
VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 28, 2020

PRESENT:

Johnnie Warren-Council President
Elaine Gaither – Council-at-Large
Eloise Hardin – Ward 2
Melanie Sanders – Ward 3
Patricia Rogers – Ward 4

Ami Imbrogno – Law Dept.
Brian Thompson-Finance
James Schade-Fire Chief*
Tom Haba – Service Director
Mark Garratt-Police Chief

ABSENT:

Chris C. Callender – Ward 1
Candace S Williams – Ward 5
Ed Hren-Engineer
James Climer-Law Dept.

Gary Gottschalk-Mayor
Carlean Perez – Recreation Director
Crystal A Williams-Housing Inspector
Dan Marinucci-Chief Building Official

* Late Arrival

Warren opened the meeting at 7:00 pm
Pledge of Allegiance and Roll call were completed.

Departmental Reports

Finance-Thompson: I met with Premier today and received the \$20,000 check.

Fire-Schade: Everything is going well.

Service-Haba: The Mayor wanted to complete the tear down of the house by the freeway on Alexander. The utilities were turned off. We are waiting for the electricity to be turned off, then the Fire Chief can proceed. **Hardin:** That is Ward 4. Under what conditions are we tearing that down? **Haba:** I understand, once they are down, Premier will move forward. **Mayor:** Premier bought both houses and the land by the freeway. **Hardin:** Excuse me, I wasn't certain what you were talking about. **Mayor:** Both were bought by Premier. **Hardin:** I like to know those things. **Warren:** The purpose of burning them is for the Fire Dept. to get some practice. **Rogers:** I assume you haven't heard anything else about Simple Recycling. **Haba:** I will contact them again. With all the recycling being down, I assume it has decreased for them as well. **Mayor:** One city has tripled their recycling costs due to this downturn. **Hardin** thanked Mr. Haba for adding the few houses to the list of snowplowing. Next year, we will have people come in and get a receipt as proof they are on the program. We need help in the procedure. **Haba:** We need a receipt of sorts to have proof even though they don't have to pay for it. It serves as proof. **Warren:** Do we have a waiver for that? **Haba:** Yes, when they initially sign up. **Hardin:** There is a \$10 charge if you are late. That is not consistent. **Haba:** We started that last year. We give people six weeks to sign up. **Hardin:** To the Mayor, Brian and the Office Manager, there must be consistent deadlines. **Thompson** asked the deadline. **Haba:** It was December 6th this year. We give them an extension. They will have to come in and sign something. **Mayor:** They can have a grandchild living at the house, why can't they do the snow removal? **Haba:** A lot of big cities don't do this any longer. **Hardin:** This is a good year to get it consistent. **Schade:** Legally we can't burn those houses due to the EPA. We can do training and remove contaminants, but we can't burn the houses down. **Mayor:** That one house has black mold. I am sure the neighbors are thrilled it is coming down.

Law- Imbrogno: Nothing to report currently.

Mayoral Report-Mayor: Today was interesting; I had breakfast with the new President of Ahuja. They are doubling their size. We will hold a breakfast at Mt. Zion with our biggest companies present along with the biggest companies of our neighboring communities. UH will be providing immediate treatment at the Emergency Room rather than waiting. **Schade:** UH holds trainings three-four times a month at our fire station. There are also outside trainings at their facilities. **Mayor:** They provide us CPR training for summer camp and the opportunities available in the medical field free of

charge. **Hardin** asked about the benefit of not waiting in the ER. **Mayor:** For example, if you are working at Medical Service, etc. and you need to be seen at the ER, you can get immediate treatment. I also spoke with Ford Land Company which is the real estate company for Ford Motor. Oakleaf and Fair Oaks, adjoining I-271, have been battered down with Kokosing being here. That along with a third lane going south to Alexander, with the 110 acres at the old Ford Plant and MGM, let's get into place what will be happening there, let's deal with the cost for the infrastructure now. You have Greater Cleveland Partnership, Team NEO, Jobs Ohio and ODOT which will all meet in three weeks. We are looking at over \$3 million work done here. How much will they put up? This doesn't include the job site. This must be done for our site to be successful along with the sites in Walton Hills and MGM. We want to get grant funds for this. **Hardin:** Will this be coming off our road? **Mayor:** Yes. **Warren:** For the expansion we will have to do another traffic study for the ingress and egress in and out of Oakwood. **Mayor:** Correct. I will have the Police Chief with me at these upcoming meetings. They called us. I told Brian not to take any calls from the media at this point until everything is signed. That is one of the biggest mistakes made. **Warren** mentioned Kokosing completed the I-271 northbound pavement. Hopefully that will open soon.

Bedford-Forbes Road Grant

Mayor: Bedford applied for a grant for Forbes. We will have ours from I-271 and Forbes Road in 2022. That includes the Bedford Heights side. However, this is from Forbes between Northfield and Broadway. Bedford has half the road and we have the other half. About 10 years ago they had a waterline put in. We went along with it. We have so many projects going on right now. Our portion would have been \$87,000. I rejected it. They should have informed us they were applying. Secondly, we could have agreed if we could pay in the second half of 2022. They did not agree. They may do their half by themselves. There is no way we can justify that expense right now. **Haba:** If they do their half and we don't do ours, it will look bad. **Warren:** We usually go in with a joint grant when we do projects like that; just like with Bedford Heights. **Mayor:** We did this 10 years ago with no issue. They aren't willing to wait. Just like the strip mall at Rockside and Northfield Road; they were going to put in a hospital for the mentally ill without telling Bedford Heights. I informed Bedford Heights and they stopped it. **Hardin** asked about their funding. **Mayor:** It is through the County. We will do our side when we are able to. They are doing asphalt instead of concrete. The trucks beat up asphalt. **Hardin** asked him to work on that. **Mayor:** The next two to three years are going to be glorious. **Warren:** You must collaborate. **Mayor:** They went on their own. They never called me back when I told our Engineer we couldn't do this. **Warren:** They already had the proposals. The only thing we can do is see if they are willing to hold off one year and get the County to extend the grant. We will speak with Ed. **Mayor:** Ed is aware of this. I wanted to inform you of this.

Open Floor Comments

Rev Brenda Dixon 7209 Lamson Road, Oakwood: The two times it snowed, why is just down the middle of the driveway done? **Haba:** That is what they are supposed to do at \$10 a driveway. The price hasn't gone up. Sometimes they do a little more, other times they just do one swipe. You can't get anyone to do your driveway for that price. **Dixon:** I have been here 18 years but have never seen it done that way. **Haba:** That is the way it is done usually. **Dixon:** The person across the street from me almost hurt herself three times. **Haba:** The gentleman doing yours is new. I will talk to him. **Dixon:** Thank you. The flashing light at Forbes and Free has a speed limit of 35 mph. There are a lot of trucks going up and down that street, especially when kids are going and coming from school. I appreciate the sign, but it is still 35. Normally during the day is fine for me but during that time between 8:30-9:30am and 3:00-3:30pm, can anything be done? **Garratt:** That is why you are there as a crossing guard. That is Bedford too. Come see me during the week and maybe we can do something. **Dixon:** Within half an hour there were 30 trucks. **Garratt:** We do a traffic count and a speed monitor there. In two days, we had 30,000 vehicles in one direction. We only had two cars speeding but, in that area, it seems faster. When a truck goes 35 mph it is different than a car goes that speed. **Dixon:** They can't stop. **Mayor:** During the morning and afternoon hours, can the speed limit go down? **Garratt:** In theory it sounds great, but the realization is nobody will pay attention to it. **Mayor:** Unless we have something more permanent; a flashing sign. **Garratt:** I have an idea which could work. I have to see if I can do it first. **Dixon** asked who shovels the lot I park in at Bedford Cabinet? **Garratt:** It is privately owned. **Dixon:** I couldn't get to the pole. **Haba** suggested she call Service to assist.

Floor Closed

Legislation

2020-04

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Chagrin Valley Engineering LTD and setting forth the compensation and functions of the Village Engineer and his firm

Moved to third reading

Hardin asked about it. **Mayor:** I would like Ed Hren here to address those. He is out of town presently. This will not be passed until he answers your questions. **Rogers:** I no longer have the concerns I spoke to you about. **Warren:** We will still have Ed here at the next meeting.

2020-06 A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District and North East Ohio Regional Sewer District to provide U.S. EPA phase II storm water services for the 2020 calendar year, and declaring an emergency

MOTION TO SUSPEND made by Hardin seconded by Rogers
5 YES VOTES: Warren, Gaither, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers

MOTION TO ADOPT made by Hardin seconded by Rogers
5 YES VOTES: Warren, Gaither, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers

Mayor: There is an agreement with the City of Cleveland which would give us Cleveland Water. I didn't sign it yet. In it, we would have to limit our incentivization from Cleveland to Oakwood to only 75% CRA for 10 years rather than 15 years. Additionally, it would mean we would have to give 50% of our withholding collections to the City of Cleveland for five years. I strongly objected to this; however, it appears back in 2007, it had the same thing. I would never expect a company from Cleveland to move to Oakwood however, it is possible now. Imagine having to give up to 50% of our withholdings. I can understand if there isn't another site to expand, we shouldn't have this handicap. Knowing that was on the last agreement, we are signing it. It may curtail us having a smaller company here from Cleveland but certainly the larger ones with \$14 million is not in Cleveland. Premier is a major developer and they weren't aware of this either.

Hardin asked how long that is in effect. **Mayor:** For some time now. The agreement includes you will not get Cleveland Water if you don't sign it. That agreement will be on the next agenda.

2020-07 A resolution of condolences to the family of Rev. Willo Early

MOTION TO SUSPEND made by Gaither seconded by Hardin
5 YES VOTES: Warren, Gaither, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers

MOTION TO ADOPT made by Gaither seconded by Rogers
5 YES VOTES: Warren, Gaither, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers

2020-08 A resolution of condolences to the family of Glyn Chester Goins

MOTION TO SUSPEND made by Gaither seconded by Hardin
5 YES VOTES: Warren, Gaither, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers

MOTION TO ADOPT made by Hardin seconded by Sanders
5 YES VOTES: Warren, Gaither, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers

Hardin: The family wanted to thank Council and the personal assistance Debbie gave them. She was of great assistance to them in his passing.

2020-09 A resolution of condolences to the family of Pearline Burks

MOTION TO SUSPEND made by Gaither seconded by Hardin
5 YES VOTES: Warren, Gaither, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers

MOTION TO ADOPT made by Gaither seconded by Rogers

5 YES VOTES: Warren, Gaither, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers

Mayor: I called up Mayor Jackson about the Burks passing to try to make the service. He couldn't be there but sent a nice message of condolence which was read. Her husband, Wilbert, ran the Club Cleveland which was one of the places to go for about 50 years. People like Martin Luth King Jr., George Forbes to Louis Stokes, and I am sure Frank Jackson visited it. It was the place to be. This is the wife of Wilbert Burks. **Warren:** That was Darlene Harris' mother. Their uncle was Walter Burks who was a developer and electrical contractor in Cleveland. **Hardin:** Wilbert retired as commissioner.

MOTION TO APPROVE minutes of January 14, 2020 made by Gaither seconded by Rogers

5 YES VOTES: Warren, Gaither, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers

Motion to adjourn by Gaither seconded by Hardin

5 YES VOTES: Warren, Gaither, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers

Adjourned at 8:49 pm

Approved: February 11, 2020

Johnnie A. Warren
Johnnie Warren, Council President

Debra L. Hladky
Debra L. Hladky, Clerk of Council

**VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD
COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
January 28, 2020**

PRESENT:

Johnnie Warren-Council President
Elaine Gaither – Council-at-Large
Eloise Hardin – Ward 2
Melanie Sanders – Ward 3
Patricia Rogers – Ward 4

Ami Imbrogno – Law Dept.
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Gary Gottschalk-Mayor
Carlean Perez – Recreation Director
Crystal A Williams-Housing Inspector
Dan Marinucci-Chief Building Official

No meeting was held

Approved: _____

February 11, 2020

Johnnie A. Warren

Johnnie Warren, Council President

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Debra L. Hladky, Clerk of Council