

MAYOR'S MESSAGE - FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

One of the benchmarks for the strength of any municipality rests with the management of its money. I'm very proud that Beachwood can lay claim to a long history of maintaining a healthy balance sheet.

We draw generous amounts of funding from the commercial community (representing 90% of the dollars in our annual budget) enabling minimal dependence on residential taxation. On the spending side, we are always guided by a prudence that never comes at the expense of performance or quality.

This philosophy is reflected throughout the City. Our streets are well maintained, and our streets and sidewalks are cleared in snowy weather. The trees and gardens lining our streets are bountiful. Our amenities like the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center, Barkwood, and our City Parks are well maintained and draw significant community interest and usage.

Also noteworthy is how our Public Works Department rapidly responds to calls and solves urgent issues. Our Police and Fire Departments can operate at high levels because they are supplied with state-of-the-art equipment, technology and training. Our Community Services Department delivers top level programs, events, and opportunities for all age levels – all year long.

Community members are fortunate that the City can afford to provide a great many services free of charge, whereas neighboring communities must assess a fee. In Beachwood we provide a rubbish and curbside recycling program at no cost to our residents which also includes free special rubbish pickups. The City also maintains and replaces our sidewalks at no cost. Free transportation and rear yard rubbish service is available to our senior and disabled residents too.

One very intentional strategy that delivers great cost savings is Beachwood's memberships in co-ops and consortiums such as the Salt Consortium and the Solid Waste/Recycling Consortium which bring the best value to member communities.

These are some of the ways in which money is responsibly spent in Beachwood. We also are saving considerable amounts of money and investing it for the future. As of July 31, 2023, the City has \$58.4 million invested in various financial growth instruments. Compare that to six years earlier, on July 31, 2017, when the City had \$45.9 million. That demonstrates 27.2% growth. And those accounts grew while there was spending on major projects and infrastructure improvements.

Since 2017, the City has spent \$13.3 million in road and infrastructure improvements, over \$2.5 million to upgrade City vehicles, \$155,032 to build a dog park and just over \$1 million to upgrade our recreational facilities. We are currently finalizing our recreational improvement project which

includes pickleball, permanent community gardens and volleyball. In terms of safety, we spent just over \$1 million in fire equipment upgrades, including a new preemption system.

Another highly laudable aspect to our financial governance is our AAA bond rating, which the City has maintained since 2020.

There are fewer than 20 cities in Ohio with this top rating which helps keep our interest rates low. This saved the City substantial dollars over the life of the loan used to fund the construction of our Public Safety Center.



We actively seek ways to save money and secure grants and government funding. For example, through the efforts of our City Engineer, GPD, the City was awarded more than \$3.1 million Material Cost Improvement Program funds for the Timberlane and Green Sanitary Sewer Relief program.

The City of Beachwood continues to earn the highest rating for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association, an achievement we've earned for the past 20 years. The award notes that Beachwood goes beyond minimum requirements and offers comprehensive reports with evidence of full transparency and disclosure.

The City of Beachwood is always mindful of other communities, and one example of that intention rests with our new \$3.5 million playground which will serve a multigenerational community of grandparents, parents, and children. The

City applied for and received a \$700,000 grant to help fund this project. We are witnessing other communities investing heavily in this type of facility including Solon's Community Park with an estimated \$30 million spend and Mayfield Heights' pool and playground with a \$35 million price tag.

We actively seek ways to save money and secure grants and government funding. For example, through the efforts of our City Engineer, GPD, the City was awarded \$3.1 million Material Cost Improvement Program funds for the Timberlane/Green Road Sanitary Relief Project.

I am proud to serve Beachwood where financial responsibility is always at the core of our planning process. Residents can enjoy exemplary facilities, programs, services, and events, all while we are simultaneously positioned as financially sound and fiscally responsible.

Mayor Justin Berns
MayorBerns@beachwoodohio.com

THE CITY INSIDER



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BeachwoodOhio.com



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AUDITOR
216.595.3712

BUILDING DEPARTMENT
216.292.1914

CLERK OF COUNCIL
216.595.5493

COMMUNITY SERVICES
216.292.1970

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
216.292.1915

FINANCE
216.292.1913

FIRE & RESCUE
216.292.1965

LAW
216.595.5462

MAYOR'S OFFICE
216.292.1901

POLICE
216.464.2343

PUBLIC WORKS
216.292.1922

EMERGENCY
Dial 9-1-1 or
216.464.1234

LEGISLATIVE RECAP - AUGUST

2023-76 – At a special meeting held July 24, Council authorized the engagement of Thrasher, Dinsmore & Dolan to represent the City regarding zoning code matters including RUILPA.

2023-77 – Council approved the Bills Ordinance authorizing payment for various professional services totaling \$ 81,799.20.

2023-78 – Council authorized an amendment to Schedule B of the Administrative Salary Ordinance to add a temporary part-time Plans Examiner for the Fire Department.

2023-79 – Council accepted a tentative agreement with Fire Fighters Union for a new 3-year contract. The current contract expires October 31, 2023. The new tentative agreement was ratified and approved by IAFF Local 2388.

2023-80 – Council passed legislation amending the Civil Service Rules which were voted on and approved by the Civil Service Commission. Changes were made for Beachwood to retain current personnel and remain competitive when hiring. The age limit for lateral transfer candidates was updated as well as scoring for promotional examinations for both police and fire personnel.

2023-82 – Council authorized the purchase of a Fire Rescue Vehicle to replace the existing Club Car that the Fire Department uses for rescues in the City Park(s). The current vehicle was placed in service 18 years ago. The Fire Department researched various all-terrain vehicles, reviewed pricing, warranties, and options to make sure the new vehicle would meet our needs. The price of the vehicle is \$25,953.08. In addition to the purchase of the vehicle, Council also authorized the purchase of a rescue skid, installation of scene lights and emergency lighting and a graphic package. The total price for the vehicle and the add-ons listed above will not exceed \$33,202.08.

Council also passed the following:

A motion to extend our School Facilities Usage Agreement through November 2023. The contract expired at the end of July and both parties have asked for the extension to facilitate additional discussions regarding future terms (July 24).

A motion to authorize the Clerk to advertise for bids for sitework for the new Fairmount Playground. At Council's request, the flower shade structures have been included (August 14).

For more information, please visit [BeachwoodOhio.com/AgendaCenter](https://www.beachwoodohio.com/AgendaCenter).



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HOW TO EMAIL YOUR COUNCIL MEMBER:

FirstName.LastName@beachwoodohio.com
Ex: alec.isaacson@beachwoodohio.com



SIDEWALK OBSTRUCTIONS

Resident Reminder: Please be mindful of preventing any obstructions to our sidewalks. We appreciate your diligence with eliminating bushes, hedges and other sources of interference from encroachment on public spaces.

For more information, see Beachwood Codified Ordinance 660.10 or visit [BeachwoodOhio.com](https://www.beachwoodohio.com).



OBSTRUCTED



PASSABLE

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

City Council:
September 5 at 7:00 p.m.
September 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning:
September 28 at 6:30 p.m.

Architectural Board of Review:
September 5 at 4:30 p.m.
September 18 at 4:30 p.m.

WORK-LIVE-LEARN..THRIVE

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT CELEBRATES POLICE AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Families with children of all ages took in the festivities at National Night Out (NNO) on Tuesday, August 1, outside Beachwood City Hall. NNO is a nationally recognized event established 40 years ago for police officers to connect and build partnerships with the residents they serve. The event's popularity has only grown throughout the country, and Beachwood established it as a festival-like celebration in 2021.

There were smiles all around as attendees enjoyed emergency vehicles, photo opportunities, demonstrations, a visit from the K-9 unit, magic by Rick Smith Jr., food trucks and more. On behalf of the City and Beachwood Police Department, thank you to everyone who made it possible and all those in attendance. *Photography by: Discovery Photo*



Patrolman Gray and Kai welcoming residents.



Mayor Berns, Chief McLaughlin, Deputy Chief Resek and personnel from the Beachwood Police Department who were in attendance at National Night Out.



Patrolman Bertone helping residents try on gear.



Beachwood Fire Department brought out vehicles, equipment and kid's fire helmets for the community.

LABOR DAY

City Hall will be closed on Monday, September 4, in observance of Labor Day.

HOLIDAY HOURS:

Rubbish and recycling collections will be delayed one day for the week of September 4 only.

BEACHWOOD BLACKOUT, 2024 TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE PARTY

The countdown is on, but we don't want to leave you in the dark! The City of Beachwood is planning a celebration and viewing party for the total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024. Cleveland and its suburbs, like Beachwood, lie within the path of totality, experiencing nearly four minutes of darkness in the afternoon as the Moon moves between the Earth and Sun. We won't be in the path of totality again until the year 2444!

The occasion will include solar-safe eclipse viewing glasses courtesy of Crestmont Automotive and tons of family fun to enjoy this once-in-a-lifetime event. Stay tuned for the Beachwood Blackout Party, coming to a community location near you!



FREE SHRED DAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Beachwood's upcoming free community shred day is scheduled for Sunday, September 10, from 9:00 a.m.-noon in the City Hall parking lot. Bring personal documents, mail and files to have them shredded on-site at no charge.

Note the following change to shred day; please use paper bags and banker boxes only. Blue grocery bags are not permitted. Bring your driver's license or ID as proof of residency.



Now accepting paper bags and banker boxes only. No blue grocery bags.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM

To help residents dispose of oil-based paint, pesticides, automotive fluids and other hazardous products found in the home, the Solid Waste District offers a countywide Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Program. Beachwood residents may deliver their household hazardous waste year-round to:

Beachwood Public Works Department
23355 Mercantile Road
Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

The City of Beachwood can only accept hazardous materials that originate from a household. Examples of household hazardous waste include oil-based paint, solvents, used motor oil, automotive fluids, aerosols, lawn and garden products, pesticides, pool chemicals and household cleaners. Latex paint is not accepted.

Dried-out paint cans, empty aerosol cans and other empty containers can be placed in the regular trash for disposal. Empty motor oil and antifreeze jugs may have residue of the hazardous materials they held and should be placed in the trash, not recycling, for proper disposal.

Before disposing of products, consider donating usable materials to a friend, neighbor or organization. For more info, visit the "Rubbish, Recycling & More" quick link at BeachwoodOhio.com.

FALL LEAF PICK-UP BEGINS SEPTEMBER 25

Leaf pick-up begins Monday, September 25, and weather permitting, runs through mid-December.

Please be aware of the following:

- Leaves need to be raked into piles on the tree-lawn.
- Keep piles free from other debris such as grass, trees or branches.
- Vehicles parked on the street may impede the city's ability to collect leaves.



VETERANS DAY CEREMONY TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 12

Join city officials and the Beachwood Historical Society for a salute to our Veterans on Sunday, November 12, beginning at 11:00 a.m. The ceremony will be held at the Beachwood Cemetery off Green Road.



CITY OF
Beachwood

Preventing Crime in Your Neighborhood

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!

Call BPD: 216-464-1234 from a cell phone or 9-1-1 from your landline

AROUND THE HOUSE

- Place exterior lights around your property
- Close your curtains and garage doors
- Lock vehicles & don't leave valuables visible
- Make sure your address is visible from the street
- Lock your doors when doing yardwork
- Trim trees & shrubs around your home
- Close & lock windows when away
- Keep valuables in a safe place
- Use alarm systems and deadbolt locks
- If unexpected workers don't have an ID, immediately call BPD
- Never open the door to strangers
- Don't hide extra keys on your property: leave an extra set with a friend

WHILE TRAVELING

- Place a hold on your mail & newspaper, or have a trusted person bring them in daily
- Put lights on timers if away for more than 24 hours
- Notify BPD to watch your property when away

FIGHT FRAUD

- Never share Internet passwords, Social Security, credit card or bank account numbers
- Shred personal information before discarding
- Never send cash in the mail or allow anyone to pick up a check at your home
- Complete Internet sale transactions in-person at the Beachwood Police Department parking lot

www.BeachwoodOhio.com [Facebook.com/BeachwoodPolice](https://www.facebook.com/BeachwoodPolice) Non-Emergency: 216-464-1234

SUBSCRIBE TO THE BEACHWOOD ELIST FOR NEWS DELIVERED TO YOUR INBOX AT BEACHWOODOHIO.COM!

SEPTEMBER RECREATION GUIDE

HONKIN HAULIN TRUCK PARADE

CITY OF Beachwood

FREE GIVEAWAYS!

TRUCKS ON THE MOVE!
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH
 PARADE ROUTE BEGINS AT 1:00 PM

YOUR FAVORITE BIG TRUCKS HONKIN' PAST YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD.
 DETAILS & MAP AT [BEACHWOODREC.COM!](http://BEACHWOODREC.COM)

PRESENTED BY **CRESTMONT**

BEACHWOOD'S 6TH ANNUAL

FALL FESTIVAL

FREE FAMILY EVENT!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, NOON-5PM
 BEACHWOOD CITY HALL PARKING LOT

FOOD TRUCKS • GAMES • INFLATABLES • ENTERTAINMENT
 ZIP LINE • MUSIC • PUMPKIN PATCH • ART FAIR

CITY OF Beachwood   For details, visit [BeachwoodRec.com!](http://BeachwoodRec.com)

BEACHWOOD ART GALLERY: **TREE-riffic** | September 14 - October 7 | Artists' reception on September 19 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. A mixed media exhibit with roots in the beauty of trees featuring over 20 artists. See page 18.

SIMPLY QUEEN TO HEADLINE FALL FESTIVAL KICKOFF CONCERT

Beachwood's annual Fall Festival will feature a Saturday night kickoff concert once again this year on October 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center parking lot. The free concert will feature some international flair as Simply Queen, a world-class act from Windsor, Canada, will rock the stage in Beachwood.

The completely live tribute performance features an array of Queen's most iconic songs from "Bohemian Rhapsody" to "Crazy Little Thing Called Love" and more. Simply Queen has performed across both the United States and Canada with high energy, entertaining shows for music fans of all ages.

The Fall Festival Kickoff Concert is open to all at no charge. Food trucks, beer, wine and beverages will be available for purchase. Dress for the weather, get ready to rock and enjoy one of the final outdoor events of the year!



THEATER CAMP THRILLS AUDIENCE

Theater Camp had fans on their feet with a summer showcase that served as their grand finale. Led by Producing Manager Keith Nagy and Assistant Producing Manager Sarah Stewart, the 2023 camp was a collaborative effort between Beachwood and Shaker Heights with over 60 participants.

The cast covered everything including "Kids" from *Bye Bye Birdie* to "This Is Me" from *The Greatest Showman*. For the first time, some cast members even wrote and performed in their very own self-created scenes. The camp left participants with a wealth of theater experience and many fun summer memories.



Performances were held on July 13 and July 14.

Looking for more theater? Beachwood Community Theater's fall production, titled *WOLF*, begins September 13 and is open for registration. Led by Julie Matthews and Debi Lewin of Marquee Showcase Productions, the 8-week program is open to ages 6-16 with rehearsals on Wednesdays from 5-7 PM. Learn more and sign up at BeachwoodRec.com.

DUNKIN' DELIVERS A SUMMER SURPRISE

In honor of National Parks & Recreation Month in July, Dunkin' rewarded camp counselors with gift cards for their hard work and dedication to the kids in the community. Thank you to Dunkin' and our incredible staff for a successful 2023 summer camp!



Sports camp directors and counselors.

ADULT FITNESS PROGRAMS

- **Barre FX**
Tuesday/Thursday, September 7-October 3, 9:30 a.m.
Beachwood Community Center
Residents \$55, Non-Residents \$66
- **Your Dog Is Your Workout Partner with Heidi Braun**
Mondays, September 11-October 16, 6:30 p.m.
Beachwood City Park East
Residents \$75, Non-Residents \$94
- **Tai-Chi in the Park with Jennifer Stepien**
Sundays, September 17-October 22, 10:00 a.m.
Beachwood City Park West Pavilion
Residents \$44, Non-Residents \$53
- **Parent & Me Warrior Yoga with Carolyn Miller**
Thursday, September 21, 6:00 p.m. (Grades K-6)
Beachwood Community Center
Residents \$10/parent & child, Non-residents \$15
- **POUND Fitness with Ali Marino**
Mondays, September 25-October 16, 6:30 p.m.
Beachwood Community Center
Residents \$75, Non-Residents \$90
- **Yoga in the Park**
Saturdays, September 30-October 21, 10:00 a.m.
Beachwood City Park West Pavilion
Residents \$30, Non-Residents \$36
- **Cardio Drumming with Nema Saleem-Green**
Thursdays, October 5-November 2, 6:30 p.m.
Free Demo: September 14, 6:30 p.m.
Beachwood Community Center
Residents \$42, Non-Residents \$50

BEACHWOOD SENIORS

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & TRIPS

- **Beginner Mahj Lessons with Fern Grunberger**
Mondays, October 2-October 30, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Community Center
Residents \$40, Non-Residents \$48
Do you know that "BAM! & CRACK!" are not just terms in the comic strips but also part of the game of Mahj? Mahj has been shown to help slow down cognitive decline, increase socialization, provide countless hours of fun and more! No class October 23. Register by September 27.
- **Quintealia's Tea Parlor Day Trip**
Tuesday, October 17, 10:30 a.m., Depart from the Community Center
Residents \$68, Non-Residents \$82
This beautifully decorated, antique furnished historical home is just the spot to relax and take in the season along with an array of savory, sweet treats and heartwarming tea. Register by September 14.
- **The Cleveland Orchestra at Mandel Concert Hall**
Friday, November 17, Departs from the Community Center at 9:45 a.m.
Residents \$78, Non-Residents \$94
Enjoy this morning matinee performance with conductor Barbara Hannigan, Aphrodite Patoulidou, soprano, and selections like: HAYDN Symphony No. 44, "Trauersinfonie", LIGETI Lontano. Register by October 10.

SENIOR DAY OUT

Dianne Palmer & Mike Elkins
Thursday, September 21, at Noon
Beachwood Community Center

Residents \$13
Non-Residents \$16
Program Only \$5

Register by September 13.

Dianne Palmer (vocalist) returns to bring her new show, "Standard Cocktails" straight to your heart and to our afternoon. Get ready for a feel-good time! Featuring the talented Mike Elkins at the piano.

Meal choices include vegetable chili with a side garden salad, bread and butter or a tuna tarragon sandwich. All entrees are served with beverage, dessert and autumnal mocktail.

October Senior Day Out: Flashbaxx joins us on October 26 for music of the 60s and 70s! Register by October 18.

Register for events at BeachwoodRec.com,
City Hall or call 216.292.1970.

WHERE BUSINESS IS BOOMING!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SUMMER INTERNS COMPLETE DEPARTMENT PROJECTS

The Office of Economic Development worked with several students this past summer who served as research analyst interns. The students mined information from a comprehensive real estate database, regional data and other research sources which benefited the Department of Economic Development in its ability to fulfill the overall strategic plan for the City.



Elizabeth Liu, Beachwood High School

Elizabeth is a junior whose coursework has included several AP courses pertaining to statistics and related fields that served her well in this position with the City. During this internship, Elizabeth has spearheaded research, data collection, and data analysis related

to innovation, commercial building inventories, international investment, and associated projects. She has also prepared documents for a cloud-based Customer Relationships Management System, assisting with the city's outreach to businesses regarding economic opportunities within Beachwood.

"This position has provided me with remarkable opportunities to learn real-world applications of data analysis and research, which I had previously only experienced within the classroom. Furthermore, it has allowed me to gain insight about and partake in the inner workings of my community," says Elizabeth. "Because I hope to study economics in the future, this has been an incredible foundational experience, and I have gained experience in a diverse array of topics in the field through the many projects I've participated in."



Radha Pareek, Beachwood High School

Radha is a junior whose career aspirations are in the fields of law and political science. Her educational experience in statistics and her recent internship at Case Western Reserve University have brought her to this opportunity with Beachwood. Throughout the internship,

Radha engaged in comprehensive research focused on minority-owned businesses, industry sectors, and the burgeoning healthcare

industry in Beachwood. Furthermore, she played an instrumental role in collating information on city amenities, crafting promotional materials, and conducting statistical analyses to gauge Beachwood's commercial growth.

"This position has been an enriching experience, allowing me to delve into Beachwood's diverse business and infrastructure landscape while honing my analytical and communication skills. Furthermore, under the Director's invaluable mentorship, I was able to investigate my interest areas, encompassing healthcare and scientific research. This remarkable professional opportunity has afforded me the chance to reciprocate the support and nurturing I received from this city, resulting in a profoundly gratifying experience—one that I am eager to pursue in the near future," she says.



Lucia Martino, Gilmour Academy

Lucia is a junior whose interest in economics has grown after her AP coursework in history and economics. "This internship has allowed me to use the concepts that I learned in class such as data research and apply it practically."

Lucia has been researching overall community sustainability programs related to commercial projects and commercial buildings. "With my future career in mind, I have always been passionate about the environment. I enjoyed the opportunity to further my knowledge in Economic Development and sustainable practices. This project helped me to better understand the balance of sustainable principles," she says.

"The students we had this summer were incredible," says Catherine Bieterman, Economic Development Director. "I'm so impressed with their knowledge and desire to grow professionally. They were able to dive into key projects quickly and brought unique insight into the research they were conducting. It was a pleasure to have each of them here with us. They will each excel in their careers, and I am excited to see them continue along their journey. I hope I will have the opportunity to work alongside them again in the future."

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Congratulations to the Berson-Sokol Agency on its 50th anniversary! Mayor Justin Berns recently shared a city proclamation with agency President and CEO Craig Berson to recognize this auspicious occasion. The insurance agency's core activities involve life insurance, annuities, senior health care and long-term care coverage.

For more information, visit berson-sokol.com.

Right: Mayor Justin Berns presenting a city proclamation to President and CEO Craig Berson.



ELEVATE YOUR BUSINESS, LET'S CONNECT!



Learn more about how Beachwood is a location that checks all the boxes for your business.

Catherine Bieterman

Economic Development Director

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