VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, November 10, 2026

7:00 PM

AGENDA

1. **Call meeting to order**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call**

Council President -Eloise Hardin	Mayor -Erica L Nikolic
President Pro Tem -Deb Hladky	Law Director- Brendan Heil
Ward 1 Council -Taunya Scruggs	Interim Finance -Pamela Keener
Ward 2 Council -Yvonne Evans-Warren	Service -Tom Haba
Ward 3 Council -Paggie Matlock	Fire -Dave Tapp
Ward 4 Council -Mary Davis	Building Dept Mgr. – Rodney Stephens
Ward 5 Council -Malcolm Sims, Jr.	Engineer -Matt Jones
	Recreation -Karen Gaither
	Police Chief – John Freeman
	Police Captain- Cameron Reed

4. **Minutes**
   A. Council to Approve Meeting Minutes for August 20th , September 3rd, and 8th 2026

5. **Correspondence- Clerks Office**

6. **Departmental Reports**

MAYOR – ERICA NIKOLIC
LAW-J MONTELLO/ J CLIMER
INTERIM FINANCE-KAREN HOWSE
POLICE-JOHN FREEMAN
RECREATION-KAREN GAITHER
FIRE-DAVE TAPP
BLDG DEPT. MGR-RODNEY STEPHENS
SERVICE-TOM HABA
ENGINEER-MATT JONES

7. **Ward Reports & Committee Reports**

8. **Open Floor Comments from the Village Residents** (comments in general- please state your name, address, and you wish to discuss for the record. Please limit your comments to five (5) minutes. Thank you. Please sign in to speak.)

9. **Legislation**

Ord No. 2026-100 Introduced by Mayor	**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD TO DO ENTER AN EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO SELL AGREEMENT WITH CENTURY 21 HOMESTAR**
Ord No. 2026-104 Introduced by Mayor and Council as a Whole	**A RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF BARBARA JEAN WILSON FRANCIS**
Ord No. 2026-105 Introduced by Mayor	**AN RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF $17,000 FROM DONORS FOR THE VILLAGES 75TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (EXHIBIT A)**
Ord No. 2026-106 Introduced by Mayor and Council as a Whole	**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF JOHN FREEMAN TO THE POSITION OF POLICE CHIEF AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**
Ord No. 2026-107 Introduced by Mayor	**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**
Ord No. 2026-108 Introduced by Mayor	**AN ORDINANCE REVISING AND REPLACING THE SALARY RANGES FOR VARIOUS POSITIONS OF THE VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**
Ord No. 2026-109 Introduced by Mayor	**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO AMEND PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

10. Discussions

11. Adjournment

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-104

INTRODUCED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF

BARBARA JEAN WILSON FRANCIS

WHEREAS, the Village Council and Mayor of Oakwood along with the residents of Oakwood Village wish to place on record the passing of resident Barbara Jean Wilson; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Jean Wilson Francis was born on May 2, 1946, in Cleveland, Ohio, to the union of Napoleon and Starr Angel Wilson; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Jean Wilson Francis is survived by her husband Claude, her children Angel (Chris), Heather (Kevin), Claudia and Patrick, her grandchildren, Haila, Hunter, Desmond, Georgia, Isabelle, Sarah, Ari, Tristan, Evy, Austin, Moshe, and Napoleon, and her great-grandchildren, Ave, Cameron and Talerii; and

WHEREAS, Barbara served as Finance Director for several years in the Village of Oakwood. Her quiet soft-spoken personality will be remembered by the residents of Oakwood. While serving as Finance Director she demonstrated thorough knowledge and was very patient and helpful to the residents; and

WHEREAS, Above all, Barbara will be always remembered for her intelligence, strength and the love and devotion she had for her family; and

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT by the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. The Village of Oakwood, the Village Council, Mayor, and all elected and appointed officials express their most sincere condolences to the family and friends of Barbara Jean Wilson Francis and hope that the fond memories of such a wonderful, caring person comfort them in their loss.

SECTION 2. The Resolution attached hereto is hereby adopted and the Clerk is hereby authorized to present a copy of the said Resolution to the family of Barbara Jean Wilson Francis.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption by this Council and approved by the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED:_____ _____

Eloise Hardin, President of Council

_____

Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council

Presented to the
Mayor_____

Approved: _____

_____

Mayor, Erica Nikolic

I, Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 2026-104 was duly and regularly passed by this Council at the meeting held on the ____ day of _____, 2026.

_____

Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council

POSTING CERTIFICATE

I, Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that Resolution No. 2026 -104 was duly posted on the ___ day of _____, 2026 and will remain posted in accordance with the Oakwood Village Charter.

_____

Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council

DATED: _____

RESOLUTION 2026 - 105

INTRODUCED BY MAYOR

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF $17,000 FROM DONORS FOR THE VILLAGES 75TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the Village identified a need for sponsors for the Village's 75th Anniversary Event; and

WHEREAS, the Village under R.C. 9.28 is authorized to accept donations of property or funds for public purposes; and

WHEREAS, the donors list in **Exhibit A** made donations in the amount of $17,000 for use in connection with Village programming and events.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio that:

SECTION 1. Council for the Village of Oakwood, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, hereby authorizes the Mayor to accept the donations listed in **Exhibit A**, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

SECTION 2. On behalf of the Village this Council thanks these donors for their contributions to the Village.

SECTION 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting on the date indicated below, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 4. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Village, the reason for the emergency being that the Village needs to immediately include these funds in the available budget, provided it receives two-thirds (2/3) of the vote of all members of Council elected thereto, said Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption by this Council and approval by the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____ _____
Eloise Hardin, President of Council

_____
Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council

Presented to the
Mayor _____

Approved: _____

_____
Mayor, Erica Nikolic

I, Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 2026 – 105 was duly and regularly passed by this Council at the meeting held on the _____ day of _____, 2026.

_____
Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council

POSTING CERTIFICATE

I, Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that Resolution No. 2026- 105 was duly posted on the _____ day of _____, 2026, and will remain posted in accordance with the Village Charter.

_____
Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council

75th Anniversary Sponsors	Amount Donated
Rome Missionary Baptist Church	$500
Hampton Inn & Suites	$5,000
Petitti Garden Center	$5,000
Chagrin Valley Engineering, Ltd	$3,000
Levin Furniture & Mattress	$1,000
The Joseph Tartabini Sr. Family	$1,000
Harjan, Inc.	$500
Northeast Auto Sale	$500
Dengensha America Corporation	$500
	Total: $17,000

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-106

INTRODUCED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF JOHN FREEMAN TO THE POSITION OF POLICE CHIEF AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Police Chief, Mark A. Garrett retired effective October 16, 2026; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Charter Section 9.09 the Mayor is appointing Captain John Freeman to the position of Police Chief and that appointment is subject to the approval of this Council; and,

WHEREAS, this Council seeks to confirm the appointment of John Freeman to the position of Police Chief pursuant to Charter Section 9.09.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That this Council hereby approves the appointment of John Freeman to the position of Police Chief as provided by Oakwood Charter Section 9.09.

SECTION 2. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Village, the reason for the emergency being that it is critical to the daily operations of the Village and the Village is required under the Charter to have a Police Chief, therefore, provided it receives two-thirds (⅔) of the vote of all members of Council elected thereto, said Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption by this Council and approval by the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED:_____

_____
Eloise Hardin, President of Council

_____
Carol Jackson Clerk of Council

Presented to the
Mayor _____

Approved: _____

_____
Mayor, Erica Nikolic

2026-WS-78 becomes Resolution No. 2026-106

I, Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 2026 -106 was duly and regularly passed by this Council at the meeting held on the _____ day of _____, 2026.

_____

Carol Jackson Clerk of Council

POSTING CERTIFICATE

I, Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that Resolution No. 2026 - 106 was duly posted on the _____ day of _____, 2026, and will remain posted for a period of fifteen (15) days thereafter in the Council Chambers in the locations and manner provided in the Village Charter.

_____
Carol Jackson Clerk of Council

DATED: _____

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 107

INTRODUCED BY MAYOR

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the Director of Finance has requested authorization to transfer from the General Fund to various funds of the Village as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein; and

WHERAS, the carryover balance of the General Fund is sufficient to support said transfer.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio that:

SECTION 1. This Council hereby authorizes the Director of Finance to transfer funds from the General Fund to various funds of the Village in the amounts the Director of Finance determines to be in the best financial interests of the Village, which amounts and which transfers shall not exceed the amounts to be transferred to the various funds of the Village as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

SECTION 2. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting on the date indicated below, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Village, the reason for the emergency being that funds need to be transferred immediately to balance the Village accounts, and provided it receives two-thirds (2/3) of the vote of all members of Council elected thereto, said Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption by this Council and approval by the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____

_____
Eloise Hardin, President of Council

_____
Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council

Presented to the
Mayor _____

Approved: _____

_____
Mayor, Erica Nikolic

I, Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance No. 2026 – 107 was duly and regularly passed by this Council at the meeting held on the _____ day of _____, 2026.

_____
Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council

POSTING CERTIFICATE

I, Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that Ordinance No. 2026- 107 was duly posted on the _____ day of _____, 2026, and will remain posted in accordance with the Village Charter.

_____
Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council

ORDINANCE 2026 - 108

INTRODUCED BY MAYOR

AN ORDINANCE REVISING AND REPLACING THE SALARY RANGES FOR VARIOUS POSITIONS OF THE VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, it is necessary for Council to review salary ranges from time to time for employment positions within the Village; and

WHERAS, employee compensation shall not excess the authorized salary ordinance maximum pay range.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio that:

SECTION 1. This positions of employment and the schedule of compensation for employees of the Village of Oakwood shall be as listed in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein. To the extent the pay range in Exhibit A differs from previous salary ordinances those pay ranges are repealed and replaced in accordance with this Ordinance.

SECTION 2. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting on the date indicated below, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Village, the reason for the emergency being that salary ranges need to be updated to provide for past due raises for employees, and provided it receives two-thirds (2/3) of the vote of all members of Council elected thereto, said Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption by this Council and approval by the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____

_____

Eloise Hardin, President of Council

_____
Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council

Presented to the
Mayor _____

Approved: _____

_____
Mayor, Erica Nikolic

I, Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance No. 2026 – 108 was duly and regularly passed by this Council at the meeting held on the _____ day of _____, 2026.

_____
Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council

POSTING CERTIFICATE

I, Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that Ordinance No. 2026- 108 was duly posted on the _____ day of _____, 2026, and will remain posted in accordance with the Village Charter.

_____
Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council

ORDINANCE 2026 - 109

INTRODUCED BY MAYOR

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO AMEND PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, this Council has determined it to be necessary to amend the current appropriation measure in order to appropriate the funds necessary to meet the unforeseen expenditures of the Village of Oakwood (the "Village") for the year ending December 31, 2026.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio that:

SECTION 1. There are hereby appropriated funds of the Village in the amounts and for the purposes set forth in EXHIBIT A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, to provide for expenditures for the operations of the Village for the year ending December 31, 2026.

SECTION 2. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting on the date indicated below, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Village, the reason for the emergency being that this Ordinance must be effective immediately to pay basic operation expenses and contractual agreements due to deficit appropriation balances therefore, provided it receives two-thirds (2/3) of the vote of all members of Council elected thereto, said Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption by this Council and approval by the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____

_____
Eloise Hardin, President of Council

Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council

Presented to the
Mayor _____

Approved: _____

Mayor, Erica Nikolic

I, Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance No. 2026 – 109 was duly and regularly passed by this Council at the meeting held on the _____ day of _____, 2026.

Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council

POSTING CERTIFICATE

I, Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that Ordinance No. 2026-109 was duly posted on the _____ day of _____, 2026, and will remain posted in accordance with the Village Charter.

Carol Jackson, Clerk of Council