

CITY OF OAKWOOD

STATE OF OHIO

SEPTEMBER 17, 2007

The Council of the city of Oakwood, State of Ohio, met in a work session at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room of the city of Oakwood, 30 Park Avenue, Dayton, Ohio, 45419. Council then met in a regular session at 7:30 p.m., in the council chambers of the city of Oakwood. The Mayor, Mrs. Judy Cook, presided, and the Clerk of Council, Ms. Cathy Blum, recorded. Mayor Cook 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:

MRS. JUDY COOK.....PRESENT
MR. CARLO C. McGINNIS.....PRESENT
MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....PRESENT
MR. ROGER C. BLUMENSHEID.....PRESENT
MR. STANLEY CASTLEMAN.....PRESENT

Officers of the city present were the following:

Mr. Norbert S. Klopsch, City Manager
Ms. Dalma C. Grandjean, City Attorney
Mr. Jay A. Weiskircher, Assistant City Manager
Chief Alexander P. Bebris, Public Safety Director

The press this evening was represented by the editor of the *Oakwood Register*, Mr. Lance Winkler; and *DDN* staff writer Mrs. Helen Bebbington.

The following visitors registered:

Franz Hoge, 939 Laurelwood, Kettering
Beth Jacobs, 416 Telford Avenue
Andy Pruitt, 400 Ridgewood Avenue
Jane & George Liston, 111 Oakwood Avenue
Faye Wenner, 1900 Coolidge Drive
S. Catalano, 438 Triangle Avenue

Mr. Duncan, Chair of the Council Committee on Minutes, advised council he had read the minutes of the regular and work sessions of council held August 27, 2007. Mr. Duncan reported he found the minutes correct with the exception that one of the guest's name, Dan Turbin, was misspelled; otherwise the minutes were complete. Therefore, it was moved by Mr. Duncan and seconded by Mr. Castleman 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 REPORT

Proclamation: Mayor Cook proclaimed September as Drug and Alcohol Recovery Month and read the Proclamation in its entirety.

South Suburb's Teen & Alcohol Committee: Mr. Duncan reported he is the city's representative in this group that has met several times this year with other area communities to discuss this problem. They have reviewed use and accessibility, education, community involvement, healthy alternatives, etc. He plans to present a report and obtain a resolution of support at an upcoming council meeting.

City Manager: Mayor Cook referenced the recent annual performance review of the city manager on his fifth anniversary. He was given high praise on his 24/7 service, how well he manages staff and encourages them to excel, how he develops and utilizes resources, his open door policy to citizens – is always available, how he keeps council informed and is a real player in professional organizations. Mayor Cook extended thanks and high praise to Mr. Klopsch on his five years of service. Mr. Castleman is pleased how Mr. Klopsch inspires his subordinates, his honest dealing with the facts and presentation of choices when council decisions are needed. Mr. Blumensheid agreed, they are very fortunate to have a manager who is so compassionate and extended thanks. Mr. Duncan noted for an engineer, he has improved in explaining finances. Mr. McGinnis urged him to keep up the good work. Mr. Klopsch expressed his appreciation.

Mayor Cook welcomed the visitors. Mr. Hoge, Human Services Levy Chair, indicated in 2003, County Administrator Deb Feldman came before council to ask for endorsement and he is here today to ask the same. He explained the need is great and the levy provides help for those in need as well as benefiting everyone in terms of public health. He reviewed a PowerPoint presentation which explained how the levy helps: vulnerable children; frail and elderly citizens; children and

adults with MRDD; people who've lost jobs and pensions; individuals who can't afford hospital care; and homeless adults and families. Mr. Hoge reviewed statistics, this levy has helped 75,000 residents in Montgomery County – 19,000 abused children; 4,600 seniors; 2,800 MRDD children and adults; 7,800 with no hospital care; and 16,000 with mental health issues; and assisting 25,000 with employment services per month. The Human Services Fund assists needed agencies including faith-based organizations, MRDD Board, Children Services, etc. He reported the unified levy is efficient, agencies meet tough national accreditation standards, the Human Services Levy Council scrutinizes needs and services, and overall minimizes taxes. Mr. Hoge noted it is obvious the investment in help is working with early intervention, helping children get a healthy start, etc.

Mr. Hoge explained the need is increasing with aging caregivers, waiting lists, loss of jobs and pensions, and fewer available resources. He reviewed the projected upcoming needs in millions per year and noted the need exceeds revenue and in reality they should ask for a replacement plus 5 new mills but know that is too much to seek. In order to be practical, the Human Services Levy Council is recommending a replacement of the current 5.21 mills plus an additional 2 mills. He explained, based on a \$100,000 home, the levy would add an additional \$10 per month in tax. Mr. Hoge urged approval and support of this levy that will assist more than 75,000 local citizens. Mayor Cook indicated she serves on the Human Services Levy Council and they have a very efficient and effective system in place. She is pleased they have combined one human services levy rather than each agency conducting its own levy campaign. Mr. Hoge explained they are the only county in Ohio with one human service levy and it helps disperse allocations where the greatest need is. Mayor Cook indicated Oakwood has regularly supported these levies.

There were no other visitors with business. The following legislation was introduced.

ORDINANCE

BY MR. DUNCAN

NO 4636

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOTES IN THE MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$2,100,000, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE COSTS OF ACQUIRING REAL PROPERTY FOR PARKS AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A copy of the ordinance, having been placed on the desks of each member of council prior to introduction, was read by title. Mr. Duncan referenced the Old River Playing Fields that were acquired last year for \$2.3 M from NCR. This purchase was financed through notes rather than utilizing on-hand cash – in this manner they earn some money on the investment, a prudent use of city dollars. Mr. Duncan explained they will pay \$200,000 per year off the principal as they do with the bonds for the projects at 210 Shafor and 30 Park. He indicated this note is good for six months so that all the notes will be renewed in March so as to reduce legal and administrative fees.

Thereupon, it was moved by Mr. Duncan and seconded by Mr. Blumensheid that the ordinance be passed as an emergency measure.

Mr. McGinnis asked about the long term development and budget process. Mr. Duncan indicated when they meet with the Budget Review Committee; they will review the debt structure and the proposed five-year plan for park enhancements.

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

MRS. JUDY COOK.....YEA
MR. CARLO C. MCGINNIS.....YEA
MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....YEA
MR. ROGER C. BLUMENSHEID.....YEA
MR. STANLEY CASTLEMAN.....YEA

There being five (5) yea votes and no (0) nay votes thereon, said ordinance was declared duly passed and it was so ordered.

RESOLUTION

BY MR. DUNCAN

NO 1660

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.

A copy of the resolution, having been placed on the desks of each member of council prior to introduction, was read by title. Mr. Duncan explained this is an annual housekeeping resolution that certifies the millage to the county. He noted the city has not raised taxes since 1991 and this resolution references the 2.72 mill levy that was renewed last November and provides \$475,000 for services; and the 5.5 mill levy which expires in 2008 yet due to re-valuation only has an effective

rate of 1.09 which provides \$333,000. Mr. Duncan explained that Oakwood property taxes are divided in the following manner: 70% to schools, 20% to county, 9% to city and 1% to the library.

Thereupon, it was moved by Mr. Duncan and seconded by Mr. Castleman that the resolution be passed.

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

MRS. JUDY COOK.....YEA
MR. CARLO C. McGINNIS.....YEA
MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....YEA
MR. ROGER C. BLUMENSHEID.....YEA
MR. STANLEY CASTLEMAN.....YEA

There being five (5) yea votes and no (0) nay votes thereon, said resolution was declared duly passed and it was so ordered.

RESOLUTION

BY MR. CASTLEMAN NO 1661

AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO NEGOTIATE VIA INFORMAL COMPETITIVE PROCEDURES FOR THE REPAIR, MAINTENANCE, AND PAINTING OF GARDNER POOL AND THE BABY POOL LOCATED AT THE OAKWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER AT 105 PATTERSON ROAD.

A copy of the resolution, having been placed on the desks of each member of council prior to introduction, was read by title. Mr. Castleman explained this authorizes the informal bid process for \$33,000 or less for the project.

Thereupon, it was moved by Mr. Castleman and seconded by Mr. Duncan that the resolution be passed.

Mr. Klopsch referenced the purchasing process that requires any project exceeding \$22,000 to be advertised for two consecutive weeks via sealed bids. This resolution allows the informal bid process to get the best price, rather than the formal process which means you can't negotiate the cost.

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

MRS. JUDY COOK.....YEA
MR. CARLO C. McGINNIS.....YEA
MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....YEA
MR. ROGER C. BLUMENSHEID.....YEA
MR. STANLEY CASTLEMAN.....YEA

There being five (5) yea votes and no (0) nay votes thereon, said resolution was declared duly passed and it was so ordered.

RESOLUTION

BY MR. DUNCAN NO 1662

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PUBLIC RECORDS POLICY OF THE CITY OF OAKWOOD.

A copy of the resolution, having been placed on the desks of each member of council prior to introduction, was read by title. Mr. Duncan explained this adopts a policy to comply with Ohio law relating to public records even though the city has always had an open records policy. Mayor Cook concurred, this doesn't change anything, just updates the policy to conform with state law.

Thereupon, it was moved by Mr. Duncan and seconded by Mr. Blumensheid that the resolution be passed.

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

MRS. JUDY COOK.....YEA
MR. CARLO C. McGINNIS.....YEA
MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....YEA
MR. ROGER C. BLUMENSHEID.....YEA
MR. STANLEY CASTLEMAN.....YEA

There being five (5) yea votes and no (0) nay votes thereon, said resolution was declared duly passed and it was so ordered.

Mr. Klopsch indicated Chief Bebris has been with the city for over a year, after being in Wisconsin with a police background, no formal fire training. Mr. Klopsch indicated Chief Bebris completed the Ohio Fire Academy last fall and earned the respect of fellow officers. However, Chief Bebris'

police credentials did not directly transfer to Ohio so he had to undergo extensive police training. Mr. Klopsch referenced the certificate that signifies the required 160 hours of classroom time and has earned Ohio Peace Officer certification. He extended congratulations to Chief Bebris.

STAFF REPORT

County-Wide Dispatch. Mr. Klopsch referenced comments he has heard about the growth of taxes in the community. He reiterated the city has not raised taxes since 1991 or increased the income tax rate since 1984. However, taxes continually are increased, primarily for the schools. Mr. Klopsch indicated one way to avoid a tax increase is to try and reduce expenses but this typically results in a cut in services. Fortunately, Oakwood has been shielded from this by the estate tax. Although staff is always looking at ways to reduce costs, they know that citizens want Oakwood to stay as is by providing the traditional good service and would not tolerate a reduction in service. Mr. Klopsch reported the dispatch issue was identified two decades ago based on the 17 separate and expensive to operate safety dispatch centers. It was suggested the service be combined to save money and a couple years ago, the Mayors & Managers Association asked Montgomery County to hire a consultant to study savings and operational impact of a county-wide dispatch center. He served on the committee that reviewed the consultant proposals and they felt GeoComm was the best. The report was published last year and includes much data - estimates of possible savings, possible funding, etc. The task then became more difficult as each community reviewed the possible benefits since all are concerned in varying degrees with the greater Dayton area. He reported Oakwood began its study of how they might fit in. He noted there were three active participants (he, Councilman Castleman and Chief Bebris) at meetings which went from a conceptual idea to selecting a location, needed back-up center, etc. Mr. Klopsch reported a few weeks ago, he released to the media his recommendation that Oakwood retain its own dispatch center. He indicated he and Chief Bebris will review their report but the bottom line is that citizens want the personal touch offered by Oakwood's current system and the annual \$100,000 savings doesn't justify changing from that personal service to the county-wide center.

Chief Bebris referenced a PowerPoint presentation which outlined the following information. In January 2007, staff was directed by council to study the issue of possible participation in a regional dispatch center. He will review cost and service delivery comparisons. The first couple slides outlined total wages and benefits estimated for 2008-2012 if Oakwood retains its center. He indicated if they keep their own center, equipment needs replaced/upgraded and he reviewed rough costs and expected equipment life from vendors, training, etc. Mr. Castleman asked if there is the one time outlay of \$187,500. Chief Bebris concurred but reiterated that is only a quote and indicated in the near future they need to be able to map cell phone calls, so have included CAD equipment. Mr. Blumensheid questioned the age of the existing equipment. Chief Bebris indicated some of it was manufactured in 1990. Mr. Klopsch explained that they reviewed plans for the city building upgrade about six years ago and at that time they analyzed the equipment and determined it didn't need replaced. He is pleased that they have gotten their money's worth from the old system. Mr. Blumensheid agreed they are very fortunate on the age of the equipment. Chief Bebris added he has been advised the mother board is no longer manufactured. Mr. Klopsch indicated part of the recommendation to keep Oakwood's dispatch center including a request to move forward on preparing bid documents for new dispatch equipment. Discussion ensued in regard to switching calls to Kettering, that cell phone calls are currently answered by the county, the estimated life expectancy of the new equipment, etc. Mr. Duncan questioned two work stations. Chief Bebris explained the second is a backup "co-pilot" position in case there is a significant emergency and a lot of calls come in. Mr. Klopsch indicated there is no intention of adding another dispatcher. Chief Bebris reviewed total estimated costs for Oakwood to retain its own dispatch center, including personnel and equipment.

Chief Bebris referenced slides that deal with costs if the city were to switch to a regional center. He indicated Oakwood would still maintain the information window and seven digit non-emergency phone number. He was disappointed that GeoComm didn't capture that Oakwood's department dispatchers do more than answer calls. He reviewed the wage and benefit cost to have a staff member at the window to handle walk-ins, etc., as well as the cost of needed equipment to switch over the radio modem for the county system. Chief Bebris referenced other equipment needs if they went with the county-wide system and the costs for new radio modems and installation, different software and manual reporting to the state and federal governments. The next slide outlined the costs if they were to participate in the county-center, including charges per phone call event, wages, benefit and equipment costs. Chief Bebris compared the two programs side-by-side with an estimated cost savings of approximately \$100,000 per year. Mr. Klopsch noted they inadvertently did not include retirement benefits but that would not significantly change the costs. Chief Bebris concluded with his recommendation to City Manager Klopsch, on behalf of the department, that Oakwood not participate in the county-wide dispatch program.

Mr. Duncan wondered if response time would increase if they went with the county. Chief Bebris doesn't believe so, but reiterated they would lose the personal touch the current dispatchers provide. Although he initially believed in the concept, Chief Bebris indicated this program would best serve larger departments. Mr. Duncan noted Oakwood is the only jurisdiction with all three services – police, fire and EMS. Chief Bebris indicated Oakwood provides quicker response time when a call is received since it doesn't have to be sent to a different dispatcher, i.e., if calling Kettering there are separate police and fire dispatchers. Mr. Blumensheid noted Oakwood dispatchers don't stop after the initial call but continue to help and monitor. Chief Bebris agreed adding they also do personnel checks, etc., more than just answer and pass along. Mr. Klopsch noted the 911 cell phone calls are still a remaining issue and within a year, they need to obtain technology for cell calls to come directly to Oakwood. Mr. Klopsch indicated throughout this process he has gotten to know Sheriff Vore, Deb Feldman, Dan Foley and Mike Ratcliff. He has the highest regard for all and pointed out their main concern is for public safety, nothing to do with building a bigger department or power issue, but the best for the public in a regional manner. Mr. Duncan suggested cell phones be programmed to speed dial the seven digit Oakwood number, versus 911 since he had heard about a bad experience when someone used their cell phone to call 911. Mr. Blumensheid asked if the seven digit land line call is able to locate the house. Chief Bebris concurred and noted the cell phone currently doesn't provide a location, but will in the future per FCC regulations. Mayor Cook noted the current cell phone tax will be used to help locate addresses. Mr. Castleman expressed concern with possible risk if he is driving in Beavercreek and presses the Oakwood seven digit instead of 911. Chief Bebris believed dialing 911 is the best option on a mobile phone.

Mr. Blumensheid asked for a short summary of the recommendation. Mr. Klopsch indicated staff has studied the issue thoroughly, listened to the community and believe citizens are more comfortable in retaining their own dispatch center. He explained they can operate, as they have in the past; and although there may be a day in the future where this change is needed, the city isn't at that point yet.

Therefore, it was moved by Mr. Blumensheid and seconded by Mr. Castleman that in regard to the county-wide dispatch issue, council accept the recommendation of the city manager and staff to not participate; that the county be informed the city will not be joining; that the city manager be directed to prepare for an upgrade to the Oakwood dispatch center as part of the 2008 Budget; and that the city manager pursue an arrangement whereby the county-wide PSAP will serve as Oakwood's backup center.

Mr. Duncan noted it would cost \$100,000 per year to not join. Mayor Cook believes staff presented the best argument that the current dispatch center provides personalized service.

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

MRS. JUDY COOK.....YEA
MR. CARLO C. MCGINNIS.....YEA
MR. WILLIAM D. DUNCAN.....YEA
MR. ROGER C. BLUMENSHEID.....YEA
MR. STANLEY CASTLEMAN.....YEA

There being five (5) yea votes and no (0) nay votes thereon, said motion was declared duly passed and it was so ordered.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS

Oakwood Avenue. Mr. Klopsch reported the project began last week with pavement sawing and excavation work and urged citizens to keep an eye out for barrels and workers.

Street Projects. Mr. Klopsch referenced the street sealing project and the "gravel like" surface. He explained this is not the finished product; there will be a final sealer. He noted everyone on the street frontages received a post card about the work.

Mr. McGinnis questioned the financial analysis to pay for the playing fields and details on the budget process. Mr. Klopsch indicated it's been a year since the property was acquired, the fields are being used and as the owners the city can make improvements. He referenced the list of candidates to help review the future of the 28-acres, soccer field off Irving and the Community Center to develop a long-term plan as a multi-phased project. He indicated those with soccer interests want it to remain as is, yet there are others who want an indoor basketball court, etc. Mayor Cook suggested they also include the natural areas in the study. Mr. Klopsch also considered a telephone survey.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Blumensheid reported on recent information from the FCC, via NLC, on consideration of leveling cable television and “peg” channels (public, education and government). He also noted the FCC has established that by February, 2009 everyone must have a high definition television in order to receive television signals.

Mr. Duncan referenced one of the great things about Oakwood is the community ambiance. He recently attended the Spirea block party which was a lot of fun, included face painting, fire truck visit, etc. Mayor Cook noted the Centennial Committee has suggested block parties as a way to celebrate.

Mayor Cook indicated the Fall Festival and Scarecrow Row are upcoming and encouraged participation. She also reported preparation for the Centennial celebration is fast growing.

Council adjourned. The public meeting concluded at 9:13 p.m.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CLERK OF COUNCIL