

THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE **A WARM WELCOME TO CITY COUNCIL**

After witnessing the swearing-in of our elected City Council members last month, I'm thrilled to report that I'm filled with a profound sense of optimism and excitement for the future of our community. I'm genuinely pleased with the outstanding individuals who have been chosen by our voters to serve our community and I've extended a warm welcome to them, including to our newly elected Council members, Jillian DeLong and Ali Stern, and our esteemed incumbents, June Taylor and Danielle Shoykhet.

All of them are demonstrating tremendous dedication to public service which is truly commendable, and I am confident their passion, integrity and unwavering commitment will usher in a positive era of change and progress.

I'd also like to extend an extreme message of gratitude to Alec Isaacson, our re-appointed Council President. Council member Eric Synenberg said it best when he thanked Alec publicly at the Jan. 8 City Council meeting:

"A lot of people don't realize what (being) council president entails, but what it basically means is that your job goes from a part-time job to a semi full-time job. Not everybody has that amount of time or wants to do that. We're lucky that Alec agreed to stick with this position. The amount of time and effort that he puts in is not known to probably the majority of the community and it's very significant."

As we collectively embark on this new chapter in this new year, let's not forget that the foundation of our community's strength lies in unity and collaboration. Maintaining this condition necessitates transparent communication and a shared vision concerning what's best for Beachwood.

In fact, Alec Isaacson addressed these exact points in his acceptance remarks at the Jan. 8 City Council meeting. I quote him directly here:

Three months ago, the residents of Beachwood sent a very clear message: Ms. Shoykhet, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Stern and Ms. DeLong were elected by the widest margin in 23 years. I'll let that sink in – they won by the largest margin in 23 years. That's what made clear that an overwhelming majority of our residents want action and progress, not drama and division, and that's what's incumbent upon this council to deliver.

- Alec Isaacson, Council President

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progress, not drama and division, and that's what's incumbent upon this council to deliver.

"As we move the council's agenda forward, I don't expect that we will be able to agree on everything, nor should we. But I am confident that we will be able to have frank and respectful exchanges of views as we work toward our shared goals of strengthening the City of Beachwood."

Thank you, Alec, for your wisdom and concern.

By working together, we can overcome obstacles, celebrate achievements and create a legacy that will resonate with and make future generations proud. I'm looking forward to working with every member of City Council

to move Beachwood forward with determination and unity, creating a brighter and more prosperous future for Beachwood.

Thank you for entrusting us with this responsibility.

Mayor Justin Berns
MayorBerns@beachwoodohio.com

BEACHWOOD CITY COUNCIL



How To EMAIL A COUNCIL MEMBER: FIRSTNAME.LASTNAME@BEACHWOODOHIO.COM



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216.291.2797



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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

The legislation below includes the December 18 and January 8 council meetings. On January 8, the Council held its Organizational Meeting, a biennial event following City Council elections. Alec Isaacson was re-elected as Council President, and Danielle Shoykhet was elected as Vice President. New Council members Jillian DeLong and Ali Stern, along with incumbents June Taylor and Danielle Shoykhet, were sworn in. Police Patrol Officer Joseph Sirna was also sworn in, and several Board and Commission appointments were made.

2023-140 – Council accepted an ordinance setting the Council schedule for 2024.

2023-141 – Council approved the Bills Ordinance authorizing payment for various professional services totaling \$9,825.61.

2023-142 – Council passed legislation amending the 2023 budget appropriations.

2023-143 – Council accepted a bid from Direct Business Technologies for the purchase of a security software platform in the amount of \$76,617.20.

2023-144 – This ordinance was tabled at the request of the applicant (December 18, 2023). This ordinance was again tabled on January 8.

2023-145 – Council passed legislation accepting the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendations of approval of a preliminary site plan and a conditional use permit to allow multi-family apartments at 23250 Chagrin Blvd.

2024 Ordinances 1-6 (Staff Appointments) – Council reappointed Harvey Rose, Auditor; Nathalie Supler, Assistant Law Director/Prosecutor; Matthew Kurz, Assistant Law Director/Associate Counsel; Whitney Crook, Clerk of Council; Veronica Muth and Alison Ingham-Smith as Assistant Clerks of Council.

2024 Ordinances 7-10 (Board Appointments) – Council confirmed the appointments of Bryan Zabell as chair of the Planning & Zoning Commission and Ayonna Blue Diamond and Jeffrey Shoykhet as members of the Planning Commission, as well as Mary Ann Pellarano Fletcher, who was reappointed to the Architectural Review Board.

2024-11 – Council approved the Bills Ordinance authorizing payment for various professional services totaling \$70,342.67.

2024-12 – Council passed legislation authorizing an Emergency Purchase Order in the amount \$250,000.

LIVE & RECORDED MEETINGS

Scan the QR code or visit our website at BeachwoodOhio.com/WatchMeetings.



HOLIDAY RUBBISH COLLECTION:

Due to Presidents' Day, rubbish and recycling will not be collected on Monday, February 19. Collections will be delayed one day for that week only. Thank you for your cooperation.

2024-13 – Council approved legislation adopting a Moratorium on Applications for, and the Approval of, Zoning Reviews and Permits, Building Permits, Certificates of Occupancy, and Other Permits and Licenses for any Building, Structure, Use, or Change of Use that would enable the Cultivation, Processing, Distribution, or Sale of Adult Use Cannabis for a period not to exceed Six (6) Months in order to allow for the City to Review Applicable State and Local Laws.

2024-14 – Council approved an Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Member Community Infrastructure Grant Program Agreement (MCIP) with the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District ("NEORS") for the Timberlane/Green Sanitary Relief Sewer Project Phase 1. This improvement to our infrastructure was recommended by NEORS as a result of the Heights Hilltop Interceptor Study.

2024-15 – Council authorized the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Branden R. Burns, LLC, to provide Pool Management through the 2024 Season.

2024-16 – Council passed an Ordinance appointing the Law Firm of Roetzel & Andress LPA and Attorney R. Todd Hunt as Interim Law Director through February 29.

Council passed the following motions to:

- Advertise bids for the Ready-Mix Concrete.
- Advertise bids for the application of commercial coatings to the existing roofs at City Hall and the Community Center.
- Advertise bids for the installation of Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon (RRFB) units at the crosswalks. These are traffic control devices designated to increase driver awareness.
- Initiate a qualification-based selection process for architectural services for the design, construction observation and/or management of various city public improvement projects, including but not limited to a park picnic shelter, a park restroom(s), and/or roof and window replacements for certain city buildings.

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

BeachwoodOhio.com/AgendaCenter

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

City Council:
February 5 at 7:00 p.m.
February 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning:
February 29 at 6:30 p.m.

Architectural Board of Review:
February 5 at 4:30 p.m.
February 20 at 4:30 p.m.

WORK - LIVE - LEARN - THRIVE

COMMUNITY LEADERS SWORN IN ON JANUARY 8

The City Council meeting on January 8 featured a variety of community leaders, both new and returning, being sworn in to their roles.



June Taylor (incumbent) sworn in to council by Judge Michael J. Ryan.



Danielle Shoykhet (incumbent) sworn in to council, pictured with family.



New council member Jillian DeLong sworn in and pictured with family.



New council member Ali B. Stern sworn in and pictured with family.



Council Election: Alec Isaacson, Council President, and Danielle Shoykhet, V.P.



Patrol Officer Joseph Sirna sworn in as a Beachwood Police Officer.



Alec Isaacson with city appointees Harvey Rose, Whitney Crook and Matthew Kurz.



Commission appointees Ayonna Blue Donald, Jeffrey Shoykhet and Mary Ann Fletcher.

BEACHWOOD ART GALLERY: Celebrating Black History Month through Creative Expression | Open through February 19
Ileen Kelner Juried High School Art Show | February 25 - March 29 | Reception: Feb. 25, 3-5 p.m.

BEACHWOOD HIRES ASSISTANT BUILDING COMMISSIONER

Mayor Justin Berns and the City of Beachwood would like to announce the promotion of Traci Gallagher-Bonvenuto to the position of Assistant Building Commissioner, effective Monday, December 18. She has been serving the city as a building and plumbing inspector since 2016.

Mayor Berns extended his heartfelt congratulations to Traci on her appointment making her the first woman to hold this position in the City of Beachwood. This milestone underscores our commitment to a progressive and inclusive approach in selecting the most qualified individuals for key roles. Mayor Berns stated, "I am enthusiastic about the contributions Traci will bring to the table and the positive impact her leadership and expertise will have on shaping the future of our city's development."



Traci Gallagher-Bonvenuto

Traci said she is proud to be advancing her career in Beachwood. "I take great pride in my work, and I'm very happy to be able to continue working with all of the other professionals in Beachwood."

FIREWORKS NOTICE

On Thursday, February 15, there will be a fireworks display at the conclusion of the city's February Freeze winter festival. Fireworks will begin between 7:45-8:00 p.m. and last approximately 15 minutes. Please make any accommodations for your pets if needed. Thank you and we hope to see you at February Freeze.

COMMUNITY COMPLIMENT

I've heard how great the Beachwood paramedics are but I never had to use them until recently. They were fabulous. They were very kind and thorough, they were wonderful! They arrived very quickly to an apartment and took me to the hospital. There's no question, all that I heard after all these years is totally true.

65-Year City Resident



2024 Presented by the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce
STATE OF THE CITY
BEACHWOOD, OHIO



Wednesday, February 21, 3:30-5:30 p.m.



Event will be recorded and made available at BeachwoodOhio.com.

Location: Eaton (1000 Eaton Blvd.)

3:30 p.m. - Networking

Light hors d'oeuvres and refreshments

Cost: \$20/person

4:30 p.m. - Program

Addressing 2023 city achievements and objectives for the year ahead.

Featuring a presentation from Mayor Justin Berns

Registration required at public.beachwood.org/events.
Open to residents and the business community. No walk-ins. Register by Feb. 12.

HOMETOWN HERO NOMINATIONS

The Beachwood Historical Society and City of Beachwood are celebrating our Hometown Heroes! Nominations are available through February 29 at BeachwoodOhio.com/HeroNominations.

A successful nominee actively displays the following characteristics:

- Must be a resident or individual who works in the city
- Makes a positive impact on the city and helps improve society
- Shows dedication to helping others
- Displays courage, care and concern
- Contributions and accomplishments have enhanced Beachwood

Heroes will be celebrated in May with a special ceremony at the Hometown Heroes garden display in Beachwood's City Park West.

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO NOMINATE A HERO
OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:
BEACHWOODOHIO.COM/HERONOMINATIONS**



WINTER SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE

Ensuring the safety of our community members remains a top priority, especially during inclement weather. With winter upon us, it's crucial to address the maintenance of sidewalks, a topic that impacts many residents.

We'd like to clarify that according to ordinance 660.05 (MAINTENANCE OF SIDEWALKS; SNOW AND ICE), the responsibility for sidewalk maintenance falls on homeowners, not the city. However, recognizing the high usage of sidewalks in winter, including walks to temples and pet exercise, the city extends the courtesy of plowing sidewalks.

It's important to note our longstanding policy, which dictates that the city plows side street sidewalks when snowfall exceeds 2 inches. However, we must emphasize that plowing the sidewalks is not a solution for icy conditions. Salting these areas presents challenges due to operational constraints and the potential damage it could cause to residential tree lawns and private lawns. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in ensuring the safety and well-being of our community members.

BEACHWOOD SNOW ORDINANCE

Beachwood Ordinances state when snow falls to a depth of 2 inches (or more) over a 24-hour period, an emergency is declared and parking may be prohibited on all city streets. The city will make a reasonable attempt to notify the public by using local press and social media. Vehicle owners are responsible for complying with emergency parking regulations; vehicles parked in violation may be towed at the owners' expense.

SAFE SNOW-SHOVELING TIPS

Heavy, wet snow is often called "heart attack snow," because the great effort required to move it can increase your risk of having a heart attack. A sudden increase in blood pressure, heart rate and the cold air constricting the blood vessels can increase the heart's workload. Repeatedly lifting a shovel full of heavy snow can be more strenuous than running on a treadmill.

Six Tips to Help Prevent a Heart Attack while Shoveling

1. Don't shovel first thing in the morning. Most heart attacks occur first thing in the morning, when your blood is most likely to clot. Give yourself time to get up and moving before going out and grabbing the shovel. You'll also give the sun a chance to warm up things a bit.
2. Warm up before shoveling. Take a few minutes to stretch and move about beforehand.
3. Use a smaller shovel. A shovel full of wet snow is especially heavy when the shovel is big. It may take a little longer, but small loads will be less strenuous.
4. Dress appropriately. Cover your hands, head and mouth. Covering your mouth with a scarf will help you inhale warmer air and can help avoid respiratory problems.
5. Shovel in shifts. If you need a rest, take a rest.
6. Watch for warning signs: chest tightness, lightheadedness and dizziness are heart-attack signs. **If you suspect you're having a heart attack, call 911.**

FEBRUARY RECREATION GUIDE



February FREEZE
Thursday, February 15

Winter Fest & Fireworks
6:30-8 PM
Beachwood City Hall

Sponsored by
CRESTMONT



Read featured coverage of February Freeze from the Beachwood Buzz on page 6.

Beachwood High School Marketing/Junior Achievement presents

HOPE

Heals

TEDDY BEAR PARTY & GIANT INFLATABLE TEDDY BEAR TOUR KICKOFF

Sunday, March 3, 1-3 pm
Beachwood Community Center
In partnership with the City of Beachwood

Activities, Crafts & More

Teddy Bear Snowglobe, Tea Party & Hospital
Geoffrey Gersten's BlueBeary Painting/Prints

Proceeds from Hope Heals Ohio will provide pediatric hospital rooms across Northeast Ohio with a Medi-Teddy!

HopeHealsOhio.com



60's 80's 90's 00's
Beachwood Community Theater

Decades

Youth Theater Showcase

Wed, March 6-May 1, 5-7 PM, Community Center

Directed by Julie Matthews & Debi Lewin
of Marquee Showcase Productions.

Singing, dancing and acting
for ages 7-17!

Actors will work on technique, improve audition skills, build confidence and just have FUN with a variety of scenes through the decades!

Performance on May 5, 2 PM, Beachwood Middle!

Residents \$300, Non-Residents \$360

Register Online
BeachwoodRec.com

CITY OF Beachwood



STRATEGICAL CRIME PREVENTION COURSE SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 18 WITH BPD

Strategical Crime Prevention is a free classroom-based self-defense course led by the Beachwood Police Department Subject Control Officers. It is being held on Sunday, February 18, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Beachwood Community Center.

Participants will gain the knowledge needed to prevent crime in everyday situations and locations. Tactical advantages and enhancements will be taught that help deter criminals and give the individual increased reaction time to prepare physical defense options. 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 years of age need to be accompanied by an adult. Although the course is free, registration is required at BeachwoodRec.com or call 216-292-1970.



STRATEGICAL CRIME PREVENTION

Sunday, February 18
9:00 AM-NOON



REGISTER:
BeachwoodRec.com
or 216-292-1970

CALLING ALL ARTISTS WITH OUT OF THIS WORLD TALENT

Is space your focus? Do you see stars when you create in clay, glass, textiles, pigment or collage? Is a Milky Way more than a candy bar to you? Then we want you to be a part of the upcoming *Out of this World* exhibit at the Beachwood Art Gallery, April 6-27!

For more information or to inquire about being a selected artist, contact Susan Gordon Merdler with Beachwood Community Services at 216-292-1911 before February 29.



SUMMER CAMP, RESIDENT EARLY BIRD RATES

Resident registration for Beachwood Summer Camp is open at BeachwoodRec.com. The new process can be completed entirely through the online registration portal with no need for a separate camper information form. Video tutorials available on our website. Please note, **residents must upload proof of residency** to their online account or stop at City Hall to provide it in-person **within 30 days of registration**. Early bird rates end March 1 at 4:30 p.m. *Outdoor fun on a Kidz Camp field trip. Camp is always an adventure!*

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- **Parent & Me Warrior Yoga** (Residents \$20/couple, Non-Residents \$24/couple)
Thurs., Feb. 8, 6:00-7:00 p.m., Grades K-6, Community Center
- **Youth Karate** (Residents \$85, Non-Residents \$102) (No Class 2/15 and 2/19)
Mon./Thurs., Feb. 12 to Mar. 14, 5:45-6:45 p.m., Ages 4-17, Community Center
- **Princess Ballet** (Residents \$50, Non-Residents \$60)
Tues., Feb. 13 to Mar. 5, 5:30-6:00 p.m., Ages 3-5, Community Center
- **The Business of Babysitting** (Residents \$90, Non-Residents \$108)
Sun., Feb. 25, 11:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Ages 11 & up, Community Center
- **Movin', Groovin' & Games** (Residents \$113, Non-Residents \$136) (No Class 3/26)
Tues., Mar. 5 to Apr. 16, 3:00-3:45 p.m., Ages 3-5, Fairmount School

BEACHWOOD
Baseball & Softball

Ages 5-14! Register at BeachwoodRec.com.

BEACHWOOD SENIORS

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & TRIPS

- **Drawing Class with Marlene Weinstein**
Tuesdays, Feb. 27 to Apr. 2, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Community Center
Residents \$79, Non-Residents \$89
The 6-week drawing class focuses on the human body including hands, feet, mannequin and clothed life drawing. All levels of expertise welcome. Register by February 20.
- **Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino Day Trip**
Thursday, Mar. 28. Depart at 9:30 a.m. from Pepper Pike Learning Center
Residents \$89, Non-Residents \$107
If you love gaming, this trip to New York is for you! You will receive \$25 in slot play and \$5 voucher for food at one of the several restaurants on site, including the Thunder Mountain Buffet. This is a co-op trip offered in partnership with Orange Community Education & Recreation. Register by February 28.
- **Mahj Tournament**
Monday, May 6, 12:30-4:30 p.m., Community Center
Residents \$17, Non-Residents \$20
An annual crowd favorite! Last year, over 75 participants competed in this exciting event. Don't miss out, join in the fun today. Registration includes snacks and prizes.

SENIOR DAY OUT

Black Women of Jazz
Thursday, February 15, at Noon
Beachwood Community Center

Residents \$13
Non-Residents \$16
Program Only \$5
Register by February 7.

Through this musical introspective on the lives of Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, and Lena Horne, you will get a glimpse into the lives of three amazing women who forever changed the face of jazz.

Meal choices include Louisiana-style Cajun chix with pasta or tuna fish salad on a hoagie roll served with a cup of tomato soup. All entrees served with a beverage and dessert.

March Senior Day Out: Enjoy a star-studded repertoire of upbeat songs on March 21 with Greg Piscura that will be sure to put a spring in your step! Meal choices include a Napa Valley sandwich or angel hair pasta primavera.

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

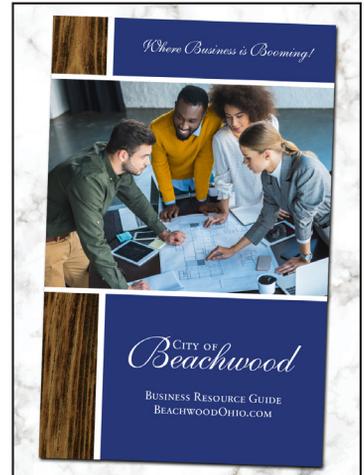
WHERE BUSINESS IS BOOMING!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CITY OF BEACHWOOD ONE-STOP BUSINESS RESOURCE

The City of Beachwood offers a variety of resources that can support business growth and expansion opportunities, and among them is the recently created One-Stop Business Resources Center on the city's website, where the economic development resource tab is located. It provides a plethora of information for small businesses, including networking and education, financial

assistance, minority business resources, women's resources, co-working spaces, international business engagement, as well as government and industry contacts. The tab also features available publications, programs and research tools that can assist companies with market research, industry statistics, technology analysis, business intelligence and company profiles. The Economic Development Office will be hosting a series of coffee hours throughout the year to detail some of these resources and provide companies with a more in-depth explanation of how to use them. The dates for these coffee hours are March 22, May 24, August 9 and October 18. Locations will vary. RSVP on the One Stop tab online at BeachwoodOhio.com.



CLEVELAND CONSIGNMENT SHOPPE

Cleveland Consignment Shoppe has amazing selections of designer fashions. The highest top-brand fashion pieces found here include Armani, Christian Dior, Gucci, Lululemon, Prada, Tory Burch, Versace and more. Owners Gianna Gasper and Valerie Gasper are proud to move the store back to where it originated 11 years ago, here in the City of Beachwood! Located at 3355 Richmond Rd. near Corus 45, Hough Bakery, Heck's Cafe, No Fork, and New Beginningz Spa and Spaces.

The January 11 ribbon cutting attended by Mayor Justin Berns and Council members Danielle Shoykhet, Jillian DeLong and Ali Stern.

ROUNDTABLE ON EMERGING CLUSTER INDUSTRIES

Beachwood's Economic Development Office held its second roundtable discussion this month which involved conversations covering commercialization, innovation, technology, and research and development. There is an emerging cluster of companies with strong growth opportunities and the Office of Economic Development is working to foster a diverse eco-system around them to support additional growth initiatives. In 2024, the Economic Development Department will be hosting more engagement and discussions with companies covering the aforementioned focus areas.

Companies interested in participating in these discussions should call Economic Development at 216-292-1915.

CHAMBER LUNCHEONS

The Beachwood Chamber of Commerce is reintroducing its luncheon program with featured speakers at Heck's Café, 3355 Richmond Rd. The luncheons are scheduled for Wednesday afternoons on March 13, May 8, July 10, September 11 and November 13. The guest speakers will address topics focused on motivation, economics, and unique local and regional topics. Registration is available on the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce website at Beachwood.org.



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**ALWAYS BE AN INSIDER,
STAY CONNECTED!**

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@BarkwoodDogPark

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@BeachwoodOhio

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@CityOfBeachwood