of State Award
 - Recognition of Oakwood Public Safety Officer Claude McCormick
 - Recognition of Oakwood Public Safety Officer Overcoming COVID-19
 - Honoring the Life and Contributions of Dr. S. Darrell Apt, II, DVM
- **VISITORS:** Mayor Duncan confirmed that there were no scheduled visitors for the regular session this evening.
- **LEGISLATION:** Council discussed the following items of legislation to be presented at the regular session this evening:
 - A Resolution to approve existing Property Tax Amounts and Rates, Vice Mayor Byington
 - An Ordinance to address the placement of debris on public rights-of-way, Mr. Stephens
 - An Ordinance to address tree and bush trimming on private property, Mr. Stephens
 - An Ordinance to amend 2020 appropriations to cover additional Coronavirus funds, Vice Mayor Byington
 - An Ordinance to authorize existing fund transfers to the Local Coronavirus Relief Fund, Vice Mayor Byington
- **COUNCIL COMMITTEES**
 - Finance, Vice Mayor Byington
 - 2021 Budget and BRC: Mr. Klopsch commented on the proposed 2021 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The 2020 CIP included improvements totaling \$1,343,100. The current 2021 CIP proposal includes improvements totaling \$871,300. This current 2021 proposal includes \$120,000 for in-car and body cameras for the public safety department; \$150,000 for the public works storage building; \$200,000 for asphalt roadway repaving; and about \$100,000 on improvements to Orchardly Park, primarily related to the playground safety surface. The CIP is still in draft form and will likely be modified over the next few weeks. Mr. Klopsch noted that he plans to schedule a meeting with the citizen Budget Review Committee in the middle of October.
 - Public Properties, Mr. Epley
 - Basketball Courts: Mr. Klopsch noted that the rims are still removed from the basketball courts at Shafor and Orchardly Parks as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff plans to keep the rims removed until other jurisdictions in the

region reopen their outside basketball courts. Staff is also discussing ideas to regulate the times when the Shafor and Orchardly basketball courts may be used. This is being done in response to neighborhood concerns regarding noise, particularly late in the evening.

- Gardner Pool: Mr. Klopsch commented on the Gardner Pool operation this summer. All things considered, it was a successful pool season. Many Oakwood residents expressed their appreciation for the city opening the pool under the COVID-19 conditions.
- Old River and OUSC: Mr. Klopsch shared that negotiations are underway with representatives of Oakwood United Soccer Club regarding the use of Old River fields and Lane Stadium. OUSC did not use the fields this past spring due to COVID-19, but has begun using the fields again this fall. The existing three-year agreement recently expired.
- Public Utilities/Waterworks/Sewer, Mr. Epley
 - Storm Sewer Improvements: Mr. Klopsch explained the storm sewer improvements on Ridgewood Avenue and the Public Works yard. The two projects are currently out to bid. The Ridgewood Avenue project will be charged to the Stormwater Fund and is included in the 2020 Budget. The Public Works yard project will be charged to the Water Fund. Bid opening is set for Friday, October 2. Mr. Klopsch will present a supplemental appropriation ordinance at the October 5 Council meeting to address the unbudgeted Water Fund expense.
- Streets & Alleys, Mr. Stephens
 - Scooters: Mr. Klopsch commented on the increase in use of scooters around the city, both in roadways/alleys and also on sidewalks. There is growing concern about the use of scooters by young children. There is also a question whether these scooters may be legally operated in public rights-of-way. Staff is investigating this and will discuss it further at a future work session.
- Community Relations/Promotion/Appointments, Mayor Duncan
 - Oakwood Inclusion Coalition: Mr. Klopsch reported that he will present a resolution at the October 5 Council meeting addressing the formation of the Oakwood Inclusion Coalition (OIC). As designed, this is a citizen-driven organization that will be established as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Plans are to publicly announce the creation of the OIC in early October and for a citizen group to work towards conducting the first organizational meeting sometime in January 2021.
- REGIONAL AGENCIES
 - MVRPC, Vice Mayor Byington
 - Resolution on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion: Vice Mayor Byington explained that he recently spoke to MVRPC Director Brian Martin about the proposed MVRPC resolution addressing equity, diversity and inclusion. The latest version of that resolution includes several edits from the first version, and appears to be acceptable to most, if not all, MVRPC board members. The resolution will be presented at the October 1 MVRPC board meeting. Vice Mayor Byington stated that he intends to vote in support of the resolution.
- BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
 - Historical Society, Mrs. Hilton
 - Historical Marker Project: Mr. Klopsch explained that he recently met with two representatives from the Oakwood Historical Society (OHS) to hear about plans to begin a historical marker project. The vision of this project is to place markers in various locations around Oakwood to highlight historical structures and/or events. The OHS representatives will attend a future Council meeting to brief City Council on the details.

- MISCELLANEOUS

- Halloween and Trick or Treat: Council discussed the upcoming Halloween holiday and debate underway on if and how to conduct the traditional trick-or-treating. Mr. Klopsch mentioned that the Ohio Department of Health has issued guidance on the conduct of Halloween events and is allowing local health departments and local communities to make their own decision on this matter. Mayor Duncan noted that this topic will be discussed at the Oakwood Board of Health meeting tomorrow evening.
- EV Charging Stations: Mr. Klopsch reported that staff is continuing work with MVRPC to join in a regional grant application for the installation of electrical vehicle (EV) charging stations. Oakwood considered two locations, one at the city parking lot on Orchard Drive, and the other at the Oakwood Community Center (OCC). Staff is recommending that the city proceed with the Orchard Drive EV station, but not the OCC EV station. The Orchard Drive station will require a \$7,000 expense from the City and the OCC one would require a \$15,000 expense.

There being no other business, Mayor Duncan adjourned the work session at 7:23 p.m. at which time Council moved to regular session.



Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk of Council