

VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 22, 2020

ATTENDED

Johnnie Warren – Council President	Gary Gottschalk-Mayor
Brian Thompson- Finance Director	Brian Thompson-Finance
Elaine Gaither- Council at Large	Jim Climer - Law
Chris Callender – Ward 1	Tom Haba - Service
Eloise Hardin-Ward 2	Danielle Marinucci – CBO
Melanie Sanders – Ward 3*	Mark Garratt – Police Chief
Patricia Rogers – Ward 4	Ed Hren – Engineer
	James Schade – Fire Chief
ABSENT:	
Candace Williams – Ward 5	Carlean Perez-Recreation

*=Late Arrival

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

Hardin mentioned Ms. Williams will not join this meeting.

Motion to approve Minutes of September 8, 2020 made by Gaither seconded by Rogers
Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers
Motion carried

Motion to approve Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of September 8, 2020 made by Rogers seconded by Hardin
6 YES: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers
Motion carried

Departmental Reports

Finance-Thompson: We anticipate 2021 Departmental proposed budgets by 9-25-2020. Our first budgetary hearing is scheduled for October 6th.

Police-Garratt: I submitted a report for the Police. Dispatch received a call; several shots fired on Hyannis on August 11, 2020. Officers responded. The area was quiet at the time we arrived, however we checked out a house which showed activity. Shell casings were found on the front porch. Officers spoke with the owner who had a visitor from East Cleveland. That person was intoxicated and had been shooting in the front yard. He was taken into custody for discharging a firearm. We learned three other houses were also hit. The gun was recovered. We are dealing with a federal agency on federal charges against this individual. Nobody was injured. On August 22, 2020, a motorcycle group was in Oakwood on a Saturday evening. It started as a charity event at the Southeast Harley. A cookout occurred at a motorcycle shop here in Oakwood. It has been going on for several years with no issue. About 400 bikes were involved this year. In the midst of Covid, all the motorcycles came to Oakwood. Officers disbursed the crowd with led to more issues. Officers were called to a party on Pettibone Road where they found a weapon on the front porch and identified the person. The weapon was confiscated at that time. They disbursed the crowd. Several criminal charges were made. It was a long night for officers. On September 11, 2020, the owner of a local carpet cleaning company contacted us reporting equipment was stolen. Items were found on an internet app. We contacted our detective who set up a sting operation and met up with the individual. The equipment was rather expensive, but the individual was selling it cheaply. It also had the indicators of the company. The officer arrested the individuals. While inventorying the vehicle, a mobile meth lab was located in the trunk. It had all the components to make meth without one last ingredient which they hoped to secure with the sale of the stolen items. We called other agencies which specialize in meth labs to assist. In another incident, dispatch received a call from

an off duty officer with a possible intoxicated driver coming up Macedonia Road northbound toward Alexander. The vehicle was going left of center into oncoming traffic. Our officers set up to intercept the vehicle with an attempted stop. The vehicle exceeded to 60-70 mph toward Bedford. Our officers stopped the pursuit for safety issues and notified Bedford. We have a strict policy regarding vehicle chances. They did a great job shutting it off. About 15-20 minutes later the same vehicle came back through Oakwood running a couple lights going the wrong way on Broadway. The officers attempted to stop the vehicle which side swiped a vehicle stopped at Pettibone. The suspect's vehicle slowed due to mechanical failure. An off-duty officer blocked the vehicle. The officers are trained in different mental conditions of people. The person didn't seem to be under the influence of anything but was taken into custody. Officers did a great job. No injuries occurred and the suspect was taken into custody. He is waiting for mental assistance. **Warren:** We hold our Safety Forces and other departments in high esteem and appreciate everything you do. We are a community of one and a family of one. Was the guy shooting on Hyannis shooting laterally? **Garratt:** He was shooting at those houses, yes. It was an extremely dangerous maneuver. Ironically, he bonded out of jail and a few days later he was arrested on federal charges, so he is back in custody. **Mayor:** The Police Chief illustrates the Police Dept and the Fire Dept are models for what all departments in the State should be doing. **Sanders** asked about the residency of the individuals. **Garratt:** They were from Cleveland. **Hardin:** Have we received feedback from the State about Oakwood signage over the bridges? **Garratt:** I am working with Mr. Hren and waiting for permission from the State to hang them.

Building-Marinucci: The Lake County Building Dept is shut down and the CBO is on a ventilator with Covid. I feel comfortable on how we are running the department. I was involved in an ISO today. This is how we reduce premiums. The audit is complete. In the past, Oakwood passed with only 2.5. I am hopeful we will get a 4. We are waiting for the results. **Hardin** thanked him for his report. **Marinucci:** You are welcome. Robert did that.

Fire-Schade: We continue our smoke detector and carbon monoxide programs. We have completed fire inspections. We work with the communities. We have had increased suicides and overdoses. I appreciate your support. Oakwood is a model. **Mayor:** In the last two hours they have had four runs. That is normal for them.

Engineer-Hren: On Friday, we will open bids for the Village Hall ADA entrance. A first phase will include a new landing, so the doorway is flush for better handicapped access. Later this fall, we will construct a new vestibule with double doors keeping weather out of Village Hall. Then, next Wednesday the bid opening for a new salt dome will take place. OPWC awarded us funding for the Garden/Hickory Road sanitary sewer project. We will also work with the Cuyahoga County Sanitary Engineer to take care of some of the flooding issues on Garden Road. That legislation should be before you in October to prepare plans and specs and go out for bid. It will be done sometime next year. Thank you, Council, for your support on the resurfacing of Forbes Road between Broadway and Northfield. It looks fantastic and was a great bargain. **Hardin** asked about the other end of Forbes. **Hren:** That is going to be partly funded by the Cuyahoga County Engineer, the City of Bedford Heights and Oakwood. It is scheduled for 2022. **Sanders** asked about the final invoices for the recent Forbes Road project. **Hren:** That will come to me around the month's end for the Forbes Road repairs. **Warren:** That didn't need a lot of base repairs. **Hren:** Correct. **Warren:** This was a safer situation with less traffic and a great financial benefit. **Marinucci:** Regarding the Forbes Road residents who want a swale on their land, is that an issue for Council? **Hren:** No, we do not have an easement, that is private property. I will share the solution with the property owner.

Law-Climer: We had a productive meeting with Premier. We have had several projects and requests for legal opinions from Village departmental officials. **Warren:** How soon with the Army Corps of Engineers be out to access the wetland areas? **Climer:** The Mayor will address that.

Mayoral Report-Mayor: At the next Council meeting, legislation will be on the agenda calling for Council to resell the Premier 23-acre parcel for what we paid for it \$1,500,000. Also, Premier will pay all the carrying costs on the interest and transaction itself. Prior to the Council meeting, Planning Commission will pass that legislation. Contingent upon this happening, I asked Council to take off the table the note for \$165,000 to purchase the property on Macedonia Road. I expect before next fall, one building will be up and occupied at Premier. We are talking about operations known nationally. From Buffalo, the Army Corps of Engineers are slated to be here for the Tartabini site, John's Trailer, Premier with a minor wetland, Maines which is now Linear Logistics, and the School Board property. The Governor of New York has mandated if you leave New York, upon return you must quarantine for 14 days. **Hardin:** When they come here, we

should get a break on the price. I want to see the breakdown of that bill. **Mayor:** We are only paying for the School Board property and Linear Logistics which is coming out of the job creation tax credit we do not have to pay since Maines is no longer here. **Warren:** Do you know how long it would take to evaluate those properties? **Mayor:** It should just a few days. The grass has been cut in those areas. **Hardin** asked who cut them. **Mayor:** The property owners other than the School Board property and Linear Logistics which we cut. **Sanders:** Can you enlighten us on upcoming economic development? **Mayor:** We have serious interest in John's Trailer. The land had a lot of fill, a creek running through it and some wetlands. Despite all that, the operation is very interested, and we are in serious discussions. Since this company will be coming from Cleveland, some compensation to Cleveland is being worked out. Major glass buildings will be off both sides of I-271. I just spoke with Swift Filters which has been in dire need of assembly workers. There are women applying. **Hardin:** Many applied who never got hired there. What are their requirements? **Mayor:** Just visit a few businesses. Medical Supply and other companies here cannot get people to stay, especially men. It is a tremendous failure of the Public-School System in the U.S.

Job Fair

Warren: It isn't the failure of the schools. I won't criticize anyone or any institution. We should have a job board on our website for our residents. **Callender** suggested holding a virtual job fair. **Gaither:** Have it at the Community Center. **Warren:** Not everything that is faced will be changed, but nothing can be changed unless it is faced. **Gaither:** The company representatives can be well spaced with a notice sent out. **Warren:** In doing this we would have done our due diligence to provide an opportunity to residents and companies.

Open Floor Comments

Mini Thomas 24815 Broadway Avenue: My house burnt a year ago. I am in the process of building a house on Solon Road. There was an assessment for a water main. Whoever needs to know, please work with me to get this water and sewer line in. I'd like to ask you to walk in my shoes for 11 months. It is an enduring process. **Warren:** You are building a house on Solon Road. You don't have access to sewer and water. **Thomas:** Correct. The sewer is handled but the water is not. I have a document which shows what is needed. **Warren:** There is no water line in front of your house. He asked Mr. Hren about it. **Hren:** The issue is Cleveland Water will not authorize any tapping into a water main which does not extend fully across the property. Her property is approximately 300 ft. I put together a draft assessment as we have done in other properties which previously had well water. Ms. Thomas requests the Village construct it and access the two properties for the work being performed by the Village. **Warren:** Where is the access? **Hren:** The water main was extended through the western most property line at Solon Club Apartments. We would pick it up there and extend it to the westerly property line of Ms. Thomas. **Warren:** That is on the south side of Solon Road. **Hren:** Yes. **Warren:** We would have to tunnel under the street to make the connection. **Hren:** Correct. **Warren:** It stops where the Country Club was located. **Hren:** Correct. **Warren:** This property is further west of the apartments? **Hren:** West of the apartments. It was formerly one parcel and Ms. Thomas had a lot split. One house has well water and where she is building a house with access to sanitary sewer and water access. It is accessed up to 40 units due to the frontage. **Warren:** Her property is across from the apartments. **Hren:** Yes, and a little west. With these 300 feet it will take it to the westerly property line. **Warren:** I would like to discuss this with you further. They will not allow her to link with Sparrow Hawk. **Hren:** Correct. That would entail private property access. **Gaither** asked the cost. **Hren:** The approximate cost would be roughly \$50,000. That is difficult for an individual property owner to pay so it would be financed over a 20-year period. **Hardin:** Would that accommodate another house? **Hren:** The current house and the house she is building. **Warren:** We will explore all options. **Sanders:** Is it possible to keep it well water? **Hren:** It involves owner preference. **Warren:** We got rid of the wells in Oakwood a while back. **Hren:** There is a fire protection issue as well. **Warren:** Get the information to me and I will communicate it to Cleveland Water Dept. Director. **Thomas:** I don't have forever, and I know it takes a lot of time. The frame is up. **Warren:** We appreciate that and as soon as we can do something, we will let you know. I hope we can have something for you by the next Council meeting. We hope by then the Engineer will have something for you. Please join us at the next Council meeting.

Floor Closed

Legislation

2020-76

An ordinance authorizing the acquisition of two Ford Explorer vehicles, a truck, plow, radio and light kits for use in the Fire Department from the State of Ohio, Department of Administrative Services, State purchasing and declaring an emergency

Motion to suspend made by Sanders seconded by Hardin
YES VOTE: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers

Motion to adopt made by Gaither seconded by Sanders
YES VOTE: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers
Motion passed

2020-77 An emergency ordinance certifying expenses for the cutting and destroying of noxious weeds upon lands within the Village of Oakwood to the County Auditor for collection

Motion to suspend made by Rogers seconded by Callender
YES VOTE: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers

Motion to adopt made by Sanders seconded by Gaither
YES VOTE: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers
Motion passed

2020-78 An emergency resolution adopting the rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor

Motion to suspend made by Rogers seconded by Sanders
YES VOTE: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers

Motion to adopt made by Sanders seconded by Rogers
YES VOTE: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers
Motion passed

2020-79 An emergency ordinance authorizing the Village Engineer to prepare plans and specifications, to advertise for bids, and proceed with road repairs on various County routes located within the Village

Hardin: Is there an appendix with this? **Clerk:** It is within the legislation. **Hren:** This is a reimbursement grant for materials for \$36,000. The entire project is \$70,000.

Motion to suspend made by Gaither seconded by Rogers
YES VOTE: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers

Motion to adopt made by Sanders seconded by Rogers
YES VOTE: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers
Motion passed

MOTION TO ADJOURN made by Rogers seconded by Callender
YES SIX: Williams, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Sanders, Rogers
Adjourned 8:05pm

Adopted _____

Debra L. Hladky, Clerk of Council

Johnnie Warren, Council President

VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD
COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
September 22, 2020

ATTENDED

Johnnie Warren – Council President	Gary Gottschalk-Mayor
Brian Thompson- Finance Director	Brian Thompson-Finance
Elaine Gaither- Council at Large	Jim Climer - Law
Chris Callender – Ward 1	Tom Haba - Service
Eloise Hardin-Ward 2	Danielle Marinucci – CBO
Melanie Sanders – Ward 3	Mark Garratt – Police Chief
Patricia Rogers – Ward 4	Ed Hren – Engineer
	James Schade – Fire Chief

ABSENT:

Candace Williams – Ward 5	Carlean Perez-Recreation
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*=Late Arrival

Warren opened meeting at 9:05pm

2020-WS-03 An emergency ordinance enacted by the Village of Oakwood, Cuyahoga County, Ohio hereinafter referred to as the “Municipality”, in the matter of the hereinafter described improvement and request the cooperation of the County of Cuyahoga, Ohio hereinafter referred to the “County”

Broadway Improvement

Hren: This authorizes an agreement with the County to prepare plans for the reconstruction of Broadway from Macedonia to the corporation line at Broadway/Richmond. **Warren** asked about estimates. **Hren:** I do not have them tonight. The percentages are in the agreement. We will have it for the next meeting. **Warren:** You will need this passed to begin the process. **Hren:** I will have the numbers.

2020WS-04 is similar to the previous legislation. This is funded through NOACA, via the federal government and a portion paid by Bedford Heights and Oakwood. In addition, we will have the opportunity to apply to the OPWC. We try to secure funding through various sources. **Warren** explained Oakwood received funding through many sources bringing the bottom line to a minimum being paid by the Village. **Hren:** Yes, this is the first step. I’d like to get this passed sooner than later so we can hopefully secure the large portion of the funding. We can then go after the other funding. I would like to get both of these ordinances in the hands of the County. I will send a project summary to Council tomorrow. **Hardin** asked about a special meeting. **Warren:** We will entertain it at the next Council meeting. **Hren** agreed. Can we move these off Work Session and I will send the numbers to Deb who can disseminate them to Council? **Hardin** asked about other funding. **Hren:** We cannot seek other funding yet because the project is still two years out. This is the first step. Then we will go after other funds. **Warren** mentioned moving both WS-03 and WS-04 to the next regular session. **Sanders:** Would there be a reason to move it to the agenda if we don’t have what we need? **Warren:** Our Work Session dictates what we can move to the regular agenda. We can always table it. If we are comfortable moving on it, we can act on it. If not, we can table it or get rid of it. There is no harm in putting it on the regular agenda.

Poll to move WS-03 to the next regular agenda

Yes Votes: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Rogers

No Votes: Sanders

Hardin did not vote.

2020-WS-03 will be moved to the next regular session

2020-WS-04 An emergency ordinance enacted by the Village of Oakwood, Cuyahoga County, Ohio hereinafter referred to as the “Municipality”, in the matter of the hereinafter described improvement and request the cooperation of the County of Cuyahoga, Ohio, hereinafter referred to as the “County”

Forbes Improvement

Hren explained the project is similar to the Broadway project. As we get closer to the project date, we will seek other funding. **Warren:** There is no dollar amount. **Gaither** asked for it as well. **Warren:** Is the funding source the same as Broadway? **Hren:** Yes. These are two different years. One is scheduled for 2022 and the other is 2023. They are always asking if communities want to move them up. I will get the project sheets to you about the costs and the schedule. **Gaither:** In order to move it, I want to have the Bedford Heights cooperation. **Hren:** I believe they passed their ordinance. **Warren:** I would like to wait until we get confirmation from Bedford Heights then move it to the regular session. **Council** agreed to keep this on the Work Session until confirmation from Bedford Heights.

2020-WS-06 An ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of not to exceed \$165,000 of notes, in anticipation of the issuance of bonds for the purpose of paying costs of acquiring real estate for Village purposes and declaring an emergency

Warren: The Mayor wants to purchase this land behind the old gas station at Broadway/Macedonia. I cannot see us moving it until we have the money in hand for the present project. **Sanders** agreed. **Gaither** also agreed. The owner of the other land wants \$650,000. **Warren:** I am not considering that at all. I need to see where we are financially before I even consider this.

Gaither asked the Disaster Recovery to be taken off the work session. That is completed correct? **Clerk:** Yes.

Motion to adjourn made by Sanders seconded by Hardin

Adjourned at 9:27pm

Adopted _____

Debra L. Hladky, Clerk of Council

Johnnie Warren, Council President