

**VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 23, 2021**

ATTENDED

Johnnie A Warren III, Council President	Gary Gottschalk-Mayor
Elaine Gaither-Council-at-large	Jim Climer-Law
Chris Callender-Ward 1	Brian Thompson-Finance
Eloise Hardin – Ward 2	Chief Garratt-Police
Patricia Rogers – Ward 4	Tom Haba - Service
Candace Williams – Ward 5	Daniel Marinucci– CBO
	James Schade-Fire Chief
ABSENT: Melanie Sanders-Ward 3 Carlean Perez-Recreation *= <u>Late Arrival</u>	Ed Hren – Engineer Jim Climer-Law

Meeting opened by Warren at 7:02p

Approval of minutes of March 9, 2021 made by Hardin seconded by Rogers.

Vote: Yes: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Rogers, Williams

Motion passed.

Departmental Reports

Law-Climer: No report

Finance-Thompson: We closed the Premier deal, and I received the purchase price and carrying costs into our bank account. **Warren** asked the amount. **Thompson:** We received \$1,109,000. **Warren:** Did you bill them for the related costs? **Thompson:** Yes, in conjunction with Bond Counsel. **Warren:** The process was great, but it was still our money anyway. It was a phenomenal proposal by the Mayor and Law Director to put it together.

Fire-Schade: We are continuing to do what we have always done. **Rogers:** Is it possible to have a bin to collect the tin cans for burn children? **Schade:** I will try to make a fenced in area with a sign for that purpose. **Warren:** Is this ongoing? **Schade:** We have done this 40 years. **Warren:** Not bottles? **Schade:** Only aluminum cans.

Police-Garratt: We have our speed trailer out. If you have any issues in your Ward, please request it and we can put it in the rotation in the area of concern. Secondly, we have had an increase in law enforcement problems involving transactions with Face Book Marketplace, Craigs List, etc. I want to remind Council and your constituents we have a meet up spot in the parking lot which has constant surveillance. So, if any large items or transactions can be done under the sign. There have been some thefts. Please remind people about that. For small items, the transaction can be done in the Village Hall lobby. If there is concern, call the Police Dept. We will be present for the transaction. I do not recommend making the transaction at your house. That is where the problems are occurring. **Hardin:** The term defunding the police will never appear here in Oakwood. Last night an incident occurred in Colorado. A lot of Council bodies take away the ability of Police to have the proper arms to do your job. I take it personally and publicly; we will always have finance in place for our Safety Forces. Whatever we need to do to keep you safe or safer I am sure we are willing to do that. God bless. I'd like a moment of silence.

Building-Marinucci: We got our first approved solar panel for a residential home. It cost the homeowner \$66,000 for three panels. **Hardin** asked what street it is on. **Marinucci:** On Jean Drive. **Hardin:** I understand there is funding available as a community. **Marinucci:** I do not know; I am not skilled in that area. **Hardin:** Is there something we can do Mr. Law Director for grants? **Climer:** We can do a quick research.

Service-Haba: The Village Hall ADA Grant Project Phase II will begin shortly. We got a partial grant. A little asbestos is present in tile which will be taken out over a few weekends. On Monday after Good Friday, flooring will be put down. Also, I need to order our salt. I would like to get the ordinance by the next meeting to purchase it. I just received the notice a few days ago. **Hardin:** Is there handicap access at the rear entrance? **Haba:** There are aluminum steps. There is a step up in Council Chambers. It is safer. There isn't too much we can do with the Police parking. **Warren:** The front entrance is ADA compliant. **Haba:** Yes. **Rogers:** It looks nice. I talked to Ed about installing something to block cars from parking in front of the ramp. **Haba:** We talked about that yesterday. We can stripe that. **Rogers:** I don't think striping will be enough. **Hardin:** Fire Chief, are you planting flowers or is the Building Dept. doing that? **Haba:** We will level around the fountain and plant grass. If you want flowers, we can do that. **Schade:** We will take care of it. **Rogers:** You do a good job.

Mayoral-Mayor: It has been a supernaturally fantastic few weeks in Oakwood. Intestate McBee which has been based in Cleveland since 1947 and will be constructing a \$15 million state-of-the-art corporate campus up to \$22 million on 30 acres at the JTI property next to WM. Land acquisition will close early April, after being transferred to Oakwood Village first for \$1, since we have to be in the chain of title for the TIF. The project cost is about \$2.5 million. As the Finance Director reported, the \$1 million transfer to Premier is back in our coffers along with the carrying costs. Premier will be moving dirt within a week. That project is \$60 million in real property improvements. These are non-spec buildings with \$40 million in payroll to Oakwood by 2027. While other cities are in partial lockdown or building massive spec warehouses, which in 3-5 years will bring in 20% of the original payroll, I want to thank my Administration and the cooperation of Council for developing projects which will directly affect our seniors, households with school age children, and our youth. **Hardin:** Congratulations Mayor. We were holding you responsible for the million. **Mayor:** Give all the glory to God.

Open Floor Comments

Minnie Thomas 26350 Solon Road: To the President and this body, thank you all. We are in our home and loving it. **Warren:** When you achieve long standing goals it becomes a blessing. As small as we are, residents still look to Oakwood to either build up or downsize. That is a representation of the kind of community we all live in and for us to just serve. I am happy you are in your house. **Thomas:** I will do a cookout when Covid lifts and will invite you all.

Floor Closed

Legislation

2021-06 An ordinance declaring improvements to certain parcels within the Village to be a public purpose, exempting the improvements to such parcels from real property taxation for a period of thirty years, authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Board of Education of the Bedford City School District regarding such exemption requiring the owners of such parcels to make service payments in lieu of taxes, establishing an urban redevelopment tax increment equivalent fund for the deposit of such service payments pursuant to Ohio Revised Code sections 5709.41, 5709.42, 5709.43 and declaring an emergency.

Climer: This was read three times and remains tabled. In the next few weeks there is light at the end of the tunnel.

2021-21 An emergency ordinance to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Oakwood, Ohio for the year 2021

Motion to suspend made by Hardin seconded by Callender

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

Motion to adopt made by Gaither seconded by Rogers

VOTE: YES: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Rogers NO: Williams

Motion Passed

Warren and **Climer** stated the motion did not pass. **Warren:** Please be prepared to contact the Council members within 48 hours of a special meeting. (after the meeting, Charter research was performed which revealed five affirmative votes were needed to pass legislation under the emergency clause. (Law Director email follows these minutes.) The motion passed after all.

2021-22 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.

Hardin: How did this get on the agenda? **Warren:** It was moved to the regular agenda wasn't it Deb? **Clerk:** Yes. **Hardin:** When, how? **Warren:** We agreed, Debbie can confirm in the minutes, we moved it to the regular agenda. At our last meeting, we said we were going to take it off Work Session and put it on the Regular agenda. Most members at that time stated they were in a position to decline passage. **Climer:** Council can just take a vote. **Mayor:** I understood, once we had these two projects developed, we would be in a position to do this. I followed the directions of Council. Now that we dealt with the other two projects moving forward, it is in our best interest to get rid of that eye sore. **Warren:** We can vote on it; I am against it.

Motion to suspend made by Williams seconded by Callender.

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

Motion to adopt made by Williams seconded by Callender

VOTE: YES: Hearing none. NO: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Rogers, Williams

Motion Failed

Motion to adjourn made by Gaither seconded by Callender

VOTE: YES: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Sanders, Roges, Williams

Motion passed

Adjourned 7:38p

**VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD
COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
March 23, 2021**

ATTENDED

Johnnie A Warren III, Council President	Gary Gottschalk-Mayor
Elaine Gaither-Council-at-large	Jim Climer-Law
Chris Callender-Ward 1	Brian Thompson-Finance
Eloise Hardin – Ward 2	Chief Garratt-Police
Patricia Rogers – Ward 4	Tom Haba - Service
Candace Williams – Ward 5	Daniel Marinucci– CBO
	James Schade-Fire Chief
ABSENT: Melanie Sanders-Ward 3 Carlean Perez-Recreation *= <u>Late Arrival</u>	Ed Hren – Engineer Jim Climer-Law

Meeting opened by **Warren** at 7:38p

Ord 2021-WS-05 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXTERIOR HOME REPAIR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SINGLE FAMILY PROPERTIES LOCATED IN THE VILLAGE
 Introduced 1-29-2021 by Mayor & Council as a whole
 2021-09 Moved to WS 2-23-21

Ord 2021-WS-06 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2019-22 AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXTERIOR HOME REPAIR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SINGLE FAMILY PROPERTIES LOCATED IN WARD 4
 Mayor (Ward 4)
 Introduced 1-26-2021 by
 2021-10 Moved to WS 2-23-21

Warren addressed 2021-WS-05 and 2021-WS-06 **Hardin:** I will not ask for WS-05 and WS-06 to be put them on the agenda at this time.

Res 2021-WS-09 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) ENERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT(S)
 Introduced 3-09-2021 by Mayor

Hren: This is an annual grant we receive from NOPEC. They are usually between \$5,000-\$10,000 from the amount of energy the Village uses. Those funds can be used for any energy deficiency projects. We are looking at possibly replacing the street lighting on Broadway with LED. We can pay First Energy to replace those. It can also be used for lighting in Village Hall, its exterior, windows, doors, and any other type of energy efficiency. This legislation allows us to accept the dollars, not to specifically tie them to a project. We will come back to Council for the project. **Warren** asked about the dollar amount. **Hren:** That was sent in a letter to the Mayor. I do not see it in the package. Typically, it is between \$5,000-\$10,000

Motion to move 2021-WS-09 to the next regular meeting made by Rogers seconded by Gaither
VOTE: YES: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Rogers, Williams
 Approved to Move to next regular agenda.

Res 2021-WS-10 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
 Introduced 3-09-2021 by Mayor

Hren: I believe Council Clerk Hladky can address this. **Clerk:** This is the one we apply for every year for the shred day with an educational piece. We received approval but we have to pass this to receive the funds. **Williams** addressed the amount. **Clerk:** It should read \$4,968. **Warren** asked for a vote with the correction to reflect \$4,968. **Clerk:** We are looking at recycle centers for both parks in Ward 5 to curb rubbish collection on the ground. **Hardin:** Do we have a recycle center on Forbes Road. **Hren:** We used to have one there. **Hardin:** Can we check? **Clerk:** Yes. **Hardin:** If we don't, can we check into that. **Clerk:** I will check with Tommy, he gets the quotes for those.

Motion to move 2021-WS-10 to the next regular meeting made by Callender seconded by Gaither

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

Approved to Move to next regular agenda.

Res 2021-WS-11 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM
Introduced 3-09-2021 by THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
Mayor

Clerk: I can address the legislation. This grant was applied for by Carlean Perez, Recreation Director. I worked with her on that as well as a couple others. This is a grant for communities to help integrate people with developmental disabilities into recreation programs. **Warren:** It is for \$5,000. **Clerk:** Yes.

Motion to move 2021-WS-11 to the next regular meeting made by Hardin seconded by Gaither

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

Approved to Move to next regular agenda.

Ord 2021-WS-12 AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ENACTED BY OAKWOOD VILLAGE,
Introduced 3-09-2021 by CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE
Mayor MUNICIPALITY, IN THE MATTER OF THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED
\$290,000 IMPROVEMENT AND REQUESTS THE COOPERATION OF THE COUNTY OF
50% grant \$145,000 CUYAHOGA, OHIO, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE COUNTY

Hren explained this is an application to Public Works from the corporate line to Richmond Road. The road is in bad shape and has outlived its useful life. We will take off three inches of asphalt, make any base repairs, and replace the three inches of asphalt. Estimated cost is \$290,000 with a 50% grant from the County up to \$145,000. The Village will be responsible for the Engineering. Construction will take place in 2022. I will follow up this fall with an additional application to the Ohio Public Works Commission for additional funds. With the traffic count, there is a good possibility we could cut our \$145,000 in half. **Williams:** Does Bedford Heights take part in any of that cost? **Hren:** They did their section last year or will do it this year. It isn't like Richmond Road where the corporation line is down the middle of the road. The corporation line is just to the west of Ms. Thomas' house. **Williams:** The rest of the road has been repaired? **Hren:** Yes. **Warren:** We are doing both sides of the road which is within the corporation of the Village. **Hren:** Correct.

Motion to move 2021-WS-12 to the next regular meeting made by Callender seconded by Rogers

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

Approved to Move to next regular agenda.

Hickory/Garden Sanitary Sewer Project

Rogers asked about the Garden/Hickory Sanitary Sewer Project. **Hren:** NEORS just sent us the results of their extensive study. We are going onto the next phase of the investigation. The issue is infiltration. We will go to individual homes for dye testing around the foundation for drains going into the sanitary sewer. This is a sophisticated test which a camera goes into the lateral as we videotape it. This will identify problem areas. The solution is a combination of lining the sanitary sewers to prevent infiltration. Some of the laterals may be lined as well. The key is to reduce or eliminate storm water getting into the sanitary. NEORS couldn't get enough water into the one area on Hickory Rd because it was leaking so quickly. We expect to begin in April. Results should be in by May with bidding in June. Construction will be

done in the summer. The majority will be lining the sewers with maybe smaller excavations to access the sanitary laterals. We asked them to look at Golden Oak. Monitors were installed at the pump stations and to the south of Golden Oak connections. The volume of water coming into that pump station was insignificant compared to the volume running in the Garden Road sanitary. I will put together a report for Council on this. We will have to count on the cooperation of residents. We have had difficulty in these types of projects with other municipalities getting into the residential properties. It helps to have access. We identified areas which are not issues. We will probably test 40 homes. We will put a letter together for residents. **Rogers:** This sounds like something we did before. **Warren:** We did something similar on Richmond and Oakhill. **Hren:** This is more sophisticated. We will look at the footer drains. We televise what is coming into the lateral from the drains. The test runs \$1,000 per dwelling. **Rogers:** If no one cooperates, will the project not move forward? **Hren:** We will have to lean on residents if it is a problem. We can install smaller micro-monitors to determine where the water is coming from. An ordinance is in place prohibiting clean water introduction into the sanitary sewer system. **Warren:** There is no interior intrusion, but we will do the downspout drains. **Hren:** Correct. **Hardin:** Who is paying for each test. If you find the issue, what will happen? **Hren:** The resident will have to address it. We can repair the lateral to the main cleanout. It will be up to the resident to disconnect sump pumps if that is the issue. Again, we have an ordinance prohibiting that. When a sump pump introduces clean water into the sewer, we call the inflow. That will have to be disconnected. **Hardin:** Typically, what would that cost the resident? **Hren:** If it is a sump pump, it is simply disconnected from the sanitary then run outside the house. If you hire someone to do it, it will cost about \$200. **Hardin:** None of this is going to cost thousands of dollars. **Hren:** If there is an exterior cross connection with a footer drain into the sanitary, yes that would have to be excavated. **Rogers:** This has been going on for twenty years and has to be corrected. **Warren:** It must be resolved. We have been looking at this for years. Some of the other sanitary sewer projects we have worked out a deal with the contractor like we did on Oakhill. Although this project is testing and does not involve a contractor, maybe we can get a price from one for realignment if you have 25 houses to give a discounted cost. **Hren:** That is a good point. I want to get the results then sit down and talk about how we want to handle it. We supplemented the cost to residents on Oakhill.

Miscellaneous

Hren: The rear entrance to Village Hall was never meant to be ADA compliant. **Warren:** That would have intruded into the Police parking area. **Hren:** Correct. We made that safer. The front access will be fully compliant. **Hardin:** I called you 2-3 weeks ago. When you look at the roads, what will you do with Somerville is my question. **Hren:** I will talk to the Mayor. We can put a bumper stop in the front of Village Hall after we get it resurfaced. **Williams:** Will you be rating the streets soon? **Hren:** Typically, we drive the Village and can rank each one on a report. **Hardin:** Yes. **Williams:** Last year you mentioned a report you do around March with the condition of the streets rating each one. **Hren:** We will look at the worst streets, we can put something together. **Hardin:** Thank you.

Motion to adjourn made by Hardin seconded by Williams
YES: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Rogers, Williams
Adjourned 8:15pm

Minutes approved _____

Johnnie Warren, Council President

Debra L. Hladky, Clerk of Council

EMAIL FROM LEGAL DEPT
Re: Five affirmative votes to pass under emergency clause

From: [Jim Climer](#)
Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 8:03 PM
To: [DEBRA HLADKY](#)
Cc: [JOHN WARREN](#)
Subject: Regarding: Village of Oakwood Re: General Matters 2021 (File #: 210007)

Hello Deb and Johnnie:

Per our discussions my apologies for the brain cramp I suffered last night on the budget ordinance. It appears that there was a sufficient vote to suspend and to pass as an emergency, so I believe that a further meeting is unnecessary.

James A. Climer

Direct Line: [REDACTED]
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