

**VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
2023-11-14**

ATTENDANCE

Johnnie Warren, President
Elaine Gaither, At- Large
Eloise Hardin, Ward 2
Paggie Matlock, Ward 3
Mary Davis, Ward 4
Candace Williams, Ward 5
James Climer, Law Director

Gary V Gottschalk, Mayor
Dave Tapp, Fire Department
Brian L. Thompson, Finance Director
Mark Garratt, Police Department
Tom Haba, Service Director
Daniel Marinucci, Chief Bldg. Official*

ABSENT

Ed Hren, Village Engineer
Ross Cirincione, Prosecutor
* Arrived after roll call

Carlean Perez – Recreation Director
Chris Callender, Ward 1

Meeting opened at 7:00pm by Warren
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call taken

Warren: Ok, departmental reports, may we hear from our Law Director.

Departmental Reports

Law- Climer: Climer: Thank you, Mr. President, I am happy to answer questions. **Davis:** Do you have any updates? We talked about putting in some kind of legislation for compact houses. **Climer:** We're still working on that. **Davis:** Ok. **Gottschalk:** Yeah, these are popping up, they now have community villages of tiny houses, even in Columbus. **Hardin:** Are you doing any work on those lots that somebody wanted to buy. **Climer:** On Suwannee Avenue? **Hardin:** Yeah **Climer:** I've been told that the sense was that we weren't interested. **Hardin** Thank you. **Warren:** Any other questions, Finance Director?

Finance-Thompson: Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Nothing additional to report. I'll be working closely with the Clerk to schedule some more upcoming budget hearings. I dialogued with the Police Chief, he's in final stages of preparation and reviewing. So, he may be ready to go next and some more departments. So, we'll keep you posted. **Davis:** We are pushing them to get ready. I mean, we need them as soon as possible. Also, are we going to get updates about what our departments are doing or what is in the budget and how our budget is going and the paperwork? **Thompson:** Yes, in our next meeting, we'll be scheduling more budget hearing before and then I'll have the up-to-date financials. **Davis:** Ok, can we get those the at least the Friday before our meeting? So, we have a chance to look at it. **Thompson:** Yeah, I know that's the day to do it, so upcoming I will have those. **Davis:** Ok, thank you. **Hardin:** How are we with the hiring and manning the office at this point in time? **Thompson:** Happy to report actually. Starting this week, I'm back to full staff. So, I have all of my people. **Hardin:** Oh good, the other question, I just happen to remember the figures from the Engineering Department. As we track all of our projects, remember he was giving us those. **Thompson:** Oh yeah, Ed is in compilation mode for streets and sewer on all those projects. He'll be sharing that information with me, but I have not received it yet. **Warren:** May we hear from our Building Commissioner.

Building-Marinucci: Marinucci: Thank you, Council President, and I'm sorry I'm late tonight. I apologize, but I'm here for the questions. **Davis:** Your activity reports that your staff does, there's no updates at all on them since June, July, August, or September. **Marinucci:** I'll send those in. **Davis:** It has charges, but there's no update about whether they were checked, whether it's completed, or if you sent letters. **Marinucci:** Ok, I see what you're saying. I'll get on that first thing in the morning. We're in a seminar tomorrow, but right after that. **Warren:** Is it Virtual. **Marinucci:** No, you go in and it's live. **Warren:** I see there's a house being built next to mines. But they just started one on Tryon Road too. Is that similar to the houses that are on the existing street? Because I just seen a holdup, I mean is it a ranch? Is it a colonial? **Marinucci:** I know that everything's been approved on these things. Some of the drawings are absolutely beautiful. But yeah, I'm going to say it is similar because it goes to planning. **Warren:** Right, and the house that they're building next door to ours is similar to the house across the street, that the school Superintendent built. Those houses, believe it or not, even though hers is, you know, aesthetically more similar in design as some of the other houses. So, that's a good idea. **Marinucci:** Yeah, this one, it's \$400,000.00, which is something beautiful, I can't correlate the address. We're getting hit with a modular home. We're getting hit with one of them somewhere near you somewhere. I'll get the information close on it. **Warren:** We don't have any lots on my street. **Marinucci:** I hope it doesn't come in. This is my personal feeling. **Hardin:** To piggyback on Mary's question. You're going to give us an update on inspections. Should I assume that you have inspectors? Are they back on schedule? Do they actually start? Are they going back out? **Marinucci:** Yeah, Aaron's been going. He knows to go out and he's been going out. To close out I do know I can tell you just from memory, in the past. some of those things like, if you see high grass. He told me that if you don't see another line item after, it does mean they completed it. So, he did tell me that so I could have him go in and say complete. **Davis:** It's usually yes, but usually you have a date when it was applied. **Marinucci:** Yeah, but it is a lot of stuff. Especially on the things that you're going to the court on etc. **Warren:** I see Mr. Bugarcic moved some of this stuff, but he hasn't completely. **Marinucci:** I'll tell you that's crazy. You're going to be informed on it. You're definitely going to go down the path. And I don't, I mean that's going to be in the legal sense. **Warren:** I thought that he was supposed to... **Marinucci:** From a Building Department standpoint after a year, the permitted expired. So, he doesn't have a legitimate permit anymore. But what makes this very, very difficult and this is what I think he moved a lot of the blocks and stuff. **Warren:** He did. **Marinucci:** Alright, so I think he's walking away from it. Because if you're going to buy block today for what he paid for it then. It's going to be 1.59 times the amount, that's a true statement. And the damages he's done, when we get into it, is very expensive. He's connected to the water system so that's going to have to be capped off. That's a 24-Foot-deep dig minimum. So, you have that to deal with, then you're going to have the footers, and it's old-fashioned. We're going to put more steel in the concrete to make it better. We don't really have to because we put a lot of steel in by design, those filters are very heavily steeled. **Davis:** Do we know if they connected with the Roseland people to buy their extra piece of property? **Marinucci:** No, none of that. What that's about is when you look at this property. You're standing on the property, when you're looking at that property to the left, that's the connection to the Roseland. The whole issue here is stormwater control. So, when it rains, the water, you got to collect it. You'd need EPA mandates, and he had a property. Then he expanded the design, which means he infringed upon the square footage area available to put the retention in. So, you have to go vertical, concrete walls, and all that kind of stuff. Which 3-4 years ago was 65 grand to do that one little activity. Today, it's a lot more money. He's not going to do that activity. So, he wanted to get into Roseland. I don't know if you know if they're interested in selling partial or the whole lot. **Warren:** Somebody bought Rose Lane. He would have to negotiate with the new guy. **Gottschalk:** There's an interested party that is having some issues with his own bank but that should go through. Then he'll be dealing with that. **Marinucci:** See the best thing for Oakwood, I know this is frustrating, but the best thing is for him to finish that project. I think once it goes to Mr. Climer, I think it becomes a nightmare. **Gottschalk:** I don't think the new party will be interested in

selling any part of the land that he was interested in purchasing. I don't have the kind of confidence that this thing is going to go through. **Climer:** Is it a lot of land that he needs? **Gottschalk:** He needs a half of the adjoining property, and I don't think the new owner might be willing to sell that. **Marinucci:** That adjoining property that he's talking about is too small for a buildable lot. **Davis:** It is a mess. **Warren:** I think that we'll have to start preparing to go to court knowledge that's. **Marinucci:** He's miserable and he's hard, he won't take a phone call from me. I can't speak to him. **Warren:** Maybe a certified letter will wake them up. **Marinucci:** Yeah. **Matlock:** How far is Aaron going? The roof is up now. **Marinucci:** It's closed in and everything? **Matlock:** Yes and they closed the back of the house. Now they're in a fight for the siding. The siding is busted, the tree went through the house. I talked to them, that's why I was late here. They're going to take care of it. **Marinucci:** The amount of money allocated this ½ of what you're going to spend. **Warren:** May we hear from Mr. Haba.

Service-Haba: Haba: Hey, Mr. President, last night we mostly picking up leaves. This time of year is really heavy. We always have since we started doing this years ago. We hit every street at least once a week early and three weeks ago it took us two days to do it. Last week it took us a full week. We finished up Friday afternoon, had to come off a couple of times to do other jobs. But basically, took the whole week last week. This week we just finished this afternoon, but there's more leaves out there. We might not go out again. We got some other jobs coming up this week. We will be out for sure next week and the week after that weather permitting. Waste Management would like to give a presentation to Council at the next meeting, they contacted me. A few things about your recycling, about the fire, that happened there and what happened? They also want to change the pickup dates from Monday to Tuesday. They think it would be better for them and for Oakwood. They can explain why, because they lost the contract, but they picked up the contract. The contract they have one that's really close to us, in Twinsburg. They always have trucks in the area. They can give that presentation. I talked to the gentleman with the pedestrian trail on Broadway yesterday. I called there and he has gotten a couple of quotes, and he says they hope to start by the other week on that. Lastly, whoever has campaign signs that they want the stragglers. We picked it up Saturday, the stragglers signs. They're out in the front by the front door here. So, if you want to when you leave just pick them up. **Davis:** When are we going to have your budget? Do you have any idea when you're going to present the budget for service. **Haba:** No, let's not... **Davis:** Well, our time is going. I'll get the figures to Brian and the Mayor to incorporate it, but I will be here for any questions. **Hardin:** Is it not time for snow removal sign up. **Haba:** Yeah, they've signed up, we need to get flyers out. The flyer is going out tomorrow with the Mayor's Thanksgiving. We give away other stuff. So, it will be out first thing. I think over 110 people signed up and we didn't even get the flyers out. They have until December 1st to sign up. **Gottschalk:** We may have to remember again, 4 inches of snow before their drive can be touched. **Haba:** Lucky we had a minor snow the last couple of years. Got to find some drivers too. We can't do the contractors, what we're paying them was less than other cities. Been orders before, but last year. We did it differently, we paid them a straight up and instead of them using their trucks. Two people did it, but we only had 1 or 2 two snows storms that we had to do it. Sometimes, if we finish the streets, we do them ourselves. But right now, I have 0 but probably 1 driver. So, if you know anyone who wants to plow snow using their trucks or ours, send them over. **Davis:** Now, are they covered in insurance by using your truck? **Haba:** Yes. **Davis:** Ok. **Warren:** Maybe hear from our fire department.

Fire-Tapp: Tapp: Thank you, Council President nothing new to report, here for questions. **Warren:** May we hear from our Police Chief.

Police-Garratt: Garratt: Thank you Council President, just a few things I wanted to bring up. We did get reimbursed \$11,000.00 for training that we've been waiting on from the state. They're supposed to give us a few thousand more. That's supposed to come before the end of the year, so that's good news. We've had a very difficult time getting police cars with the UAW Strike and everything. Beyond that, we do have an opportunity, we are on a list now to get three police cars. We usually get 2 per year. We didn't get any this year. We'll get one for next year if I can. Do all three, I'd like to do it at once. Probably only opportunity we're going to have. We have several cars with 100,000 miles on. We're going back to the Fords. We've had a lot of problems with the Tahoe's. To do brakes my repairs have been killing me this year. Just for the brakes it is \$2,500.00. Anyways, I'll be bringing this legislation to your next meeting. We're looking at doing 3 cars, two this year, one next year instead of two. We'll be lucky if we get that by the end of the year. The other thing I want to go over was December 16th shop with a cop. We're going to be doing that again. So, we're looking for individuals that may need some assistance, families that may need assistance with their kids. Come out and shop with us. We foot the bill, and they just shop for themselves, their siblings, their parents, whoever else they want to. A lot of you guys have volunteer and help us out many, many years. But we're looking forward to that December 16th. So, if you have names of individuals that need help, the families. Please give my office a call and we'll check it. I think we take about 11 or 12 kids each year. Then if anybody wants to help wrap, we wrap afterwards. That's an option too if anybody wants to volunteer. Again, December 16th, thank you. **Davis:** Question do you know when you have your budget you're ready? **Garratt:** The next meeting, for sure but if you do it earlier, I'll be ready. **Davis:** Ok, good, I appreciate it. **Haba:** You guys gave me an ok this time last year to get a pickup truck. I still haven't been able to get one. I talked to another company about a month ago or so about the crew cab that we want. **Garratt:** We've been looking off the lot. If you notice some of our vehicles are black because the white ones aren't available. Turns out we like that black one better anyways, so we will change it over. Working the model trying to find them on lots, I don't care what color it is. If we can get this passed we will save \$44,000.00 by just getting three cars. That won't be enough to get us through because as I mentioned we have several cars over 100,000 miles. The maintenance is crazy, that's all I have. **Gottschalk:** One other thought on the Police. Mayor Bibb of Cleveland has just raised the age limit for entry to be a cadet. 55 years old, so you could be 55 and going to the academy to be a Police in Cleveland. It's that bad, there's at least 200 Officers still under budget. It's not safe in Cleveland. **Warren:** It's not safe anywhere, people do what they want to do. May we hear from the Mayor.

Mayor-Gottschalk: Gottschalk: Thank you, Mr. President. First, our Law Director is going to point out that I have five companies that I handed out last week. That we're going to be giving some kind of incentives to. It refers to a plan of action and how we're going to proceed with this. **Climer:** Right, I've sent emails out to everybody in order to save a couple of trees with updated drafts with the legislation. Four of those companies, Cardinal Starbucks, Federal Metal, Penske, and there is also a TIF for DCOMM. There is another aspect of DCOMM that we've got to do a little work on. Then there's a fourth company which is the King Group. They are bringing in the company from overseas. We need to do a little research on that. **Gottschalk:** Have you submitted this to the school yet? Because they have that 14-day notice before we can take action. **Climer:** Before it's passed. The School Board will be notified as soon as that legislation is finalized and in its final form, which should be within the next week. The companies involved, the first one is DCOMM. Those in the audience know they're right nearby here. They do installation for Spectrum. We're asking from them, well a TIF isn't really an incentive. That's money that would have been paid by whatever the site improvement is. The property tax to the County when it comes back to us. We're the ones who are the main beneficiary, the schools aren't affected. Additionally, there'll be a Job Creation Tax Credit and the reason for that is the property behind the building is still zoned residential. They're going to have about 60 vehicles. There are small vans that they'll

be using for installation, and so they're going to have to put a concrete parking area facing the building to the right. Then they will have screens so you can't see it. So, this Job Creation Tax Credit will be whatever the Payroll is for. It will either be for up to three years or if it hits the \$150,000.00 mark before then. That's what the Job Creation Tax Credit will be. This company will bring in that small little building, \$3 million a year. So, we have no problem offering this to them to make it easier for them. The second company is Cardinal Realty, which is the researcher who sparked Starbucks. They've already submitted to and were approved by the Planning Commission. They just submitted their landscaping plans for review. They'll begin in early spring and it's going to be right in front of the Hampton Inn. For them, we're giving them the same incentives that we gave Dunkin' Donuts a 49% community reinvestment agreement. And the TIF, it's called a tax increment agreement. That's for Cardinal which is Starbucks. The third company is Federal Metal and they put together metaling ingot's to sell to companies constructing US wide. They just opened up offices and major offices in both Pennsylvania and Arkansas in Little Rock. I want to make sure they aren't going to leave me here. So, they're trying to build another facility behind their current facility, only be about 50,000 square feet. But we'll be offering them a 90% CRA with that, I will be going to the school board for. That TIF, in addition to a Job Tax Credit. You're going to need a road behind their building. That's going to cost about \$300,000.00 That will be accessed to and from that new facility. **Stevens(resident):** Where is it located? **Gottschalk:** On Division Street, and actually it faces Division Street and the back of it, is on the side of I271. Then Penske has done some work over there. They remodeled the exterior of the building roofing and now parking. So, that will just be a TIF for Penske. That will all be before you at the next council meeting. Secondly, as it was announced by Tommy, we have a number of programs coming up. Tuesday the 21st when we have our Thanksgiving dinners, people come here, and they've ordered already for Thanksgiving. These are again residents with their families that may not be able to afford it. A full course meal or dinners for seniors, who would otherwise be spending Thanksgiving Day alone, and for the disabled. Then on the 24th on a Friday, we have our Amish Tour phase two. That is always quite exciting with that. Then on Friday the 1st, I think we have our breakfast at the Community Center. We've been doing this every year, not only will there be a breakfast there, but we give out the prizes galore for Sam's Club \$20 Gift Certificates. On that Sunday, will be the ribbon cutting for the new road off Broadway leading to Mt. Zion. Which had been called Oakwood Parkway, and now will be Dr. Larry L. Macon Drive. That'll be on Sunday the 1st Sunday in December. Then on the 10th, that's where Santa Claus comes to Oakwood by Fire Truck. We've been doing this for many, many years now, and the residents of either kids or grandkids or whatever. They bring their presents here and then they're delivered by Fire Truck by Santa and SpongeBob to their house on Sunday. We always give notification on that Sunday when we start when they'll be delivered, between 1:00 and 4:00. Then on the 15th. Will be our vitamin D-Day where University Hospital will be here to test of people's levels of vitamin D in the blood. From that we will then be giving out purity products, Vitamin D with magnesium and potassium, and quercetin. It's important, particularly in winter climates particularly. Dark skinned people have an 82% chance of being significantly deficient in vitamin B, it's huge. Vitamin D Researchers have clearly shown that it not only strengthen your bone marrow. Because it absorbs calcium in your body to make it stronger. But we're looking at strengthening your immune system to fight various things, including Covid-19, heart issues, hypertension issues, anxiety and depression issues as you're getting old. As you see some of your relatives might not be as well. It might have been very likely be because of a lack of Vitamin D. and magnesium. It's hard getting this already. Magnesium particularly must be citrate. So, this is important if you don't have magnesium in your system, it doesn't work as well. That's why we're having the blood test. The bottles we would be handing out will be a value of about \$400.00 and this would be free. Last year, we had the got at least 300 people. This is any age from 50 years old and up. You have the opportunity to sign up, you can be scheduled between 8:30 in the morning to 1:00 PM. That's on the 15th of December. We always have a slew of things during the holiday season. I liked to just congratulate the new council people that will here. At the same

time, I don't see Chris here, but Elaine. You're leaving an indelible imprint on the unparalleled success of Oakwood Village. Jerry Sereno, who's the state Ohio representative and Kurt and said when they were having the Ceremony for the new state-of-the-art Recycling Center, Waste Management. That Oakland Village has more development going on in a per capita basis, than anywhere in the state of Ohio. So, we thank you very much, we will not forget you, and this will be a legacy. I think that will conclude my report. **Davis:** Just on Kroger, what's this scope on Kroger? Anything that we have or not? **Gottschalk:** You wanted the scoop, here's the scoop. The new liaison officer representing the governor for Northeast Ohio has asked to speak with me, because of hearing about what's going on in Oakwood. But at the same time, we're going to take advantage of her being here. I'm going to invite the senior director of Team Neo, Jobs Ohio, along with the Director of Development for Cuyahoga County. We're going to get into the indecisiveness of Kroger. Either they move forward as soon as possible on a date, or I terminate the arrangement and strip them of the incentives. That will be very soon, we're missing what could be over there. It could be as much as \$650,000 of income to Oakwood Village. With the right development and I will have a letter from a Premier Development saying that in fact. They're ready to buy that land back in Kroger. This isn't talk, this will be a very important meeting and we should have the results soon. But it's nice having now, the liaison Officer for the Governor involved in this as well. I should have, hoping I want to have that meeting before the 15th of December. At the same time, I've had to go into my own 501C3, because we've wrapped nylon netting around about 105 evergreen/arborvitae trees that are 8 foot high, that the deer can't get to. The cost of installation, as well as the netting was \$7000.00. So, I will be asking Kroger to give me an easement. So, we can pay for it and tell whoever the site developer is and they'll pay for it. **Warren:** Why don't Kroger just go ahead and do it? **Gottschalk:** That's been one of the. Problems with Kroger to begin with. As you know where they've been in the committee form of decision making, which I never was a fan of to begin with. **Warren:** Well, this is the situation, and we all know, and we mentioned it before. That they're in, they're in the middle of a merger with the 4th largest grocer in the country. It would make them #2 under Walmart. So that's what's stalling this whole thing. From what I read, they don't even look for that to happen until sometime at the beginning of next year, because of all of the issues that have come up between the mergers and all of that. Then we will have to depend on the new entity to accept what we have proposed or what Kroger has proposed. And even if that happens or not. So, the thing is, that, don't even anticipate anything happening anytime soon with that site. And I don't see. **Williams:** If they merge, is it even the still the same company that we have an agreement with, or is it now a new entity? does it void our agreement? **Gaither:** No, it's still Kroger. **Climer:** It should not. **Warren:** Because Kroger is going to be the prime. **Gottschalk:** It's not a grocery store it's a fulfillment center. They will have 1000 robots and the payroll looking now, that would be close to \$7 million. Fulfilling orders from West of Pittsburgh, East of Sandusky, North of Columbus, and the vans should be here, going out and delivering those goods. Again, the problem is if Kroger bought the land off of premier and I had heard that they were going to have committees to decide. We wouldn't have let it happen. I only believe in meeting with the decision makers. By having a committee discussion this has gone on for two years. And now the person that oversaw that committee has left. They hired somebody new and after three months, she just quit. So, this is going on and on and it's going to end one way or the other. Premier is ready to go in there and buy it. So that's where we're at and we should have it very, very soon. **Warren:** But we have to hope that Kroger sells the land for what Premier is looking to pay for it too. **Gottschalk:** Well, they're willing to pay, obviously, what they paid for it to begin with. If there is an issue. I'm ready for court. There are problems there, I don't want to get into with Kroger. They're having issues elsewhere on settlements that they renege on, but there's nothing more. **Williams:** Do we have an out clause in our agreement where we can just cancel or do there have to be certain things? **Climer:** If there is a substantial breach of the agreement, we can have it declared void, ok, number 1. Number 2 there are some deadlines to begin construction that's a little further in the future than we would like. But I think there are other ways to

bring this to the head, without going there. I don't want to go too far. **Williams:** They have not yet missed the deadline to around? **Climer:** Correct. **Gottschalk:** They have reneged on some financial work agreements. Again, that concludes my report. **Warren:** Ok, I will now open up the floor to the public. But before we do that, let me do this. Can I get a motion to approve the Minutes of October 24th, 2023, Regular council meeting? **Davis:** I have a comment before. I am listed as absent, but I was there. I missed the Finance meeting, but I was here because you have my name on the motion. I was there for the regular meeting, not the finance meeting. **Warren:** Ok, Can I get a motion to approve the Minutes of October 24th, 2023, Regular council meeting?

Motion to approve meeting minutes of October 24th, 2023, made by Davis seconded by Matlock YES
VOTE: Gaither, Matlock, Hardin, Williams ABSTAIN: Davis, Warren
MOTION PASSED

Motion to approve special meeting minutes of October 27th, 2023, made by Gaither seconded by Davis YES
VOTE: Gaither, Hardin, Matlock, Davis ABSTAIN: Warren, Williams
MOTION PASSED

Motion to approve special meeting minutes of October 27th, 2023, made by Gaither seconded by Hardin YES
VOTE: Davis, Matlock, Hardin, Gaither ABSTAIN: Warren, Williams
MOTION PASSED

Warren: I will open the floor for public comment. This is the opportunity to offer your negatives, your praises, to get questions answered that you have concerns about, whatever reason.

Open Floor Comments

Shirley Stevens, 7251 Lynbrook Drive, Stevens: I'd like to thank Council for serving us and for doing the great job that they've done. I would like to congratulate the new Council people coming on board. The question I have is regarding legislation 2023-41. Adopting the rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the county auditor. I'm not familiar with that, because I do know what the inside levy is. I know what an outside levy is. When you put it on the ballot and you vote on it. Now this inside levy is something that Council can do without the people knowing about it? I could have it wrong, but I do so many kinds, I just get them all mixed up. I just want to know if it is going to go up on our taxes. If you tell me no, I will go sit. **Thompson:** No, it's not, the County had those rates in place for years. It kind of starts their budget process and turns out they allocate the collection of property taxes. So, it's been the same for years and your taxes don't go up. **Stevens:** OK, you say they allocate other property taxes. **Thompson:** Yeah, like submission to the Village of what they collected as a ratio breakout, they do. They send me the money; your taxes won't go up. **Stevens:** Ok, that's what I wanted to know. Because there's a lot of rumors about property taxes going up and I don't want to miss anything. **Thompson:** Ms. Stevens, we do this annually. It's just an annual piece of business from the County. **Warren:** Do we have any other residents that have public comments?.

JC Commander, Athletic Director at Bedford High School, Commander: What I wanted to do was just come by and share. All athletics report, because that was kind of what I promised that I would do when I got the gigs. So, I do have these just for everyone to follow along and just pass them around. First, I took the job in August, so my Assistant Athletic Director, Mr. Dan Brinson II, has been at the district for a while. Also, my department secretary, Heather Layton. I like to make sure I mention them whenever I do anything because they do a ton of

work, it's not just me. Well, start with our Lady Bearcat soccer team. 19 athletes, head coach Chan Coleman. We came in second in the Conference. The record is a little deceiving. But I think it's worth mentioning that there were 13 postseason academic all Americans on the team of 19 kids. So that means we have 13 kids when the season ended that had a 3.0 or better. One of the things we try to stress is academics. So, when we say student athlete, we really capitalize student and then put the athlete after it so. One of the plans going forward, because right now the program in terms of soccer with both our boys and our girls teams. We only have varsity teams. I think one of the direct reasons for that is we're not playing it at a competitive level at a younger age. One of the missions coming in the next season is to make sure that Heskett, which is our middle school, has both a boys and a girls team. Big things coming on the horizon. As far as the boys team, once again 21 student athletes. Out of the total 11 of them were postseason academic all americans. The team GPA for our boys soccer team was 3.2. So again, a team full of scholars. I think it's important to mention that team actually won a sectional playoff game and advanced. We ran into Medina, which again, Medina is for those who are soccer fans, number one team in our region, very good. It was good to see the boys get a home playoff game, though, and win it in advance. Moving on. Lady Bearcat Volleyball, 27 students. Very proud of this team. The team GPA was 3.5. So a group of young ladies who really, really take their academics seriously. We actually had two, all conference athletes on that team. One of which was Senior India Woodson, who is headed to Baldwin Wallace, which as you know is a Division Three. Trust me, she's getting plenty of money for academics, very talented. I think that it's important to mention that with the group of girls that we had this year. Only one of them was a senior. So that entire team is going to be coming back with the exception of India. Flip into football our biggest program. Eighty student athletes on the team. 32 of them had had a 3.0 GPA or better. We had the MVP of the conference, Mr. Javion Hudson, who was a junior. The team started out rocky going on 4. Finished five and one down the stretch. Probably safe to say that a big reason for that was the assertion of a freshman quarterback by the last name of Williams, worth mentioning. I also want to make sure that I mentioned that I understand that football is a very major sport in any high school. With that being said, I think it's important to mention that coach Tope in terms of this commitment and his understanding to where he knows that our program needs to go. He decided to step away from coaching basketball this season. So that he could focus on the football program and making sure that we have a very, very strong off season. Moving to Cheerleading again, I called them athletes. Worth mentioning, 29 student athletes, 14 of them had had a 3.0. or better at the end of the season. We're talking just for football. So, a lot of them carried over to basketball. This group does a whole lot of. stuff with the community. You know, they show up and help with entry and arrival at elementary schools. They were at a food distribution not too long ago. One of the things that I really want to press with them moving forward is their performing at other events over the course of the fall. Not just football, so it would be cool to have the cheerleaders at the soccer game at one point. It'd be cool to have them at a volleyball game. Anything that we can do to boost school spirit, I'm all for it. I think coach Jasmine McCalister does a fantastic job. Moving on to cross country I believe it is our last Fall sport, so small team. First year head coach, she came up from the middle school, but she did a fantastic job. Out of the five, one of those students had a 3.0 or better, so a team GPA of 2.6. One of the things that I love about this group is the first-year cross country runner by the name of Ha'shay Commons, a sophomore. He won the open meet when we went to Cuyahoga Heights, which was very impressive for someone who has not done this for an extended period of time. Who really got started in August with it. One of the things that I really like about how our cross-country season went, is the middle school was able to host the meet. They had over 65 runners from some different middle schools show up and participate at Heskett. We mapped out the course, we had people stationed everywhere. It was great for us to be able to put something like that on because usually we are the ones who are going. Plus it was a great way for us to kind of be able to showcase what we have. Last page, Department goals for me moving forward. Obviously, you know, thank you to everyone that went out and voted with the passing on new buildings coming up. I want to kind of

turn our focus to the athletic building. So really look at our weight room and really take stock of what we have in there. I think everyone knows that, for our kids to go out and compete. We need to kind of have facilities that give us the opportunity to prepare and get ready. Another thing I'm focusing on with all the coaches in their postseason evaluation meetings. Is PD, so coaches are going to conferences and going to professional development opportunities. So, they can learn a whole lot more. One of my things is never stop learning, so I try to emphasize that with the coaches. Evaluation of coaches is another thing. Having serious conversations with our coaches in terms of letting them know how I feel they did over the course of the year. I think that goes a long way. It's one thing for a kid to participate in something. But winning is a fun part and having an overall great experience. My evaluation of the coaches and considering parent surveys. Obviously allowing the parents to remain anonymous. But I think it's important for our coaches to realize how they're received a lot of times; I think that goes a long way. And then increasing communication I. Know we do have an athletic website. So, one of my charges for myself as we head in the winter is doing a better job of getting things onto the website for the community to see, thank you. **Hardin:** Thank you for coming. Let this be if you don't mind the first of many. Without you coming and telling us what's going on, we don't know, and we should know. We want to play a part in assisting the School Board and the school system. I happened to hear about a particular person playing and I thought maybe we would honor that person. Then I realized there were other youngsters that I didn't know anything about, so that wasn't quite fair. So, you solved the problem for me. I think going forward you might be hearing a lot more from us because we must keep this communication going. Not just because of levies or whatever. So, you come to our meetings and I'm sure you will be seeing us at your board meetings, thank you for coming. **Davis:** I appreciate the putting student first. Student and then the athlete second. Working towards their grades makes the person more appreciative. Being a Bedford High School grad and a retired employee of Bedford Schools for 25 years. It was not that way for a long time. The athlete was first before the students, so I appreciate that you're getting them to work hard and helping them out and the coaches too, so thank you. **Stevens:** Doctor Haggerty when he was a Superintendent, he met with US monthly. We had a good school, an excellent school. My kids graduated from that school. They went on to graduate from HBCUs, they all make six figures, I contributed that to Bedford Schools. **Warren:** OK, if I will close the floor for public comment, we will proceed with today's agenda.
Floor closed.

Climer: Thank you, Madam Chairman. Proceeded to read:

Legislation:

2023-41	AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ADOPTING RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE
Introduced 11-26-23	BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND By
Mayor and	CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.
Council as a whole	
1st read	

Motion to suspend 2023-41 made by Hardin seconded by Matlock YES
VOTE: Matlock, Davis, Gaither, Hardin, Williams

Motion to adopt 2023-41 made by Gaither seconded by Matlock
YES VOTE: Matlock, Davis, Gaither, Hardin, Williams
MOTION PASSED

**VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD
WORK SESSION MINUTES
2023-11-14**

ATTENDANCE

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

ABSENT

Ed Hren, Village Engineer	Carlean Perez – Recreation Director
Ross Cirincione, Prosecutor	Chris Callender, Ward 1
James Climer, Law Director	Brian L. Thompson, Finance Director
Gary V Gottschalk, Mayor	Mark Garratt, Police Department
Dave Tapp, Fire Department	Tom Haba, Service Director
Daniel Marinucci, Chief Bldg. Official	

** Arrived after roll call*


Opened at 8:05p.m.

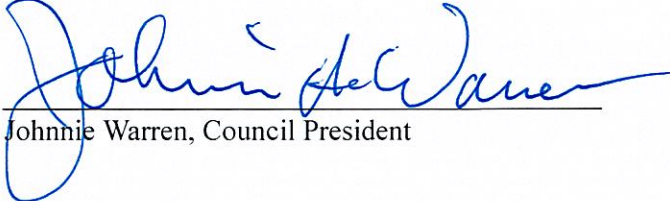
Warren: Ok, we are going to have a quick work session. **Hardin:** Mr. President, I'd like for this Council to consider honoring Pastor Williams. I don't know what was done. He has been not only a minister here, but a resident for almost 47 years. **Warren:** I agree 100%. I was at his church not too long ago, he just retired, he has a new young man there. **Hardin:** I'd like you to contact the Law Director, if everyone is in agreement. What's appropriate? We don't look silly because his retirement was since June. Man of the year or something, that is just beyond remiss. **Warren:** I agree. **Resident:** Keys to the City. **Williams:** We should establish some criteria around getting keys to the city as well. **Warren:** Right, we can't impulsively do it, let's contemplate and that's a good idea. **Williams:** I Mean we could do it, but we should establish criteria. **Hardin:** Is this the first time a key has been given? **Williams:** I believe it was given to Mount Zion before. **Warren:** Pastor Macon received a key to the city. **Hardin:** Well, then, there it is. **Williams:** So, yea, if we already have given some and we don't know who has gotten them or why. **Warren:** We'll establish criteria, but Pastor Williams will be getting something. **Williams:** We could do a resolution; we don't have to make up a title. **Hardin:** You want to do that or keys to the city? **Williams:** We can do both, I'm just saying we don't have to make up a title. **Hardin:** Can we task the Law Director with that? **Warren:** Yes, I will reach out today. **Hardin:** When do we want to do it in the beginning of January or before the end of the year? **Davis:** Should do it the year he retired. **Hardin:** Can we have it for the 28th meeting. **Warren:** Why don't we do it in December, more holiday and festive, like the second meeting in December. **Williams:** He may not be in town, people travel. The 12th and 26th are the December meetings. **Warren:** The 26th? right after Christmas. **Williams:** Yea, so people may not want to. **Warren:** What about the first Council meeting in December. **Williams:** That's the 12th of December. **Warren:** 12th is good. **Hardin:** I will contact sister and Pastor Williams, make sure they are available for December 12th. Are we going to do it right here at City Hall? **Warren:** Yes. **Hardin:** Ok, done. **Warren:** Ok, if there's no other

I get a motion to adjourn even though we didn't? This is an official meeting because anytime you have over 3 Council members.

Meeting closed at 8:19pm

Approved 11.28.23


Tanya A. Joseph, Clerk of Council


Johnnie Warren, Council President