

MINUTES
OAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
JULY 21, 2014

The council of the city of Oakwood, Ohio, met in a work session on Monday, July 21, 2014 in the conference room of the Oakwood Municipal Building, 30 Park Avenue. The Mayor of the city, William Duncan, presided. Council members in attendance were Mayor William Duncan, Vice Mayor Steve Byington, Rob Stephens, Anne Hilton and Chris Epley. Staff in attendance were City Manager Norbert Klopsch and Law Director Rob Jacques.

Mayor Duncan called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and opened with an executive session for personnel matters. Assistant City Manager Jay Weiskircher joined the meeting for this session.

At 6:50 p.m., Mayor Duncan closed the executive session. Mayor Duncan then opened the council work session which began with a discussion on Irving Avenue issues. Councilmember Anne Hilton reported that she had recently met with Martha Haley, a member of the North Oakwood Association. Mrs. Haley inquired about the status of city efforts to mitigate the impact of UD student activity on the north Oakwood neighborhood. Jay Weiskircher reported that the city continues to actively monitor UD student activity and responds to all citizen complaints. He explained how the city continues to enforce the limit of two unrelated persons living in a single residence and that the condition of the alleys has improved significantly with implementation of the roll waste containers. Mr. Weiskircher added that he has requested from UD a list of improvements completed by the university over the past ten or so years that have a positive impact on the north Oakwood neighborhood. The discussion concluded with a continuing commitment by the city to monitor the north Oakwood neighborhood. Mr. Weiskircher departed the meeting at this time.

Mayor Duncan continued the work session by reviewing the agenda for the formal council meeting this evening. Thereafter, he led a discussion on the following agenda items:

- **STATUS REPORTS:** Mayor Duncan noted that PSO Ryan Rump will be administered the oath of office at the formal meeting this evening. Also, Mayor Duncan will ask Council to appoint the following three persons to serve on citizen committees:
 - Linda Weprin, BZA
 - Leigh Turben, Budget Review Committee (Precinct C)
 - Geoffrey Owens, Environmental Committee

Mayor Duncan then reported that he will read a proclamation on Feed Ohio at the formal meeting this evening.

- **VISITORS:** Mayor Duncan noted that there were no visitors scheduled for the formal meeting this evening.
- **LEGISLATION:** Mayor Duncan reported that there was no legislation on the agenda for the formal meeting this evening.
- **COUNCIL COMMITTEES**
 - **FINANCE,** Mayor Duncan
 - 2014 Property Revaluation: Not discussed.
 - 2015 Budget: Not discussed.

- PUBLIC PROPERTIES, Mr. Epley
 - Public Service Radio System: Mr. Klopsch reported that staff is continuing work on determining the best course of action regarding replacement of the public service radio system. At this point, the 2015 budget will include money to replace the dispatch console and the mobile and portable radios. It will also include money to establish a standalone VHF radio system for the public works department. This can be done at a much lower cost than keeping the public works department on the county-wide radio system. In terms of the tower and repeater system, focus is on remaining with Montgomery County and to have all jurisdictions within the county on a single system that would be operated under Ohio's MARCS system.

- STREETS & ALLEYS, Mr. Stephens
 - Tree Maintenance: Not discussed.

- MISCELLANEOUS
 - Household Pest Control: Mr. Klopsch reported that the next council meeting agenda will include an ordinance amending the city code in regard to permitted actions regarding pest control within Oakwood residences. Mr. Jacques added that this is a minor change that gives property owners wide latitude in addressing pest issues within their homes.
 - Mack Hummon Field Improvements: Mr. Klopsch noted that he recently met with representatives from the Oakwood Athletic Boosters Association to hear their ideas on possibly pursuing installation of an artificial turf at Mack Hummon Field. If pursued, this would likely be done entirely with private funding. Mr. Klopsch noted that Councilmember Rob Stephens had expressed an interest in serving as Council's representative in future discussions on this topic.
 - Flag Celebration: Mr. Klopsch explained that an Oakwood resident recently suggested that the city consider establishing a new program where US flags would periodically be placed along the Shafor Blvd. corridor on two or three holiday weekends each year. Depending on how many flags are placed, the cost would range from \$700 to \$1,300. Mr. Klopsch suggested that this cost could be paid for through an Oakwood Rotary Club grant. He added that the work of placing and removing the flags could be done by volunteer Boy Scouts. With no objection expressed, staff will work towards establishing this new community event to begin in 2015.
 - School District Funding: Mr. Klopsch explained that the Oakwood schools have completed committee work on analyzing pros and cons of pursuing a school district income tax. The committee report will be presented to the School Board after which the Board will consider next steps.
 - Street Sign Disposal: Mr. Klopsch noted that over the past year, the city has replaced about 50% of the street signs with the balance to be replaced next year. As was done about 15 years ago when the last street sign replacement project was completed, the city will offer, via sealed bids, old signs for purchase by Oakwood residents.
 - Board of Health: Mr. Klopsch reported that with the decrease in county-wide property valuation and resulting drop in funding for the human service levies, part of which pays for the Montgomery County Health District, the city may be confronted with efforts to further reduce the annual stipend that Oakwood receives as the only community in Montgomery County that

operates a local health district. From 1988 to 2011 that stipend was approximately \$129,000 annually. In 2012, it was reduced to about \$116,000 annually.

- Public Facilities Task Force: Mr. Klopsch explained that this task force was originally assembled in the late 1990's to assist Council and staff with planning efforts relating to the major reconstruction project at the public works center and city/safety building. The committee has not met over the past 10 years and Mr. Klopsch suggests that it be dissolved at the end of 2014.
- August 4 Council Meeting: Mr. Klopsch reported that he and city attorney Rob Jacques will be away on August 4 and unable to attend the council meeting. He suggested that this meeting be cancelled and the formal meeting conducted on August 18. Council concurred.
- Discover America: Mayor Duncan explained that the city was contacted by a producer of the program "Discover America". They are interested in considering Oakwood for a five minute segment on an upcoming program titled "Communities of Distinction". The program is broadcast once nationally on the Discovery Channel and 19 additional times regionally on ABC, FOX and/or on ION. Mayor Duncan added that the city would be required to make a financial commitment of \$19,800 to be part of this program. There was no interest on City Council to make this financial commitment.
- Free Speech: Mrs. Hilton mentioned that she had recently spoken to Oakwood resident Tom Dalrymple regarding some First Amendment issues. Mr. Klopsch noted that Safety Director Alex Bebris and Attorney Rob Jacques will meet with Mr. Dalrymple to address his issues.

There being no other business, Mayor Duncan adjourned the pre-council work session at 7:26 p.m. at which time Council moved to the formal meeting.



Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk of Council