

CITY OF OAK HILL
MINUTES
City Council Meeting - October 2022
October 10, 2022 - 5:30 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Daniel Wright called the meeting to order on October 10, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Daniel Wright
Councilmember Diana Janney
Councilmember David Perry
Councilmember Christa Hodges
Councilmember Charles Smallwood, Jr.
Councilmember Ronald Stephen Hayslette
Councilmember Benitez Jackson

ABSENT

Councilmember Thomas Oxley

Invocation led by Reverend Maggie G. Blanchard, Rector, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Janney

PRESENTATIONS

- A. School Excess Levy Presentation by George Tabit
 - B. Communities in School Presentation by Kristen Adkins
 - C. Oak Hill Police Dept. Donation Presentation by Delegate Austin Haynes
 - D. Spirit of Oak Hill Award Presentations by Mayor Wright
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- A. Anna Kincaid Cline spoke about the importance of the School Excess Levy.
 - B. Kristen Adkins spoke about the importance of the Communities in schools in importance.
 - C. Austin Haynes presented the Oak Hill Police Department with a check for \$8,250.00 for patrol rifles.
 - D. Mayor Wright presented two Spirit of Oak Hill Awards to:
First recipient of the Spirit of Oak Hill Award is Mike & Kim Bone with Warm Hands Warm Hearts and their dedication with a food pantry, clothing give aways, summer programs and rehabilitation services just to name a few. Second recipient is Saundi Smith with her efforts with the Oak Leaf Festival and it being a success.

Reading and Approval of Minutes

September 12, 2022, Minutes

Councilmember Smallwood requested two corrections in the previous month's minutes. Correct Dianna Smallwood Russell's name and Percy's Park. With no other discussion.

Motion- Dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the council meeting held on September 12, 2022.

Motion carried 6-0

Motion made by Councilmember Janney, Seconded by Councilmember Hodges.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

Treasurer's Report

Motion made to approve the treasurer's report as presented.

Motion carried 6-0

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Janney.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

Correspondence

None

Citizens' Comments

Earnestine Phillips discussed concerns with handicapped services in the area for carpentry, plumbing, electricity work.

Ronda Chuka presented a flyer for the First Chiller Thriller Mental Health Awareness Event being held at Oak Hill City Park on October 22nd.

A Minute from the Minutes

Mayor Wright read minutes from January 5, 1970.

Unfinished Business

1. Establishing a Historic District / David Sibray, WV Explorer Magazine

David Sibray spoke about the Oak Hill area creating a National Historical District. It would bring economic development to the area because of funds available. **Motion made that the Economic Development Coordinator Erin Reid do a preliminary investigation with the committee and businessmen identified in her report. Also, the architect should be involved in the conversation.**

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Smallwood, Jr..
Voting Yea: Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Hayslette,
Councilmember Jackson

- 2. Consideration to Incorporate the Property in the Plateau District Described as Surface of 208/1000 Acres on Waters of Meadow Fork, Map 30A, Parcel 1 into the Boundary of the City of Oak Hill - 2nd Reading**

Motion to approve incorporate the property for a billboard on the parcel listed at Plateau District Described as Surface of 208/1000 Acres on Waters of Meadow Fork, Map 30A, Parcel 1.

Motion carried 6-0

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Hodges.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

- 3. Consideration to Repeal or Amend Oak Hill Municipal Code (OHMC) 15.38.240 Bed and Breakfast Inns, Short-Term Lodging Rentals, And Vacation Rentals - 2nd Reading**

Motion made to repeal or amend the Oak Hill Municipal Code (OHMC) 15.38.240 Bed and Breakfast Inns, Short-Term Lodging Rentals, And Vacation Rentals.

Motion carried 6-0

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Janney.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

- 4. Bid Opening for Demolition of the Structure Located at 103 Hayes St., Map 25, Parcel 78, owned by Tammy Gibson and Charles Brack**

City Manager Damita Johnson opened one bid from Empire Salvage for \$6,000 to demolish the structure located at 103 Hayes Street. **Motion made to have Empire Salvage demolish the structure.**

Motion carries 6-0

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Jackson.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette

- 5. Consideration to Authorize the City to Have Demolition Material Removed from the Property Located at 216 Chestnut Ave., Owned by Clifford M. Bragg**

City Manager Damita Johnson has a quote from Empire Salvage for \$5,000 to remove all the material at 216 Chestnut Avenue.

Motion was made to accept the quote from Empire Salvage and to remove the material and a lien be placed on the property.

Motion carries 6-0

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Hodges.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

6. Structural Inspection Board (SIB) Request for Council to Review the Progress of the Repair on the Structure Located at 1237 Broadway Ave., Owned by Dewayne Hopkins, ILH Holdings, LLC

The SIB requested this item come back to council for resolution with a SIB recommendation of demolition.

Motion was made to follow the SIB instructions to start the process of demolition.

Motion carries 6-0

Motion made by Councilmember Janney, Seconded by Councilmember Perry.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

7. Examination of Demolition Reports

A. Harris St. (Off-Broadway Ave.) Map 7, Parcel 240, Owned by Andrew Thomas, 1153 Cordova., Akron, OH 44320

B. 105 Rocklick Rd., Map 59J, Parcel 33, Owned by Brooks Armentrout, 45 Rolling Acres Dr., Cowen, WV 26206

Harris Street property was demolished on September 20th by Empire Savage for \$6,000 and advertising costs were \$246.25 for a total of \$6,246.25. The property at 105 Rocklick was completed September 21st for a cost of \$10,000 and \$50.00 for advertising. **A motion was made to accept the report of demolition of Harris Street and 105 Rocklick Road.**

Motion carries 6-0

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Janney.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

New Business

8. SIB Recommendation to Demolish the Structure Located at 232 Oyler Ave., Map 18, Parcel 547, Owned by Veronica Elmore and Ralph Smith (LE)

A motion was made for the Oak Hill Street Department to remove the building at 232 Oylar Avenue.

Motion carries 6-0

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Hayslette.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Jackson

9. City of Oak Hill Drainage Problems

This item was moved until after Item 13 by Councilmember Janney with no objection.

Motion carries 6-0

Motion made by Councilmember Hayslette, Seconded by Councilmember Perry.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Jackson

Darrell Thomas spoke about fixing drainage problems in Oak Hill before Minden. Mr. Thomas thinks that would be detrimental to the Minden community.

Susie Jenkins spoke on fixing drainage issues in Minden before fixing the drainage in Oak Hill.

Councilman Perry wants to clarify that Councilman Hayslette has been in favor of fixing the Minden area.

Councilman Hayslette asked that they come up with a comprehensive study for East End, other areas of Oak Hill including Minden Project which is already in the works to solve the drainage issue for the entire city.

Motion carries 6-0

Motion made by Councilmember Hayslette, Seconded by Councilmember Perry.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Jackson

10. Police Hiring

Chief Mike Whisman presented a recommendation from the Civil Service Commission to hire Grace Mitchell. **A motion was made to accept the Civil Service Commission's request to hire Officer Grace Mitchell as a new member of the Oak Hill Police Department.**

Motion carries 6-0.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Janney.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

Chief Whisman advised a current police officer will be resigning and next on the hiring list is Austin St. Clair. Chief Whisman asked that Austin St Clair be hired on contingent of the other officer resigning. **A motion was made to accept Austin St. Clair contingent upon the officer not resending his resignation.**

Motion carries 6-0.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Janney.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

11. White Oak Rail Trail Lighting Supplemental Agreement

Low bid for the lighting grant for the White Oak Rail Trail from about Tom's Carryout to the Fire Station was \$656,150. When you include the contingency on top of that bid puts it at \$308,000 over budget. Council can go ahead with that if agreed to pay an additional match of \$61,603. Amounts of \$36,686.50 & \$50,000 have already made. City Manager Johnson advised an additional \$61,000 is needed to complete the project. **A motion was made to approve the agreement and the additional \$61,000.**

Motion carries 6-0

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Hodges.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

12. Resolution Supporting Fayette County School Excess Levy

Motion made to support the Resolution supporting the Fayette County Schools Excess Levy. Copies of Resolution supporting the Fayette County Schools Excess Levy needs forwarded to the Towns of Montgomery, Fayetteville, Ansted, Smithers & Mt. Hope.
Motion carries 6-0

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Smallwood, Jr..
Voting Yea: Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

13. Resolution Opposing Proposed Amendment #2 to the State Constitution

A motion was made that the City of Oak Hill go on public record Opposing Proposed Amendment #2 to the State Constitution of West Virginia.
Motion carries 6-0

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Smallwood, Jr..
Voting Yea: Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Hayslette,

Councilmember Jackson

Council Comments and Department Reports

Councilmember Janney spoke about the need for the drainage and thanked all the departments for what they do.

Councilmember Hodges thanks all the departments also.

Councilmember Perry advised the memorial committee looked at properties for the Veterans Memorial.

Councilmember Smallwood said a couple citizens asked to leave the fall decorations up until it is time for the Christmas decorations and asked when the Christmas Parade is. City Manager Johnson advised the Christmas Parade is December 10th at 1:00p.m. Councilmember Smallwood also asked if it was necessary to have the meeting on YouTube.

Councilmember Jackson had no comments.

Councilmember Hayslette asked about the timeline on the Rail trail lighting, contact the DEP on the behalf of Mr. Rhodes on Minden Church Road. Councilmember Hayslette wanted to comment that he did not vote to start drainage in Oak Hill and asked if someone could contact FEMA for help with a buyout for properties owners in Mindened that are in floodplain.

Reports

- A. Police Dept.
- B. Fire Dept.
- C. Economic Development Coordinator
- D. City Manager

No questions for the Department heads.

Councilmember Perry asked where the report for Code Enforcement was. City Manager Johnson advised the GIS Coordinator usually done those reports.

Mayoral Comments

Mayor Wright thanked David Kirk with the Street Department about the fence that was installed between the two got lots in the dog park.

Mayor Wright asked about there being no guardrails in a certain area in Collinwood and he will obtain the exact area from the concerned citizens.

Mayor Wright also voiced his concern about the County Commission giving the dog pound sixty days to get out and asked if that would cause problems in Oak Hill's dog management program. The City Manager advised someone is supposed to put a dog pound in the Oak Hill area.

Mayor Wright asked the city manager to send out a few date choices for the unveiling of the James Monroe Ellis marker.

October 10, 2022

Future Agenda Items

New building

Adjournment

The next Council meeting will be held on November 7, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.