

VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
2023-02-28

ATTENDANCE

Johnnie Warren, President\*  
Elaine Gaither-At-Large  
Chris Callender, Ward 1  
Eloise Hardin, Ward 2  
Paggie Matlock, Ward 3  
Mary Davis, Ward 4  
Candace Williams, Ward 5

Gary Gottschalk, Mayor  
Jim Climer, Law  
Brian Thompson, Finance  
Mark Garratt, Police  
Dave Tapp, Fire  
Tim Haba, Service  
Dan Marinucci, Building

ABSENT

Carlean Perez, Recreation

Ed Hren, Engineering

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Meeting opened at 7:04pm

Motion to approve minutes of January 31, 2023 special Council meeting made by Gaither, seconded by Callender

YES: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Matlock, Williams      Abstain: Davis      NO- Hardin.

Motion passed

**Williams** asked if the minutes reflect what happened in the meeting. Sometimes I see comments about the conversation. **Warren:** It doesn't have to be verbatim. **Williams:** It looks like you added comments to the minutes. I suggest you make comments at the following meeting. **Clerk:** Ok.

*Departmental Reports*

**Fire-Tapp:** We had three fires of which one was ISchuman, we had the State Fire Marshall and Environmental Services out. The water used there was tested, but we haven't received results yet. Air quality is being tested daily. We are fortunate to have only one casualty. I want to thank many departments that showed up with five engines, five ladder trucks, and other equipment. **Davis:** Do you have an estimate of when we will know what caused it? **Tapp** explained we are working with the ATF, EPA and others. It usually takes two weeks for that report. **Mayor** asked if everyone got a notice regarding the incident. **Clerk:** There are extras available here. **Hardin** complimented the department. **Warren** commented about a plane crash with five inspectors onboard on their way to the incident, all five died. **Hardin:** Can we get another flyer on the final report? **Tapp:** Yes. There will be a flyer and it will be on the website. **Hardin:** When something like this happens, a call should go out to let us know. **Warren:** In this situation, they are overwhelmed. We held back because we needed more facts. You and the department did a phenomenal job. The building is catastrophic. **Tapp:** In my 28 years in Fire, this is the largest disaster I have responded to.

**Police-Garratt:** They did a phenomenal job. We try to get the information out as fast as we can but sometimes, we are so involved in the incident we cannot at the time. The response was well planned. It was impressive. This is our anniversary of changing the dispatch center. **Tapp:** Dispatchers did a phenomenal job. ISchuman wants security on site. We provide that.

**Service-Haba:** I am here for questions.

**Building-Marinucci:** There are no building code violations with them. **Callender:** We appreciate everyone.

**Finance-Thompson:** No additional reporting

**Law-Climer:** I am here to answer questions.

**Mayoral-Mayor:** Our hearts go out after the tragedy at ISchuman, we pray for the ones impacted that they are in the arms of our Heavenly Father and He will meet every need they have. I was notified of concerns over the Solon/Glenwillow land fill and water run-off. Cuyahoga County Board of Health ran tests, and it showed no run-off into Tinkers Creek was seen. Regarding the construction debris landfill, a leach collection system is operated by Solon. No run-off there as well. Regarding the companies in Oakwood, View Ray gave their annual report yesterday. They design and manufacture MRI guided radiation therapy. One-unit costs over \$6 million with over 55 systems sold worldwide. UH just purchased one for their Siedman Cancer Center. He asked about permits regarding their plans. **Marinucci:** The plans are in place. **Mayor:** IBM Molecular is building a \$4 million dollar expansion. Ohio Cat, next to ISchuman, is adding \$4 million expansion. Interstate McBee plans operations to begin this fall. This is exciting in Oakwood. I will be meeting with Kroger Development Dept. I ask our Heavenly Father with the richness of His Glory that we will reflect your glory with what is happening in Oakwood. **Davis:** Ohio Cat is expanding the building? **Mayor:** Inside the building.

#### *Open Floor Comments*

**Pat Malone 22796 Drake Road:** Thank you Fire and Police the way you handled the explosion. It was scary for us. How many times was testing done? **Tapp:** Several times the water and air were tested that day. **Malone:** I don't have a lot of faith in the EPA. **Tapp:** They have been monitoring water and air. I understand. **Malone:** Should CodeRed had been activated? **Garratt:** If evacuation was warranted it would have. **Malone:** At the end of Drake Road there is some construction. Is there any law regarding mud on the roadway? **Marinucci:** I will check into it tomorrow morning. They did pull a permit. **Malone:** Mayor, the pillars at the corner of Macedonia and Broadway property, what is going to happen with them? **Mayor:** They will probably be placed at the entrance of Kroger. **Malone:** When is Fair Oaks being done? **Mayor:** It should begin the end of March and be completed 90 days thereafter. It will be closed 60 of the 90 days. **Malone** asked about detours. **Garratt:** Detour will take motorists to Route 8. **Malone:** I was on Council years ago. **Mayor:** We are getting over \$1 million and I can assure you this project will be done by the end of July. **Malone:** Ok. I called Village Hall and the girl who answers the phone is a little snippy. I asked her if there is a Council meeting tonight. I was transferred to Christine's office instead of getting a simple answer. It can't be because she doesn't know, she works here. **Mayor:** You may have talked to Finance and the one gal may not have known. **Malone:** How would she not? **Mayor:** Why would a Finance Clerk know that answer? The snippiness will be addressed. **Malone:** I am not blaming you Christine at all. **Warren:** That person could have asked someone near them for the answer. **Malone:** Thank you. I will be back.

**Benjamin Sizemore 25091Garden Road:** I used to work at a place in Bedford Heights where metals were worked with, and we had to keep water from hitting those metals. We had a lot of solvents there too. OSHA came in to inspect. You did a phenomenal job on that fire. It shook my house. **Tapp:** There was a lot of fire. **Sizemore:** Does OSHA schedule inspections, or do they just do surprise inspections? **Tapp:** Surprise inspections. ISchuman hasn't had fines. We inspect annually. **Sizemore:** Do they give you what is transported there? **Tapp:** Yes. We have to be notified of all chemicals in the village shipment by train or truck. **Sizemore:** I respect you all. **Mayor:** Many years ago there was a fire at Northfield and Alexander in Walton Hills. We put water on it but there was magnesium. It actually spread the fire. Walton Hills didn't even know there was magnesium there. They should have known that, and we should have been told. **Sizemore** explained his knowledge of magnesium and a fire he saw at a place he worked involving that chemical. We had a lot of training on all the chemicals we worked with.

**Malone:** What about the sound barriers? **Mayor:** You are perpendicular to I-271, you are not parallel. There will be a big difference when you don't have the ruts in the road. **Malone:** What happened to the evergreens on Macedonia Road on the mound. **Mayor:** They will be replaced.

#### *Close Floor*

Candidate for Judge (Clerk did not catch the name): I am the Acting Judge and Magistrate Bedford Municipal Court for 17 years now. Judge Melling didn't run again due to age restrictions imposed by the state of Ohio. You cannot be over 70 years of age as a judge. I am a candidate on the ballot. I just wanted to introduce myself.

Close Floor

No Legislation

**Williams** asked about the Audit conference. **Thompson:** They recommended March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm

Motion to adjourn made by Gaither seconded by Callender

YES: Warren, Gaither, Callender, Hardin, Matlock, Davis, Williams

Adjourned at 7:45pm

Approved

April 25 2023

Johnnie Warren  
Johnnie Warren, Council President

Debra Hladky

Interim Clerk of Council Debra Hladky



# OAKWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Dave Tapp

24800 Broadway Ave  
Oakwood Village, OH 44146  
Phone: 216 410-5299  
dtapp@oakwoodvillageoh.com

Residents of Oakwood Village,

As you are aware, a fire and explosion occurred on February 20, 2023, at the I. Schumann & Company facility located at 22500 Alexander Road in Oakwood. It was a large-scale fire and explosion with many injuries and one fatality. The fire was contained in about two hours with the help of more than 80 personnel from our neighboring communities which included seven Chiefs, 21 fire departments and 20 advanced life support ambulances. Additionally, five law enforcement agencies assisted the fire department with scene security. We are grateful for the support our community received from our neighbors.

Questions have arisen concerning what, if any, hazards may be posed by this event. We assure you that we are making use of every available asset to ensure all of our residents are safe. We are conducting the investigation in collaboration with the State Fire Marshall. Multiple parties from the EPA as well as Enviro-Serve are monitoring the air quality and water runoff and we are in contact with their representatives on a daily basis. The ATF (Alcohol Tobacco & Firearms) is involved in the investigation to help determine the cause of the explosion. We are working with the village engineers concerning the stability of the remaining structure.

To date, these experts have not notified us of any hazardous substances released as a result of the incident. We will endeavor to keep the community advised of any further information on the situation as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Tapp". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Fire Chief David Tapp