
VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 23, 2020

PRESENT:

Johnnie Warren-Council President
Elaine Gaither – Council-at-Large
Chris C. Callender – Ward 1
Melanie Sanders – Ward 3
Patricia Rogers – Ward 4
Candace S Williams – Ward 5

Gary Gottschalk-Mayor
Brian Thompson-Finance
James Climer-Law Dept.
Tom Haba – Service Director
Mark Garratt-Police Chief
Dan Marinucci-Chief Building Official

ABSENT:

Eloise Hardin – Ward 2
James Schade-Fire Chief

Carlean Perez – Recreation Director
Ed Hren-Engineer
Crystal A Williams-Housing Inspector

* = *Late Arrival*

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

Motion to approve minutes of June 9, 2020 made by Williams seconded by Callender
YES: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Rogers, Williams Sanders Abstained by Sanders

Departmental Reports

Finance-Thompson did not have a report. **Warren:** Although we received funds from RITA and BWC, showing revenues are nearly equal to 2019, we are down in revenue from a year ago. **Thompson:** Yes. **Warren:** I am optimistic since we would have received these funds later in July. **Thompson:** Yes. **Warren:** By July we will see more realistically the finance disparity.

Law-Climer: The Premier Development project agreement is nearly complete. Late last week, Governor DeWine signed the CARES Act funding some revenues potentially giving municipalities funds for Covid related expenses. Ms. Hladky sent the legislation to the County Fiscal Officer. **Warren** asked about restrictions for use of the funds. **Climer:** The expenses must be documented for items related to Covid. If funds are not all used in the first round, we will not be eligible for the second round. **Warren:** The State released 1/3 of the funds and has 2/3 of the funds set aside for the second round.

Police-Garratt: A few weeks ago, two officers tested positive for Covid. They are quarantined. Any officers exposed go to the doctor. Both officers displayed mild symptoms. No other officers have shown signs or symptoms of the virus. He thanked Tom Haba for the signs at the basketball court. Monitoring is being done daily. Rubbish was picked up there. Thirdly, I-271 is open in Oakwood. It is working well with a lot less accidents,

Service-Haba: Two weeks ago, we installed signs at the basketball court. The next day a lot of trash was picked up. Monday the Police called with a lot of broken glass and trash again. This has happened in the past, but not to this extent. **Warren** suggested posting liter signs. **Haba:** We will get them up tomorrow. Each displays a fine of \$750. **Warren:** It will be a deterrent. **Callender:** How many trash cans are there. **Haba:** Three. **Warren:** Were they full? **Haba:** No.

Building-Marinucci: No report. **Warren** asked about the Ward 4 Exterior Maintenance. **Marinucci** We completed all applications. Pictures were taken of final work completed. I received a call today about a property which sold. The new owner wants to comply with the grant. **Warren** asked about the process for this case. **Rogers:** I heard about it. I thought the homeowner is completing the project prior to moving. **Marinucci:** I may have misunderstood. **Clerk:** The homeowner contacted me and wanted to know if he could still proceed. I spoke to Ms. Rogers about it and understand from my conversation with her, his application was approved prior to his wife getting a job transfer out of state, so he still

qualifies for the grant. **Sanders** asked for verification. **Warren** asked the Mayor if the new owner is doing the work, would that be approved. **Mayor:** Yes. *Note: The day after this meeting was held, Ms. Rogers verified the owner is doing the work prior to moving.*

CMHA Properties

Williams asked about maintenance on CMHA properties. A garage opening is covered by plywood. **Mayor:** After the last meeting, at 4:30 am someone plowed their car into the garage. the Police tracked the driver down. This occurred four houses from the basketball court. The vehicle was found in Cleveland. Insurance will cover the damage.

Property Reports

Williams asked about compliance reports for the Wards. **Marinucci:** I emailed those to Debbie in a spreadsheet. **Rogers:** I saw the email. It only addresses grass and trash cans. **Marinucci:** The trash cans are not brought back to the house the next day after rubbish pickup. **Rogers:** There are some homes in disrepair. Is Robert able to handle that? **Marinucci:** He will be expanding his abilities. He is a fast learner. Bear in mind, we were in virtual seminars three days last week. We are all taking the classes. **Warren** mentioned the Code Academy is virtual now. **Marinucci** mentioned it is delayed until November. **Warren:** It was held in March. **Marinucci** mentioned he was not aware of that.

Questions about 2020-56

Warren asked the Law Director about 2020-56. **Climer:** It is on first reading and refers to 10.02 of the Charter. That was in response to a request from Ms. Hardin about dispensing with three readings narrowing the time frame. **Rogers** asked about it. **Climer:** It is consistent with the other Section of the Charter which did not pass, dealing with suspension of rules. Several were confused about this and the legislation on work session. **Climer** explained it was intended to maintain consistency with other amendments. He will research the one on work session and this one and give a written explanation for clarification. **Warren** asked the Clerk to send the minutes of the last meeting to the Law Director referring to when Hardin brought up this legislation. **Clerk** confirmed she will follow through.

*Mayoral Report-***Mayor:** The Fire Chief mentioned to me, in the last three months we have averaged more suicides. The lock down has had detrimental effect on anxiety and depression. The media does not report this. **Gaither** mentioned nursing homes are hot spots for the virus. She asked about the number of cases in Oakwood facilities **Mayor:** We are good. Visitors are not permitted in the facilities. It has been minor here. He mentioned anti-body virus testing will take place for some employees at the Village. It is a far more accurate test since it is a blood test. **Williams:** I received a call from a resident about Black Lives Matter. We need to address this in the community. **Mayor:** I will have a response at the next meeting, and it will be impactful. **Warren** mentioned the nursing home allowed family members to drive by and see residents there through the windows. **Mayor** mentioned Mt. Zion recognized care givers as did Home Instead. They are warriors.

Open Floor Comments

LaShon Sawyer 26275 Dennisport: I appreciate the number and projections regarding mental health. She suggested sharing resources via email and mailings to families in the Village who may be experiencing mental health issues or someone in the household. **Warren:** I sent out a newsletter 60 days ago to residents listing available resources of the County and State. I did not home in on specific illnesses. It is a good idea to carefully and skillfully craft and send something out. **Sawyer:** I appreciate you sending that out to your Ward. That is a first step. **Warren:** It was sent to the entire community. **Sawyer** suggested leveraging with multiple locations like the library system for resources and email system including #611 and connecting people to domestic violence hotlines. **Gaither:** The Southeast Branch is not open yet. **Sawyer:** It will open next week. **Gaither:** It is not open yet. Our Police Chief does welfare checks. If you bring other ideas to the Police Dept., we can implement them. We are looking at how we can serve our community, especially during the shelter in place order. **Sawyer** asked that something be sent out from the leadership regarding Black Lives Matter and other incidents going on. Being silent sometimes is deafening. I am glad to hear you will have something prepared for the next meeting which will be impactful. I also respectfully ask you to move through these times responding on a timely manner which brings a huge message to residents. I recommend refraining from using All Lives Matter or edit the Black Lives Matter. Like myself, as a black woman, it is as if you are not hearing the concerns and pressing needs when slogans are crafted purposely. Wordsmithing does not resonate with residents. I will leave this in your capable hands. The

demographics in Oakwood have a large segment which looks forward to hearing what you have to say. Also, I have a couple questions about ordinance 2020-40. I understand it entails property at the Solon Club apartments. She asked if it was by the swing-set. **Climer**: It is in and around the former dump and continues to the border of the Metroparks, Bedford Heights, Solon and Richmond Roads. **Sawyer** asked if it is closer to the area in which children play where the helicopter landing pad will be located. **Climer**: There are no present plans for that to occur. If it does, it will be appropriately distanced to ensure safety. **Warren**: The landing pad will be closer to the wooded area near the hill where the previous landfill existed. **Mayor** explained the landing pad will adjoin Bedford Heights on the west side. There will be green space and recreational activities. We own the land there. In addition, 50% is on a flood plain. **Sawyer** expressed her concern that the helicopter pad be far enough away to ensure safety. **Mayor**: I hear you. Thank you.

Floor Closed

Legislation

2020-37 An ordinance permitting production-distribution described in Oakwood C.O. Sec. 1173.02, on the entirety of permanent parcel numbers 795-50-009, 795-50-010, 795-50-011 and 795-50-012 to be known as the northerly production-distribution district

Third Reading

2020-38 An ordinance permitting light industrial uses described in Oakwood C.O. Sec. 1173.02, on the entirety or portions of permanent parcel numbers 795-18-034, 795-18-057, 795-18-033, 795-18-032, 795-18-031, 795-18-030, 795-28-006, 795-28-013, 795-28-005, 795-28-008 and 795-28-002 to be known as the southerly light industrial district

Third Reading

Motion to adopt made by Sanders seconded by Rogers

YES VOTE: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Sanders, Rogers, Williams

2020-40 An ordinance permitting the construction and operation of video and audio recording, production and editing facilities as well as helicopter landing and takeoff pads accessory to such uses, passive parks and nature preserves in the area contained within the following boundaries which area is presently zoned R1F residential: Solon Road on the north, Richmond Road on the east, Hawthorne Parkway on the south and the Oakwood Village border with the city of Bedford Heights on the west subject to all applicable standards contained in the Oakwood Village Codified ordinances and such further standards as shall be specified by Council

Third Reading

Motion to adopt made by Rogers seconded by Callender

YES VOTE: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Sanders, Rogers, Williams

2020-47 An ordinance to submit to the electors of the Village of Oakwood the question of amending Section 7.07 of the Village Charter so as to provide for stability and continuity of the Council of the Village by providing for and simplifying the determination of unexpired terms for Council offices within the Village, and declaring an emergency

Second Reading

Motion to suspend made by Callender seconded by Sanders

YES VOTE: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Sanders, Rogers, Williams

Motion to adopt made by Gaither seconded by Rogers

YES VOTE: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Sanders, Rogers, Williams

2020-55 A resolution of condolences to the family of Lola Mae Elizabeth Hanley Brown

First Reading

Motion to suspend made by Callender seconded by Sanders

YES VOTE: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Sanders, Rogers, Williams

Motion to adopt made by Sanders seconded by Gaither

YES VOTE: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Sanders, Rogers, Williams

2020-56 An ordinance to submit to the electors of the Village of Oakwood the question of amending 10.02 of the Village Charter so as to explicitly dispense with the three readings requirement for the passage of ordinances in certain circumstances and to maintain consistency with recommended amendments to Charter Section 7.13 and declaring an emergency

First Reading

Moved for second reading

Motion to adjourn by Hardin seconded by Callender

YES: Warren, Gaither, Hardin, Sanders, Williams

Adjourned at 8:10 pm

Approved: _____

Johnnie Warren, Council President

Debra L. Hladky, Clerk of Council

**VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD
COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
June 23, 2020**

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Chris C. Callender – Ward 1
Melanie Sanders – Ward 3
Patricia Rogers – Ward 4
Candace S Williams – Ward 5

Gary Gottschalk-Mayor
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ABSENT:

Eloise Hardin – Ward 2
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Carlean Perez – Recreation Director
Ed Hren-Engineer
Crystal A Williams-Housing Inspector

No meeting was held

Approved: _____

Johnnie Warren, Council President

Debra L. Hladky, Clerk of Council