

VILLAGE OF GREENHILLS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 27, 2018 | 7:00 P.M.
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor David Moore, Messrs. Jeff Covode, Jack Lee, Glenn Drees, Jeff Halter and Ms. Maria Waltherr and Ms. Melanie Hermes. Also present were Police Chief Neil Ferdelman and Acting Clerk of Council David Lumsden.

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION/PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Following a prayer led by Ms. Waltherr, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1) Regular Council meeting of January 23, 2018
 - Ms. Hermes stated the Safety meeting was Feb. 27, not Feb. 13 as stated on page 4.
- 2) Council Retreat of February 3, 2018

The minutes were approved with the listed revision.

RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Ms. Patricia Andwan, 32 Chalmers Ln. invited all interested individuals to attend the meeting of the Greenhills Civic Association, an organization of concerned neighbors on February 28, 2018 at 6:45 p.m. at the Public Library branch at 11109 Hamilton Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45231. She also encouraged residents to file for revisions to their Hamilton County Auditor property valuations to lower their property values.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Municipal Manager – Evonne Kovach

Greater Cincinnati Water Works water main replacements will be occurring in the “I” and “J” blocks, beginning in May of this year.

Ms. Kovach also stated that the Service Department is working to fill potholes this week.

Mr. Halter asked if there are plans to plant grass on the demolition site. Ms. Kovach said the contractor will be pouring a new sidewalk and spreading grass seed once the weather improves.

Ms. Waltherr asked if partial repairs were performed on the American Legion lot as part of this week’s pothole repairs. Ms. Kovach said yes, that they repaired areas on that lot today.

Law Director – Jeff Forbes

Mr. Forbes stated he would explain the impact of the House Bill 49 legislation during the New Business portion of the meeting.

Acting Clerk of Council – David Lumsden

Resolutions 2018-01, 2018-02, 2018-03, 2018-04 and 2018-05 were posted as required.

Chief of Police – Neil Ferdelman

Ask and You Shall Receive!

Some of you may read the local e-mail blog Next Door Greenhills. Recently, a local resident posted the following: "Hi, I'm searching for someone in my area or surrounding area that has a pair or two of size 7 tennis shoes for free or up to 15 dollars. I have plantar fasciitis and don't have much money to go buy a brand-new pair. Not asking for new ones slightly used is OK with me too. I'm a single mother in need so even if your teen daughter or you would like to sell a pair I'd be more than grateful. I've been trying to walk the mall 3 times a week to lose some weight but the 5-year-old tennis shoes I have are really hurting my feet! Thank you in advance and God Bless!" Local residents Dr. and Mrs. John Cuppoletti have been benefactors to the department in the past and helped to set up a fund for residents in need. He wrote the following to her: "The Greenhills PD has a community fund for exactly this type of thing. Ask any Greenhills Police officer or stop by. I am sure that they will be willing and able to help." We sure were, and we went shopping! At right is Greenhills Police Officer Rob Lenhoff presenting the shoes to Jennifer Walker. She later wrote, "Just wanted to say thank you to everyone again that helped me out. Greenhills Police brought me a brand-new pair of New Balance tennis shoes. Amazing how the Greenhills community comes together and helps people. One day when I get back on my feet I'm going to repay the favor to someone else in need. Again, thank you, thank you, thank you! Awesome people/police!"

Drug Menace Continues and Increases in 2017

The Hamilton County Heroin Task Force Annual Report was recently released. It showed that the task force investigated 258 cases in 2017, a 57% increase from 2016. There were 228 heroin/opiate overdose death investigations, a 60% increase from 2016. The task force recovered 296.21 grams of Heroin, 263.29 grams of Fentanyl, and 7.83 grams of Cocaine. We continue to be a member of the task force, and a member of the regional Drug Abuse Reduction Task Force (DART). We have significantly lower enforcement and overdose rates than our adjacent communities, but overdoses and drug activities continue here, and we continue to address them. We are committed to moving as much of the drug menace as we can out of our community and continue to put pressure on anyone who tries to sell illicit drugs by arresting them and relocating them to prison.

Violence Against Police Officers and in Our Schools Continues

Two Westerville police officers killed on February 10th and another slain in Chicago on February 10th, plus two this week brought to 14 the number of police officers gunned down in the line of duty this year, marking a dramatic increase in such tragedies compared to this time in previous years. During the same time period in 2017, four officers were killed in violent incidents. Westerville police officers Eric Joering and Anthony Morelli were gunned down upon arriving at a domestic dispute in response to a 911 hang-up call. The caller had previously told police her husband, alleged shooter Quentin Smith, was violent, and had a gun even though he had a criminal history prohibiting having firearms. Greenhills Police Officer Zzachery Clark represented our department at the officer's funerals. While flags across the state were still lowered to half-staff in mourning, 17 children and adults were shot to death on February 14th in Parkland, Florida by a former student at the school, who activated the building's fire alarm and started his killing spree while students spilled out into the hallways. As you will see on the next page, the Greenhills Police Department is an active partner in planning for our new school buildings that will soon be under construction here.

New School Planning Continues Emphasizing Safety

Design planning for the new Winton Woods school buildings continues. With the passage of the school levy in 2016, voters approved the construction of all new schools for the district. The current Middle School at 147 Farragut Road will be replaced by a districtwide elementary school that will be constructed at that location. The middle school students will be moved to a new school on the current high school campus, and students from the current Primary North School on Junefield Drive will move to the new elementary school when construction is completed in 2021. The district has included the department in its design and development of the new buildings. This month, Sergeant Tim Lukes, our patrol supervisor, attended the latest meeting on February 20th to provide input on school safety.

Greenhills Police Apply for Bike Helmet Grant

The Greenhills Police Department again applied for the *Put a Lid on It!* Bike Helmet Safety Awareness program grant for 2018, applying for free bike helmets for distribution to kids in the community. The grant is sponsored by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Last year, we received 36 bike helmets from the grant and distributed all of them to our children.

Hamilton County Police Assn. Honors Sergeant

On January 18, Sergeant Tim Lukes, Lieutenant Anne Ward, and Chief Neil Ferdelman attended the annual Hamilton County Police Association Awards ceremony where Forest Park Police Sergeant Tony Pope was honored for his training efforts, which were shared with our officers in collaborative training sessions. We are extremely fortunate to have a close working relationship with the Forest Park Police Department and thank them and Sergeant Pope for the coordinated training that has proven to be mutually beneficial to both police agencies.

State Training Funds Received by Greenhills Police

The State of Ohio annually mandates training in specified amounts and topics. 2017 classroom training requirements included 20 hours per officer that had to be completed for each officer to remain certified. Topics for 2017 included six hours of trauma informed policing, four hours of practical applications of force, four hours of officer and community wellness, two hours of legal updates, and four hours of general law enforcement training. The sworn officers of the Greenhills Police Department completed an average of 35 hours per officer, exceeding the state requirement by 15 hours per officer, or 175 percent over the mandated training. As a result of meeting the state standards and documentation submitted by Lieutenant Anne Ward, the Village of Greenhills received a training reimbursement from the state on January 3rd in the amount of \$3,460.00.

Policy Updates Continue – New Procedure Manual Slated for 2018

Work has resumed on completing the Greenhills Police General Orders Manual. The new policy manual will contain 61 new General Orders. Forty-seven of those are now complete, with 14 left to complete. Six have been completed within the last month, and we plan to press ahead to have these ready as soon as they can be researched and prepared. They are a combination of past policies, policies of other agencies, and model policies from the International Association of Chiefs of Police. They also incorporate standards from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, and standards from the State of Ohio Law Enforcement Collaborative.

Generous Donations, Goodies Are Gifts From the Community During the Past Month

No good deed goes unrewarded. The Greenhills Police Department and the community it serves with the recipients of our citizens' generosity in the last month. First, our citizens contributed \$500 to the department for its needs and especially the needs of residents in need. We

are especially grateful to them as it allows us to help others. Secondly, on February 9th, we were visited by Michaela Noel (left), Randi Murray (right) and Christopher. They are shown with Greenhills Police Officer Michael Willis. This group had just left the Winton Woods Primary North Middle School and coordinated a Donuts with Dads event. They also brought us some of their delicious treats. Christopher left with a stuffed animal from our supplies after he promised to take good care of his new friend. We thank all involved for all of the good deeds.

Crime, Traffic, and Activity By the Numbers

During the month of January, the department investigated five accidents (up one from four in January of 2017), four crimes (down from five last January), and 182 other incidents (up from 158 last January). Of a total of 696 contacts (579 last January), 249 were dispatched or received by telephone as compared to 265 last January, and 347 were self-initiated by police officers as compared to 314 last January. The department provided assistance to the public in 147 instances (115 times last January), assisted other agencies 28 times (down from 30 times last January), and made 37 criminal arrests (compared to 37 last July) and 76 traffic arrests (64 last January). Each crime was analyzed for geographic, temporal, and other factors.

Mayor – David Moore, Court Receipts

For January 2018: Hamilton County: \$67.50, State of Ohio: \$1869.50, Village of Greenhills: \$8250.72.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Audit – Glenn Drees

Mr. Drees stated the 2017 end balance for the General Fund was \$1,163,558. He also stated there were approximately \$300,000 in encumbrances carried over into 2018, for the demolition project and ADA restroom.

Mr. Drees also stated that it may be necessary to improve how we pay police officers and other hourly Village staff. He said this may include a new Police operating levy on the ballot in November. Mr. Halter expressed the importance of supporting the Police Department and highlighted their role in fighting the drug epidemic in the Village.

Inter-Governmental Affairs, Laws and Rules – Jack Lee

Mr. Lee said the Committee met February 26th. They discussed Shopping Center signage, but had no updates yet as they are waiting for feedback from the Shopping Center owner. Additionally, they discussed an indemnification release for private golf cart use on the Greenhills Golf Course.

Mr. Lee also stated the medical marijuana ordinance was approved by committee and will be sent to the Planning Commission. The Committee also discussed the use of speed cameras or red-light cameras at stoplights on Winton Road.

Community Development – Jeff Halter

Mr. Halter stated he addressed Shopping Center signage with Shopping Center business owners who are hoping a sign agreement is reached soon. The next meeting is currently scheduled for March 29th.

Services and Streets – Jeff Covode

No report.

Safety – Melanie Hermes

The Committee met at 5:15 p.m., prior to this evening's meeting. Ms. Hermes said the Committee discussed the traffic flag idea suggested by a resident. A neighboring community that enacted the program said it was poorly received. Additionally, the Committee discussed traffic at the upcoming Winton Woods school building on Farragut, Winton Road funding and improvements to emergency lighting at the Fire and Police station driveway. Ms. Hermes said the Fire Department is applying for grants for breathing apparatus and motorized cots.

The next meeting is April 24, 5:15 p.m.

Mr. Drees mentioned that WWCS D has no current plans to purchase homes Hadley for access drives to the new school building. Ms. Waltherr encouraged Safety committee investigate flashing stop signs for certain intersections.

Recreation and Cable Television – Maria Waltherr

Ms. Waltherr said the next Waycross Community Programming Board meeting will be March 14th at 7:00 p.m. The Recreation Committee will meet on March 15th at 6:30 p.m. and the Recreation Committee will meet on the same evening at 7:00 p.m.

She encouraged everyone attend the fish fry at the American Legion every Friday in March from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Ordinance 2018-01-F

Amending the Village Income Tax Code to Adopt Sections 718.80 Through 718.95 of the Ohio Revised Code and Declaring an Emergency (Drees)

Mr. Drees moved to dispense with the rule requiring two reads and declaring an emergency. Ms. Hermes seconded. The motion passed 6-0 by roll call vote.

Mr. Drees moved to adopt the Ordinance. Ms. Hermes seconded.

Mr. Forbes explained the actions taken by other Ohio communities challenging House Bill 49. The judge ruled in favor of the State of Ohio. The plaintiff communities are filing an appeal, requesting a stay from the trial court. Mr. Forbes told Council the amendments must be passed, however any requirements that are stayed or repealed do not need to be enforced.

The motion for the Ordinance passed 6-0 by roll call vote.

2. Ordinance 2018-02-L&R (First Read)

Amending Section 505 of the Village of Greenhills Codified Ordinances to Include Restrictions on Tethering Dogs (Lee)

Mr. Lee did the first read of the Ordinance by title only.

Mr. Lee stated it allows police officers to intervene if an animal is being abused.

3. Ordinance 2018-03-L&R (First Read)

Repealing Chapter 745 of the Village of Greenhills Codified Ordinances Regarding Market Place Sales (Lee)

Mr. Lee did the first reading of the Ordinance by title only.

Mr. Lee explained this Ordinance eliminates a section of our Codified Ordinances related to the use of the Marketplace area at the lower level of the Greenhills Shopping Center, in order to handle rental of the Marketplace area more similarly to other Village rental facilities.

4. Resolution 2018-06-F

Resolution Making Supplemental Appropriations and Transfers (Drees)

Mr. Drees read the Resolution in its entirety.

Mr. Drees moved to adopt the Resolution. Ms. Waltherr seconded. Ms. Kovach provided information on the supplemental appropriations. They include capital projects. The motion to adopt the Resolution passed 6-0 by roll call vote.

5. Resolution 2018-07-S&S

Resolution Authorizing Assessments on Certain Properties in the Village of Greenhills (Covode)

Mr. Covode read the Resolution in its entirety. Mr. Covode moved to adopt the Resolution. Mr. Lee seconded. The Resolution passed 6-0 by roll call vote.

6. Motions accepting the Mayor's appointments to Boards & Commissions

2018 Appointment to the Waycross Community Programming Board

Ms. Waltherr moved to accept the appointment of Dan Doerflein to the Waycross Community Programming Board. Ms. Hermes seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

2018 Appointments to the Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Housing Council

Mr. Halter moved to accept the appointments of Kenny, Burck, Diana Koller, Jeff Halter, Jack Lee, Natalie Corzine-Moore, Beth Bolce-Owens and Chris Russo to the 2018 CRA Housing Council. Ms. Waltherr seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

CALENDAR

Laws & Rules Committee – March 26, 9:00 a.m.

Recreation Committee - March 15, 6:30 p.m. Recreation Commission at 7:00 p.m.

Community Development Committee - March 29, 5:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business pending, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.


Mayor


Clerk of Council