

CITY OF Beachwood Council Update

MAYOR
MERLE S. GORDEN

216.292.1901



BEACHWOOD RECEIVES CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH ON ITS 2012 FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT

We want to inform you that Beachwood has received a spotless audit report from the State of Ohio, which represents independent confirmation that financial transactions of the City are properly accounted for, reported and in compliance with state and locals laws. The audit, part of a regular review by the state, issued no "findings" for recovery or any questioned costs. This demonstrates the diligence and care that is taken to manage the City's finances.



COUNCIL PRESIDENT
MELVIN M. JACOBS

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The City believes Beachwood residents should be informed about the results of this clean and independent audit – especially in the wake of media reports about the City.

This is the 15th consecutive year the City of Beachwood has had a "clean" state audit report.

The audit results mirror other, third-party assessments of the City of Beachwood. Moody's Investors Service – which issues bond ratings for cities across the country – awarded Beachwood its highest rating of Aaa. That rating is reserved for communities with the highest level of fiscal performance.

Beachwood's most recent state audit report was accompanied by a management letter, which is NOT part of the Official Audit Report. That letter mentioned three areas where the state suggested we could improve some of our procedures, including the maintenance of a log to track usage of city-owned vehicles, the establishment of a policy for frequent flyer miles and

AUDIT HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- 1 No findings for recovery, material citations, material weaknesses or any questioned costs. None.
- 2 State auditors "...did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses."
- 3 The audit report also stated that "The results of our tests disclosed no instances of material noncompliance...."

COUNCIL V.P.
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City Contact Information

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Dial 9-1-1

CLERK OF COUNCIL
216.595.5493

MARK I. WACHTER

216.765.1921



a recommendation concerning city council approval establishing the maximum amounts for blanket certificates.

The City, which constantly searches for methods to make Beachwood operate more efficiently, is addressing these suggestions.

State officials also told the City that – with the conclusion of this regular audit – its review of the City of Beachwood is complete.

It should be noted that the Audit report did not show any exceptions.

We hope this provides you with some clarity regarding the financial condition and operation of Beachwood. Our City is financially healthy and our books are clean.

The entire state audit report may be reviewed on the State Auditor's website. http://www.auditor.state.oh.us/auditsearch/Reports/2013/City_of_Beachwood_12-Cuyahoga.pdf



VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 10, 2013 • 11:00 A.M.
BEACHWOOD CEMETERY

The Beachwood Historical Society and the City of Beachwood will partner to commemorate Veterans Day at Beachwood Cemetery.

This event, free and open to the community, will feature dignitaries, local veterans, presentation of the colors and guided tours.

The Beachwood Cemetery, located near the corner of Green and Halburton Roads, is the final resting place of over 40 soldiers. Cemetery tours will take place from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. FREE and open to the public.



OF SPECIAL NOTE

The Cuyahoga County Board of Elections acknowledged the receipt of two initiative petitions for charter amendments. After being reviewed by the Board of Elections, it has been determined that the petitions do not contain enough valid signatures to be certified.

The petitions for "Submission of Zoning District Changes" and for "Modification of Deed Restrictions" issues will not be on the November ballot.

FALL LEAF PICK-UP

Beginning September 30 and running continuously through December 31, leaf trucks will be in operation daily throughout the City (weather permitting). Collection is constantly on-going from one end of town to the other end of town. Therefore, there is no need to call for a special pickup.

Place UNBAGGED leaves on the tree-lawn only. DO NOT PLACE IN STREET. Leaf piles mixed with other debris – such as grass – WILL NOT be picked up. After January 1, all leaves need to be bagged. Leaf bags will then be picked up with your regular rubbish on your collection day. Questions? Call the Service Department at 216.292.1922.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

CITY COUNCIL

Usually meets the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. Upcoming meetings: Mon., Oct. 7 and 21. Questions? Call 216.595.5462.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Usually meets the last Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Upcoming meetings: Thursday, Oct 31. Questions? Call 216.292.1914.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

Meets at 5:30 p.m. Upcoming meetings: Monday, Oct. 7 and 21. Questions? Please call 216.292.1914.

Departments

AUDITOR
216.595.5492

BUILDING DEPARTMENT
216.292.1914

COMMUNITY SERVICES
216.292.1970

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
216.292.1915

FINANCE DEPARTMENT
216.292.1913

FIRE DEPARTMENT
216.292.1965

LAW DEPARTMENT
216.595.5462

MAYOR'S OFFICE
216.292.1901

POLICE DEPARTMENT
216.464.1234

SERVICE DEPARTMENT
216.292.1922

DID YOU KNOW?

Beachwood provides many services at no extra charge. These services include:

- Sidewalk repairs
- Sidewalk snow removal
- Senior Transportation
- Rubbish and Recycling Collection
- Senior Police Academy
- Shred Program

Many other cities do not provide these programs and others charge residents for such services.

COMPLIMENTARY TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

The City of Beachwood offers complimentary door-to-door transportation services for Beachwood Residents 60 years+ and those over 18 years of age with disabilities living in an independent living setting.



Over 500 residents are currently registered for this program which averages 41 one-way rides a day. Van operates weekdays from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

“We hear almost daily from our riders about how grateful they are to have this service. We help to lessen the blow when seniors have to stop driving,” states Mayor Gorden.

Beachwood van rider, Helene Weinberger writes “...so many people commiserated with me about losing my independence – and I assure them rapidly that, due to Beachwood Community Transportation, I have gained much more than I have lost. This community is a great gift to me as I age!”

Service is available for medical and therapy appointments as well as errands like, banking, grocery shopping and to the beauty salon.

For additional information and to register, call Beachwood Community Services at 216.595.3733.

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUMP BACK JOG • 5K RUN/2K WALK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13 • 10:00 A.M.

BEACHWOOD CITY PARK WEST

\$11 IF PRE-REGISTERED/\$13 DAY OF RACE

Enjoy a 5K Run/2K Walk with prizes awarded to age and group winners. Registration required. Visit www.beachwoodohio.com or call 216.292.1970.

Princesses AND PIRATES



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

1:00 – 3:00 P.M.

BEACHWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER

Games, prizes, refreshments and entertainment. A family-friendly Halloween party for 3 – 6 year olds. FREE for Residents. **Registration and wristband required, limited capacity.** \$5 per child per wristband for non-residents. Wristbands available in Recreation Office until October 18.

BEACHWOOD FILLS THE BOOT FOR MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

Each year, our Fire Department collects money to benefit Muscular Dystrophy. Last month, Beachwood Professional Firefighters Association members collected **\$5,363** during the Beachwood Fire Department's annual Fill the Boot program. This adds to the **overall total of \$100,000** our city's firefighters have collected during the past two decades. Thanks to all who made contributions.



Council Update

SENIOR POLICE ACADEMY

Congratulations to the Beachwood Police Department 2013 Senior Police Academy graduation class. This free eight-week program provided seniors with an opportunity to learn about law enforcement first hand. Participants studied real-life crime prevention techniques pertaining to the cares and needs of today's senior citizens. Topics included self-defense, CPR, personal safety and how to help family, friends, neighbors and yourself.

PICTURED (L to R): *Flossie Brisker, Councilman Mel Jacobs, Rome Decanay, Tayloria Anderson, Mayor Merle S. Gorden, Zerel Decanay, Phyllis Blau, Steve Scheinberg, Phyllis Kalk, Judith Scheinberg, Polly Fine, Chief Mark Sechrist, Marcia Jaffe, Stanley Jaffe, Annette Solomon, Investigator Erin Draves. Not Pictured: Marty Arsham, Frank Buchwald, Robert & Roslyn Lubell, Beatrice Nechin.*



HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Beachwood Fire Department will be conducting hydrant flushing Sunday, October 23 through Saturday, October 28. Please be aware that hydrant flushing may occur on your street any day during this week. If you have rusty water, please run the COLD water until it runs clear. For more information call 216.292.1965.

DEER PROBLEM?

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) is available to assist with any nuisance or long term animal issues. They will visit your property, assess the situation and provide you with information as to how best to deal with your particular situation. Contact Geoffrey Westerfield at 330.644.2293 or Geoffrey.Westerfield@dnr.state.oh.us. In the case of an emergency situation, please dial 911.



UPCOMING ART SHOW BEACHWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER



MASK-FORMATION

September 25 – October 19

Transforming radiation masks into works of art.

Opening Reception: Sun. Oct. 6, 1:30 – 3 PM



BEACHWOOD ARTS COUNCIL PRESENTS 4 PRINTMAKERS: AGELESSNESS

October 26 – November 17

Featuring Maria Kaiser, Barbara Eisenberg, Nijole Palubinskas and Rosalyn Gaier

Opening Reception: Sat. Oct. 26, 5 – 7:30 PM

GALLERY HOURS Mon. – Fri. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. • Sat. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. • Sun. 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

TRICK OR TREAT

*The City of Beachwood's
Trick-or-Treat hours
are Thursday,
October 31 from
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.*



BEACHWOOD LAW DIRECTOR MARGARET CANNON MOVING ON

Law Director Margaret Anne Cannon will end her long service to the City of Beachwood at the end of the year as she is choosing to spend more time with her family.

Ms. Cannon has served since Jan. 1, 1996. She has given legal guidance on numerous, significant issues in the city including the relocation of Eaton Corporation's U.S. Headquarters to Chagrin Highlands, collective bargaining agreements with the city's bargaining units, preparation of all City Council legislation and contracts and more.



"It has been an honor to work with Mayor Gorden and Beachwood City Council for the past 18 years," Ms. Cannon said. "Beachwood is a vibrant, wonderful city full of fine people and dedicated employees. I want to thank my staff for their exceptional work and commitment. I'm not retiring from my law practice, I'm just slightly down-shifting. I'll be 66 and my husband will be 71 and the time has come for me to take on a more flexible schedule."

Mayor Merle Gorden said Ms. Cannon has provided excellent legal counsel to the city. "Margaret is very bright and has always been very accessible," the mayor said. "I'm sorry to see her go, but I understand. The entire Beachwood City Hall family wishes her the best." Beachwood City Council will select Ms. Cannon's replacement.

CLEVELAND'S LEGAL LEADERS

We proudly report that both our Law Director Margaret Anne Cannon and our Assistant Law Director William R. Hanna have been AV Preeminent Rated and named to ALM/Martindale-Hubbell's list of Cleveland's Legal Leaders.



BEACHWOOD RECEIVES \$3,150 FOR RECYCLING PROJECTS ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY EFFORTS CONTINUE IN BEACHWOOD

The City of Beachwood was awarded a \$3,150 grant from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District to promote recycling activities.

Beachwood was approved to use \$750 to publicize the City's Shred Day services. Shred Day encourages residents to shred and recycle paper in an environmentally responsible manner. In 2012, Beachwood's Shred Day helped 242 residents shred 4.5 tons of paper. The remaining \$2,400 of the grant was used to design and create vehicle wraps to be placed on two of the City's garbage trucks. The recently installed signage promotes recycling among residents and visitors in Beachwood.

"This grant supports and will help strengthen the City's efforts to operate more efficiently and in an environmentally friendly manner," said Mayor Merle S. Gorden.

"The City in 2012 collected nearly 300 tons more in recycling material over the prior year," Pekarek said. "That meant 300 tons less in rubbish and thus saved the city more than \$11,000 in rubbish disposal fees."



"The recycling programs funded by this grant help to eliminate waste and to remind residents of the importance of recycling and taking care of our community's environment."

— Mayor Gorden