

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Recent Zoning Code Amendments Ordinance 2023-11

During the September 5 council meeting, we approved some significant changes to our planning and zoning code, changes that reflect our commitment to progress, equality and the safety of our community. These changes have been meticulously crafted to serve the best interests of our residents.

Three core principles guided our efforts:

- First, we had to ensure that our zoning code aligns with state and federal regulations. It was essential that we avoid the legal disputes that have plagued neighboring cities, saving our resources and upholding the rule of law. These updates bring us in line with these regulations and better support our community's evolving needs.
- Second, we're bolstering safeguards to protect our cherished single-family residential neighborhoods, known as U-1 districts. We recognize the value of these neighborhoods to our residents – these are places where families invest their dreams, their security and their futures. Our code maintains the integrity of these areas while allowing for necessary growth and change.
- The third principle involves fostering inclusivity by accommodating smaller institutional uses, such as places of worship, private schools and charter schools in U-5 districts.

Our city thrives on diversity, and this step reflects our commitment to nurturing a vibrant tapestry of religious and educational institutions. To accomplish that, we reduced the minimum required lot size in U-5 districts, ensuring that legitimate, smaller-scale uses can thrive without undue obstacles.

The overarching concern is our adherence to the federal Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA). With the assistance of our City Planner and legal team, we've painstakingly designed and reviewed our regulations to comply with this act, ensuring that religious uses are treated on equal terms with non-religious institutions, irrespective of denomination.

It's important to note that we aren't just updating regulations – we're enhancing public safety.

Illegitimate or unpermitted use of properties, especially for places of worship or other gathering spaces, can pose significant risks.

A fire, the collapse of a floor or some other tragedy that resulted in injuries or deaths would immediately lead to blame for the city, as well as operators of the illegitimate gathering spaces.

These changes allow us to enforce essential safety standards consistently, protecting both worshippers and our entire community.

- We've painstakingly designed and reviewed our regulations to comply with the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act, ensuring that religious uses are treated on equal terms with non-religious institutions.
- These changes allow us to enforce essential safety standards protecting both worshippers and our entire community.
- Every proposed change for a particular use will take into consideration the impact on that neighborhood and the city.

Any application for a zoning code change will quickly kick off a detailed process that will result in a top-to-bottom, case-by-case review. Every proposed change for a particular use will take into consideration the impact on that neighborhood and the city. Our evaluation will be a fair and comprehensive process, conducted in public, that reflects the values and priorities of our community.

These zoning code updates represent a milestone for Beachwood. They're not only about policy; they're about the heart of our city, our neighborhoods and the individuals who call this place home. I want to

express my gratitude to our City Planner, City Council and our legal team. Their dedication has shaped these changes, ensuring a more equitable, safe and vibrant future for our city.

To keep our community well informed, we created a section on our website answering questions regarding this matter and will update the FAQs as we receive additional questions. Visit BeachwoodOhio.com/council.

Thank you.



Mayor Justin Berns
MayorBerns@beachwoodohio.com



DEPARTMENTS

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 - SEPTEMBER

2023-11 – Council passed legislation amending the zoning code. The process for making these changes began in January and included deliberation and a recommendation from our Planning & Zoning Commission, and a public hearing. A detailed explanation of the zoning changes is outlined under the Mayor's Message and can be found on our website at BeachwoodOhio.com/council.

2023-83 – Council approved the Bills Ordinance authorizing payment for various professional services totaling \$97,461.29.

2023-84 - Council passed legislation levying Special Assessments for the cost of abating lawn nuisances encompassing a total of 14 parcels at a total cost of \$2,150 within the City of Beachwood.

Council was asked to update the Beachwood Codified ordinances in accordance with current departmental operations. The changes affected the Departments of Economic Development, Building and Public Works. The three ordinances are listed below:

2023-85 – Council created Chapter 136 to re-establish the Department of Economic Development which was previously housed under the Building and Community Development Department.

2023-86 – Council amended Chapter 139 updating the Public Works Department section of the code to include the position of Assistant Public Works Director and to remove the reference that the Police Chief would serve in the absence of the director and deleted language that is covered elsewhere in the code.

2023-87 – Council passed legislation amending Chapter 143 changing the title of the Building and Community Development Department back to the Building Department. The language related to the Economic Development Department was adopted as part of the amendments to Chapter 136 referenced above.

2023-88 – Council adopted legislation extending a moratorium on the review and issuance of applications for zoning permits, certificates of occupancy, and other permits, licenses, and any approvals thereof for dollar stores, second-hand stores, vape shops, hookah lounges, and paraphernalia outlets for a period of 90 days.



**MAYOR
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**JUNE
TAYLOR**
216.533.7640

HOW TO EMAIL YOUR COUNCIL MEMBER:

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



Council also passed the following resolution:

2023-7 - A Resolution of Support to study the feasibility of installing tornado sirens or other weather alerting systems. This is something the administration has been working on for some time and is currently studying the implementation of a plan. Once information is gathered, a public committee meeting will be scheduled to further discuss with City Council.

Note: The legislative update for the September 18 city council meeting will be reported in the next issue as the deadline for this publication was prior to the meeting date.

More information regarding these agenda items and backup materials can be found on our website.
BeachwoodOhio.com/AgendaCenter



Shout out to the student musicians who entertained their neighbors at the Edgemoor block party in September!

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

City Council:
October 2 at 7:00 p.m.
October 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning:
October 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Architectural Board of Review:
October 2 at 4:30 p.m.
October 16 at 4:30 p.m.

WORK-LIVE-LEARN..THRIVE

MATTHEW J. DOMONKOS PROMOTED TO ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF

The City of Beachwood is pleased to announce that Matthew J. Domonkos was promoted to the position of Assistant Fire Chief, effective Monday, August 28. He was brought before City Council at the Tuesday, September 5, council meeting to be ceremonially sworn in and introduced to the community.

He previously was promoted to Lieutenant in Beachwood's Fire Department in 2011, and he was initially hired in 2003. "I feel very confident that our Fire Department will be well served with Matt Domonkos working in this leadership role, and I look forward to continuing our work together," says Steven Holtzman, Beachwood's Fire Chief.



Assistant Fire Chief Matthew Domonkos

Mr. Domonkos began his fire career in 1988 as a cadet with the Russell Fire Department. He took a break from the fire service and obtained his Bachelor's Degree from Ohio University. He was hired by Cleveland and worked as an airport firefighter from 1999-2003. Next, he was hired by Beachwood in 2003 after he served in the City of Cleveland.

Mayor Justin Berns expressed his approval of Mr. Domonkos' new role as well. "The city depends heavily on its fire and rescue teams, so I'm pleased that someone so well qualified will be serving our residents."



Matthew Domonkos being ceremonially sworn in by Mayor Justin Berns on September 5.



Matthew Domonkos pictured with his wife, Jeanine, and daughter, Eva.

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY:

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

DISCOVER BEACHWOOD MAGAZINE

Beachwood is prominently featured in Cleveland Magazine's September issue! The special section offers deep dives into businesses in several sectors including sports medicine, bio-tech, nonprofits and our school system. We are proud of the cutting edge resources we have within our borders!

INSIDE THE ISSUE:

- Faces of Beachwood - Dr. James Voos
- Game Changer - The new Drusinsky Sports Medicine Institute
- Commerce Park - Research & Development Central
- Health and Wellness - Beachwood's vibrant nonprofit organizations
- Schools - Empowering students through hands-on experience
- Recreation - Way to play in Beachwood

SCAN TO OPEN THE
DIGITAL VERSION OR
VISIT OUR WEBSITE!
BEACHWOODOHIO.COM





STRATEGICAL CRIME PREVENTION

Sunday, November 19
9 AM–Noon
Beachwood Community Center



A **free** classroom based **self-defense course** led by the Beachwood Police Department Subject Control Officers.



REGISTER:
BeachwoodRec.com
or 216-292-1970

Gain the knowledge needed to prevent crime in everyday situations. Tactical advantages and enhancements will be taught that help deter criminals and give increased reaction time. Physical defense options will also be discussed and participants will be given the option to partake in basic hands-on personal defense techniques. Recommended minimum age for participants is 16. Participants under 18 need to be accompanied by an adult.

City of Beachwood 25325 Fairmount Blvd, Beachwood, Ohio, BeachwoodOhio.com

FALL LEAF PICK-UP

Loose leaf pick-up has begun 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.



ARE YOU PARKING IN FRONT OF A LEAF PILE?

Just a gentle reminder that the City cannot pick up leaf piles on tree lawns that are obstructed by vehicles. Please be courteous to your neighbors and do not block leaf piles if you or a guest/landscaper are parking on the street. Allow at least two car lengths from leaf piles to provide access for the leaf removal equipment.

COMMUNITY COMPLIMENTS

"I requested service from Public Works on August 15, 2023, at approximately 12 p.m. Recent heavy rains had compromised our storm and sanitary drain system. We felt preventive maintenance was in order before the home had a flooding event. The Public Works crew arrived at approximately 10 a.m. on August 16. These gentlemen, Mr. DeFranco and Mr. Morton presented themselves as professionals with appearance and a thorough explanation of the procedure they were to perform to inspect and correct any problem the system may have. We have been residents in Beachwood for 38 years and since day one had outstanding experiences with any department we have called upon. Be proud of what these people do, and please let them know they are all appreciated very much."

Tony Caruso
City Resident

"I wanted to reach out and let you know that I am super impressed with your staff helping me organize a block party during road construction on my street. Brittany Rutkowski and Chris Arrietta were wonderful communicators and helped me jump through various different hoops to make our 5th annual block party a success. They are the true back stage people who made our block party safe, fun and possible! The block party gives neighbors an opportunity to feel more connected, safer, and provides an enjoyable environment for everybody to get together. Thanks once again, for making Beachwood great."

Amanda Lincoln, City Resident

"Again, your Public Works people, every day, make it very clear why this city is the best. Mr. Ron Bryant was making his rounds with his truck yesterday when he noticed my wife placing brush on the tree lawn, he stopped and asked if he could help and he did. He offered a very pleasant conversation as well. I know this type of customer service is ingrained and sincere in all of the divisions that make up our City. I have worked with many of them in my career and as a homeowner. I just have more time now to notice and appreciate it now that I'm retired."

Tony Caruso, City Resident

OCTOBER RECREATION GUIDE

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 • AIRBRUSH TATTOOS • ART FAIR

CITY OF *Beachwood*   For details, visit BeachwoodRec.com!

CITY OF *Beachwood* FREE ADMISSION, ALL AGES WELCOME! **CRESTMONT**

BEACHWOOD'S 6TH ANNUAL **FALL FESTIVAL**

KICKOFF Concert

Simply Queen

A WORLD-CLASS QUEEN TRIBUTE BAND

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21
7:30 PM BEACHWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER PARKING LOT

BEER, WINE, SNACKS AVAILABLE!
 BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS.

BEACHWOOD ART GALLERY: Faces & Places | October 12 - November 4 | Artists' reception on October 15 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. Explore the artwork of Missy Bollen, Diane Fleisch Hughes and Tom Megalis.

DOGS MAKE A SEPTEMBER SPLASH

Beachwood's annual Dog Paddle was held on Thursday, September 7, at the Family Aquatic Center. The one-day event occurs after the summer swimming season as a special opportunity for resident dogs to take over the pool. Make no bones about it, this was a tail wagging good time!



Photography by Discovery Photo.

HONKIN' HAULIN' PARADES DOWN NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS

Honkin' Haulin' brought the noise and the excitement throughout the streets of Beachwood on Sunday, September 10. Your favorite big trucks were accompanied by a surprise Barbie-themed float constructed by Public Works and Community Services. The three-hour journey brought smiles to all ages as police cruisers, fire trucks and more passed by with candy, giveaways and T-shirts. Beachwood Community Services would like to thank Public Works, Beachwood Fire, Beachwood Police, City Council and the Mayor's Office for their contributions and participation.



To everyone's delight, Barbie was cruising down the streets playing her favorite tunes.



Council members Eric Synenberg, Danielle Shoykhet and Barbara Bellin Janovitz.



Pictured left to right; Tina Turick, Brittany Rutkowski and Mayor Justin Berns.

YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAMS

- Little Hoop Stars Basketball**
 Thurs, November 2-December 14, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
 Hilltop Elementary School, Ages 4-5
 Residents \$120, Non-Residents \$144
 (No class on November 23.)
- Hoop Stars Basketball**
 Thurs, November 2-December 14, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
 Hilltop Elementary School, Grades 1-2
 Residents \$120, Non-Residents \$144
 (No class on November 23.)
- Beachwood Youth Basketball**
 Boys & Girls Leagues Available, Winter 2023-24
 Beachwood High School, Grades 3-6
 Residents \$75, Non-Residents \$95
- Junior Golf (Beginner-Intermediate)**
 Sat, October 21-December 16
 Ages 5-8, 9-10 a.m. or Ages 9-12, 10-11 a.m.
 The Clubhouse Cleveland (23800 Commerce Park)
 Residents \$313, Non-Residents \$376
 (No class on November 25.)
- Pee Wee Soccer**
 Fri, November 3-December 22, 12:45-1:30 p.m.
 Fairmount Early Childhood Center, Ages 3-5
 Residents \$144, Non-Residents \$173
 (No class on November 24.)
- Beginner Footskills Soccer**
 Wed, October 25-December 13, 3:25-4:25 p.m.
 Bryden Elementary, Grades K-2
 Residents \$144, Non-Residents \$173
 (No class on November 22.)

BEACHWOOD SENIORS

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & TRIPS

- Technology & You**
 Mondays, October 2-October 16, 11:00 a.m., Community Center
 Free, RSVP required by the Tuesday prior to each session
 Explore and learn about the latest technology in a free, hands-on experience. New topics each week! Join us for Tech Zoo on October 2, Gateway to Virtual Independence on October 9 and Unlocking the Potential of A.I. on October 16.
- The Writing World**
 Wednesday, November 1, 11:00 a.m., Community Center
 Free, RSVP required by October 27
 Are you interested in writing and releasing books, short stories, cookbooks, and children's books? Marlia Hall from Write and Release Community Writing will be here to share more info and gauge interest in a new program.
- 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

Down Memory Lane with Flashbaxx
Thursday, October 26, at Noon
Beachwood Community Center

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

Register by October 18.

Flashbaxx is here to take you back to the music of the 60s and 70s with songs and music of The Drifters, The Platters, "Fly Me to the Moon," "Under the Boardwalk," Johnny & June, Sonny & Cher and others!

Meal choices include a tomato mozzarella fresco sandwich or a chicken salad sandwich. All entrees served with kettle chips, beverage and dessert.

November Senior Day Out: Join us on November 16 to explore Ohio's presidential past. Register by November 8.

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

WHERE BUSINESS IS BOOMING!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MAYOR'S BUSINESS RECEPTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 9

The Mayor's Business Reception for Beachwood companies of all sizes will be hosted this fall, November 9, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., at Canterbury Country Club. The reception encourages networking and engagement between community stakeholders, area business owners and commercial property owners. Hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar will be available. Businesses interested in attending are encouraged to contact the Economic Development Office at 216.292.1915 or email Catherine Bieterman, Economic Development Director, at Catherine.Bieterman@beachwoodohio.com.

Confirmation of attendance is required by October 27. Sponsorship opportunities are also available; please inquire for more details.



NEW BEGINNINGZ SPA & SALON GRAND RE-OPENING

New BeginningZ Spa & Salon held its grand re-opening on August 28 at 3365 Richmond Rd., Suite 120. New BeginningZ is a self-care oasis dedicated to helping customers relax, rejuvenate, and refresh. With a wide range of services, including massage therapy, facials, manicures, pedicures and more, they offer something for everyone. Learn more at newbeginningzspa.com.



Mayor Berns pictured with council members Danielle Shoykhet and June Taylor holding the ribbon for the grand re-opening at 3365 Richmond Rd.

TAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH OPENS

In August, Beachwood welcomed a new outpatient treatment center, Tal Behavioral Health. Located in Signature Square 1, it offers a full range of services, all under the holistic dual diagnosis framework. Clients can receive any of the following treatments: cognitive-behavioral therapy, cognitive behavior therapy, group therapy, eye movement desensitization and reprocessing, and somatic experiencing. Individual therapy, group-led support meetings and family support are also available. Intensive outpatient programs are part of the rehab options as well.



The August ribbon cutting at Tal Behavioral Health.

ALWAYS BE AN INSIDER, STAY CONNECTED!

Facebook Pages:

[@BeachwoodOH](#)
[@BeachwoodPolice](#)
[@BeachwoodFire](#)
[@BeachwoodOHRec](#)
[@BeachwoodPublicWorks](#)
[@BarkwoodDogPark](#)

Twitter Accounts:

[@BeachwoodOH](#)
[@BeachwoodPolice](#)

Instagram Accounts:

[@BeachwoodOhio](#)

Beachwood eList:

Sign up at BeachwoodOhio.com

