

City of Deer Park  
City Council Meeting  
Municipal Building  
February 21, 2022

Mayor Donnellon opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

A moment of silence was observed for Dan Donnellon, former solicitor of Deer Park, who passed away this past week.

The Clerk of Council read the roll. Mr. Camp, Mr. Daily, Ms. Downs, Mr. Feldhaus, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Westmark, Mayor Donnellon.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Westmark motioned to approve the minutes from the February 7, 2022 Council Meeting. Motion seconded by Mr. Feldhaus. Mr. Camp – yes, Mr. Daily – yes, Ms. Downs – yes, Mr. Feldhaus – yes, Mr. Kelly – yes, Ms Westmark – yes, Mayor Donnellon – yes. Motion carried.

### **Presentation “We Thrive” Proclamation**

Alex, a Health Educator with Hamilton County Public Health, introduced the initiative of the “We Thrive” program, which Deer Park has been a part it since 2018 when the city received a community health assessment. A framed proclamation was presented to council recognizing Deer Park as a We Thrive community and Mayor Donnellon read the Proclamation. Alex introduced Emily and Bailey. Bailey is full time with the fire department and the liaison to the department for We Thrive. The monthly meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Deer Park Branch Library. The next “Clean Up Day” will take place on April 23, 2022 from 10 am – 12 noon. The new goals include safe routes to school. Mr. Jetter asked about prevention in falls for the elderly. Alex thanked Ms. Westmark for reaching out to her and Ms. Westmark thanked Alex for taking her call. Ms. Downs asked about suicide prevention in the schools. Alex stated that is also one of their goals. Mr. Daily offered to help get the doors open on getting this started.

### **Public Comment – Citizens and Guests –**

Kerry Baker – 4169 Webster Avenue – Ms. Baker asked that when we get to Ordinance 2022-04 in the agenda that council expand a little more on what it covers. Mayor Donnellon thanked her for asking.

Jerry Keller – 4301 Clifford Road – Mr. Keller asked about the sidewalk repair program. Mr. Jetter provided a flyer after the meeting.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

#### **Legislative and Finance Committee \*Chairman Chris Westmark**

##### **Fund Report**

Ms. Westmark motioned to accept the fund report as reported. Mr. Daily seconded the motion. Mr. Camp – yes, Mr. Daily – yes, Ms. Downs – yes, Mr. Feldhaus – yes, Mr. Kelly – yes, Ms Westmark – yes, Mayor Donnellon – yes. Motion carried

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2022-03 AMENDING CHAPTER 505 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF DEER PARK OHIO TO ADD SECTION 505.21 REGARDING A LIMITATION ON THE NUMBER OF DOGS AND CATS PERMITTED (SECOND READING)**

Ms. Westmark asked the clerk to read Ordinance 2022-03 by title only. So read. Discussion ensued. Ms. Westmark motioned to adopt Ordinance 2022-03. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. Mr. Camp – yes, Mr. Daily – yes, Ms. Downs – yes, Mr. Feldhaus – yes, Mr. Kelly – yes, Ms Westmark – yes, Mayor Donnellon – yes. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE 2022-04 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE AMENDMENT TO TWO PETITIONS FOR SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR SPECIAL ENERGY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS UNDER OHIO REVISED CODE CHAPTER 1710; AMENDING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS LEVIED BY THE CITY OF DEER PARK, OHIO UNDER THOSE PETITIONS; APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO DOCUMENTS EXECUTED IN CONNECTION WITH THOSE PETITIONS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Ms. Westmark asked the clerk to read Ordinance 2022-04 by title only. So read. Mr. Jetter explained to all regarding the PACE loan with the State of Ohio and deferment for one year. Ms. Westmark mentioned energy improvements and discussion ensued. Ms. Westmark motioned to waive the two-reading rule on Ordinance 2022-04. Mr. Feldhaus seconded the motion. Mr. Camp – yes, Mr. Daily – yes, Ms. Downs – yes, Mr. Feldhaus – yes, Mr. Kelly – yes, Ms Westmark – yes, Mayor Donnellon – yes. Motion carried. Ms. Westmark motioned to adopt Ordinance 2022-04. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. Mr. Camp – yes, Mr. Daily – yes, Ms. Downs – yes, Mr. Feldhaus – yes, Mr. Kelly – yes, Ms Westmark – yes, Mayor Donnellon – yes. Motion carried.

**Safety Committee \*Chairman Tom Camp**

**January 2022 Police Report**

Mr. Feldhaus reported that in the month of January there were 592 total calls for service with 200 on first shift, 280 on second shift and 112 on third shift. Police Chief Schlie reported that council should have received an email of a podcast where Officer Battin recently attended Amity Elementary to interview with 2<sup>nd</sup> graders learning about the police department. Chief Schlie explained the application process as we received six applications, where four people took the test and now, we are down to one applicant, pending a background check. Mr. Camp asked if we would need to have another test before the Lieutenant promotion. Chief Schlie stated we will have another test in either May or June. The Lieutenant promotion exam was held last week, and Officer Battin and Officer Jordan are on the eligible list as they both scored as the top two on the exam.

**January 2022 Fire Report**

Mr. Camp reported that in the month of January there were 3 fire runs and 84 EMS runs for a total of 87 in Deer Park. The total district for January saw 213 total runs. There will be a Fire Board Meeting tomorrow on February 22 on Zoom where the approval to hire three new paramedics, as of March 1, 2022, will be discussed. Fire Chief Meador is getting this done so that when we provide backup coverage to Golf Manor and Columbia Township, we will still have an ambulance here.

**Public Works Committee \*Chairman Kathy Downs**

Ms. Downs deferred to Mr. Jetter for several updates on Public Works. Mr. Jetter stated that during the recent heavy rain we received several complaints of flooding. We are in the process of applying grant for the second phase of Blue Ash Road. We have ordered more salt and will obtain 300 tons for our salt bin for next year. All our street bids are pending, and we are waiting to hear back on these.

**Park Board Committee \*Chairman Mark Feldhaus**

Mr. Feldhaus announced that the Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday April 9 at 11 am. The Armchair Race event is scheduled for April 23 and is with Friends of Chamberlin Park. The former “Music in the Park” event is now named “Party in the Park”. The first of 10 concerts begin on May 21, 2022 and will have select dates throughout the summer until the last concert on September 17, 2022.

**Correspondence (Clerk of Council) & Miscellaneous - None**

**Old Business**

Ms. Westmark announced that the Charter discussion update is moved to the March 21, 2022 agenda.

## **New Business**

### **Council Member Monthly Events**

Mr. Kelly proposed that we hold monthly events on the second Monday of each month at the Deer Park Public Library where residents can come to meet council members. Ms. Westmark inquired if this would violate sunshine laws and suggested we hold these events quarterly. Mr. Camp asked if it must be held within the city limits and stated that the back of the library sits in Deer Park. Mr. Pacheco will investigate this and provide more information back to council. Mr. Kelly stated he would like to start these meets and greets on April 11 if there is enough time to plan before then and tabled this discussion to the March 7, 2022 council meeting.

### **Student Government Night**

Ms. Westmark announced that she talked to Superintendent Jay Phillips and teacher Shannon Wilkerson regarding resuming Student Government Night with a possible date of April 18, 2022. We usually serve the students a meal either at the Community Center or in the City Building room downstairs prior to the meeting where the students shadow each member of council and run the meeting themselves. Mr. Camp suggested that we hold the meeting at the Community Center. Mr. Feldhaus stated it was better to have the meeting in Council Chambers, so the students get to see where the meetings are. Mr. Kelly noted that we should have a student shadow Chief Schlie as well.

### **Reports from Other City Officials**

**Solicitor** – Mr. Pacheco wanted to give council the option. Governor DeWine signed HB 51, which reinstated the ability to meet remotely from now until June 30, 2022, either by Zoom or by telephone, but you must provide the same level of access to the public that you are doing. For instance, if you meet by Zoom, all the public must be able to see the members faces.

**City Manager** – Mr. Jetter stated that on March 7, before the council meeting, council members should arrive at 6:30 pm for pictures for our newsletter and website.

Also on March 7, Human Nature will be here with the master report on Chamberlin Park. There is a meeting with them on Thursday February 24 to start looking at approaching private foundations for funding for improving the park.

We received a reimbursement from Cincinnati Bell for Wi-Fi.

A website issue to post minutes came up recently however it should be resolved today.

The fire department is preparing numbering units for townhomes. Spectrum is installing cable lines and Duke Energy will be there shortly to install gas and electric. This should be done by mid-April.

We would like to have a bike trail/walking trail along the west side of Blue Ash Road. Our intern has started and is working on designs for Blue Ash Road. We may need to incorporate the movie theater in plans and since the theater is considered a historic site, we may be able to get a tax credit from the state.

Mr. Jetter stated he sits on a grading committee and today one of the students he worked with for two years passed their PhD.

We are moving forward on Urban Planning and need to keep in mind when we are planning economic development that people want to park and walk around our community.

Mayor Donnellon asked Mr. Jetter if the Chamberlin Park survey has concluded, and Mr. Jetter stated that it has.

**Mayor** – Mayor Donnellon announced that as of February 9, 2022, Joshua Hillberry is appointed as an Intern (part time) for urban planning and economic development project for the City Manager of the City of Deer Park, OH with a rate of pay of \$15.00 per hour for a maximum of 10 consecutive weeks, approximately 20 hours per week. Mayor Donnellon advised all to stay safe.

**Schedule**

March 7, 2022 Council Meeting 7:00 pm  
March 21, 2022 Council Meeting 7:00 pm  
April 4, 2022 Council Meeting at 7:00 pm  
April 18, 2022 Council Meeting at 7:00 pm

**Community Events**

Block watch March 15, 2022 at the Community Center 7:00 pm  
We Thrive Meeting March 17, 2022 at the Deer Park Public Library  
We Thrive Meeting April 21, 2022 at the Deer Park Public Library

**Adjournment**

Mr. Feldhaus motioned to adjourn. Ms. Westmark seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.

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John Donnellon  
Mayor

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Joan E. Perin  
Clerk of Council