

CITY OF OAKWOOD
STATE OF OHIO
JULY 21, 2014

The Council of the city of Oakwood, State of Ohio, met in an executive session from 6:30 p.m. to 6:50 p.m., followed immediately by a work session in the conference 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 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.....PRESENT
MR. ROBERT P. STEPHENS.....PRESENT
MRS. ANNE S. HILTON.....PRESENT
MR. CHRISTOPHER B. EPLEY.....PRESENT

Officers of the city present were the following:

Mr. Norbert S. Klopsch, City Manager
Mr. Robert F. Jacques, City Attorney
Mr. Jay A. Weiskircher, Assistant City Manager
Chief Alex Bebris, Director of Public Safety
Ms. Lori L. Stacel, Clerk of Council

The following visitors registered:

Steve Stanley, 615 Oakwood Avenue
Lu Ann Stanley, 615 Oakwood Avenue
Stefanie Campbell, 271 Schenck Avenue
Ethan Lethander, 107 Aberdeen Avenue
Andrew Lethander, 107 Aberdeen Avenue
Brian Barr, Oakwood Register

Mrs. Hilton advised Council she had read the minutes of the June 2 regular, executive and work sessions and June 23 work session of Council. 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

PSO Swear-In – Mayor Duncan recognized new Public Safety Officer Ryan Rump and his family and then administered the Oath of Office. Chief Bebris introduced Ryan Rump and shared that he started as a fireman at 18 years old and a law enforcement officer at the age 21. He comes to the city already trained in all three public safety disciplines and is very capable. He is proud to have Ryan Rump as part of the team.

Committee Appointments – Mayor Duncan announced new committee appointments of Leigh Turben to the Budget Review Committee, Linda Weprin to the Board of Zoning Appeals and Geoffrey Owens to the Environmental Committee.

It was moved by Mayor Duncan and seconded by Mrs. Hilton 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.

Proclamation on Feed Ohio – Mayor Duncan read a Proclamation recognizing Feed Ohio as a worthy initiative and encouraging all citizens to get involved by volunteering in their communities to give what they can to help individuals and families struggling with hunger.

Mayor Duncan reported that residents and businesses may begin using Oakwood, Ohio, followed by their appropriate zip code (45409 or 45419) on the last line for postal mailings. He thanked Lu Ann Stanley, President of the Wright Library Board of Trustees, for promoting the idea and for working with the city to get the job done. He asked the City Attorney to comment on the lengthy process that resulted in this change.

Mr. Jacques thanked Lu Ann Stanley for all of her efforts in getting this change approved. He shared that a formal written request and listing of Oakwood mailing addresses was submitted and approved by the Cincinnati district office of the United States Postal Service, but found that this request also required additional approval from the USPS address headquarters facility in Memphis, Tennessee, but the request stalled when it was sent for that final approval. After not receiving action for a few months, Mr. Jacques contacted Congressman Mike Turner's office for assistance in this matter and 48 hours later the address change was approved.

VISITORS

Ethan Lethander from Boy Scout Troup 193 introduced himself to Council and reported that he was attending as part of the requirements for a merit badge.

STAFF REPORT

Deputy City Manager Presentation: Mr. Jay Weiskircher, Assistant City Manager, referenced a PowerPoint presentation and updated Council on Property Maintenance, Pointe Oakwood, Routsong Retail Center, Collective Bargaining and the Oakwood Farmers' Market.

Mr. Weiskircher reported that Oakwood adopted one of the first Property Maintenance Codes in the Dayton area in 1968. He went on to explain that many cities have a property maintenance process, but the majority of the time they are complaint driven. Oakwood currently uses the International Property Maintenance Code. 90% of the process is driven by city staff finding violations with the balance from complaint follow-up. Properties with violations receive a letter identifying the violation and establishing a period of time to complete corrective action. The City works with property owners who require additional time to correct violations. In rare circumstances where property owners make no attempt to correct the violations, citations are issued which require the property owner to appear in Oakwood Municipal Court. Mr. Weiskircher explained that there are continuing challenges such as foreclosures and weeds. He reported that there are currently seven properties in foreclosure and so far in 2014, the city has issued 71 weed notices and the Public Works Department has had to mow 10 properties. Mr. Weiskircher encourages residents to contact the city with any complaints and assures that they will remain anonymous.

Mr. Weiskircher reported that at the Planning Commission meeting last Wednesday, the Pointe Oakwood developer presented an amended condominium plan. The amended plan proposes two-3 story and one-2 story buildings with a total of 23 condominium units varying in size from 1,800 to 2,800 square feet. It was recommended for approval and will be forwarded to Oakwood City Council for consideration at the August meeting. Mr. Weiskircher reviewed renderings of the condominium units and the townhomes. He also presented photos of a single family home under construction. Two townhomes have been completed and out of four units, two have been leased or sold.

Regarding the Routsong Retail Center, Mr. Weiskircher reported that Saxbys Coffee opened in March and Firehouse Subs opened in May. The Orange Leaf Yogurt and VaporCast E-Cigarette Shop are pending.

Mr. Weiskircher reported that the existing contracts with the public safety officers, dispatchers and lieutenants are scheduled to expire later this year. The City has reached out to all three unions and asked for a second consecutive year of wage freezes. Public safety officers have already voted to accept a wage freeze and the dispatchers, although they have not voted yet, have verbally indicated their willingness to accept a wage freeze. There will be legislation at the August meeting authorizing the City Manager to sign one year agreements with both the public safety officers and dispatchers.

Mr. Weiskircher thanked members of the Oakwood Farmers' Market and Oakwood citizens for making the market a success. The market is open every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. from June through August with 30+ participating vendors.

Mr. Stephens asked if the properties that required the city to mow were repeat offenders or all different addresses. Mr. Weiskircher explained that there can be repeat offenders. He added that legislation will be presented later this year to assess the charges through property tax collection. Mr. Stephens inquired about where the city ranks compared to past years with the foreclosures. Mr. Weiskircher said that the foreclosures are less compared to a few years ago. Mr. Stephens asked about the status of single homes along Old River Trail by the Old River soccer fields. Mr. Weiskircher explained that different options are being explored now that an architect from Indianapolis is involved in the project.

Mayor Duncan asked how the existing business owners in the Business District were affected by the Farmers' Market. Mr. Weiskircher shared that business traffic has increased during the times of the Farmers' Market. Mayor Duncan asked if there will be an event planned around the Christmas season. Mr. Weiskircher stated that he hasn't heard if it would be planned this year or possibly next year.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT— Mr. Klopsch explained that several years ago, a few property owners found it convenient for the City to do their mowing. After looking into this further, an administrative fee of \$100 is issued per mowing which is a deterrent for citizens looking at city staff as their mowing service. This fee covers costs incurred to issue notices, track compliance, and for billing and certification of unpaid invoices to the county auditor.

Mr. Klopsch welcomed PSO Ryan Rump and shared how fortunate the city is to find someone that is certified in all three disciplines as a firefighter, EMT and police officer. He explained that it is very rare to hire someone with all certifications and he looks forward to integrating Mr. Rump into our staff.

Mr. Klopsch thanked the Public Works employees for all of their assistance in removing the debris and tree limbs over the past few weeks due to the wind storms.

Mr. Klopsch provided updates on construction work being done around the city. He shared that the RTA pole replacement project along Far Hills is complete, other than some wire work off and on through the month of August. The Vectren gas line project is moving along well with the main gas distribution line being replaced. The contractor will begin contacting individual homeowners to schedule service line work. The sidewalk and street repair is moving along well. The Asphalt Pavement Project will begin this week and all property owners impacted have received postcards. The work should take approximately 2-3 weeks and the new asphalt should last 10-20 years before resurfacing is needed.

Mayor Duncan inquired about the status of the injured Public Safety Officer. Mr. Klopsch shared that PSO Jeremy Smith was injured in a motorcycle accident on his way to work on May 30 and is due back to work this week. He added that we will be happy to have him back.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mrs. Hilton said that she consistently hears how responsive and great Jay Weiskircher is to work with from citizens and she thanked him for everything he does. Mrs. Hilton shared that she recently had the opportunity to visit Le Vésinet which reminded her of Oakwood. She said it was extremely charming with beautiful gardens and nice cafes.

Mayor Duncan reported that last month, he represented the city by attending a meeting with State Senator Peterson to discuss House Bill 5. The same problems exist with the current version of House Bill 5, and something will more than likely be passed in the lame duck session late this year. Mayor Duncan added that he was also involved in a House Bill 5 discussion panel at a Ohio Municipal League conference. There was discussion on how local governments impact local businesses. The consensus was that, by and large, businesses do not consider city taxes when they are relocating.

Mayor Duncan shared that he and Mr. Klopsch attended the 88th Air Base Wing Change of command ceremony where Colonel Cassie Barlow relinquished command to Colonel John Devillier. He explained that the Wing Commander position is like being the mayor of Wright Patterson. He added that there was a large turnout of local mayors and state officials with great community involvement.

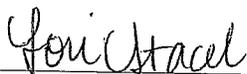
Mayor Duncan reported that the August 4 council meeting will be rescheduled to August 18.

The public meeting concluded at 8:13 p.m.



MAYOR

ATTEST:



CLERK OF COUNCIL