



E-NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 83 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2022

Welcome to our new E-newsletter subscribers!

Please encourage others to join by sending an email request to:

NEWSLETTER@WILLOUGHBYHILLS-OH.GOV

MAYOR GARDNER'S REPORT:

I hope that you are able to come to City Hall tomorrow between 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. for Touch-A-Truck 2022. The latest weather report looks like it will be a great day for the event. This is a great chance to meet staff from the Willoughby Hills Fire, Police and Service Departments. On display will be vehicles used by those departments as well as vehicles from the Western Lake County Emergency Response Team, Mentor Fire Department, East Tech Technical Rescue Team, Lake County Sheriff's Office, Lake Metroparks and others. We are also planning to have helicopters from UH Medical and Metro LifeFlight landing and taking off (unless they are called to help a patient) and a demonstration of the fire department's extrication equipment. My thanks to all of the folks that helped make this event possible including: FF Jill Baus, FF Bob Vencl, Service Supt. Mark Grubiss, Police Chief Matt Naegele, Fire Chief Rob Gandee, Fire Lt. Lou DiMattia, Police Sgt. Shannon Vachet, Police Officer Sal Continenza, Recreation Commission Chair Laura O'Donnell and others.

The proposed conservation development "West Pines" was discussed by the Planning Commission last night. The vote for preliminary approval was suspended until the next Planning Commission Meeting. If you would like to be emailed notice of future meetings regarding the development, you can email the Building Department. The Planning Commission also had a work session with Sheetz regarding their proposed new facility at the Shoppes of Willoughby Hills (where the Bakers Square restaurant was formerly located). See Page 7 for some drawings of their prototype facility!

I hope that everyone saw the News-Herald articles this week featuring our Pickleball players and Retired Assistant to the Mayor Gloria Majeski. As I mentioned last week, the Mayor's Office and City Council will be hosting a reception in her honor on September 24, 2022 from 1:00 P.M.-4:00 P.M. (see Page 4). In other news, Chief Gandee was featured on Channels 8 and 19 discussing the recent head-on collisions on I-90 in the City. He and I will be meeting with ODOT next week to discuss these accidents, the recent increase in speeds on the highways and possible safety improvements to I-90. Finally, again in response to the increased speeds our Police and Fire Departments are seeing on our highways, Chief Naegele was interviewed by Fox 8 I-Team Reporter Peggy Gallek on Tuesday. They discussed our proposed implementation of automatic photo-enforcement traffic cameras in school zones and officer-operated handheld cameras in other areas to issue speeding violations while allowing officers to avoid the dangers of traffic stops. Issues related to these programs will be discussed at next Thursday's City Council meeting.

Finally, the parking lot resurfacing in front of City Hall has been scheduled to start next Wednesday, please look for directions for alternate parking.

CITY MEETING AND EVENTS CALENDAR

Saturday, September 17, 2022

TOUCH-A-TRUCK

10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

City Hall Front Parking Lot

Parking at the Community Center

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PAGE 6 BELOW

Monday, September 19, 2022

WORKING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL MEETING

6:00 P.M. Council Chambers

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

TRIVIA NIGHT IN WILLOUGHBY HILLS

7:00 P.M. O’Ryan Room of the Willoughby Hills Community Center

Thursday, September 22, 2022

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

7:00 P.M. Council Chambers

Saturday, September 24, 2022

HAPPY RETIREMENT GLORIA!

1:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the O’Ryan Room of the Willoughby Hills Community Center

We will recognize Gloria Majeski’s many years of service and celebrate her retirement!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PAGE 4 BELOW

Thursday, October 6, 2022

PLANNING COMMISSION/ARCHITECTURAL BOARD OF REVIEW

**PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF THE WHITE PINES CONSERVATION DEVELOPMENT ON
SOM CENTER ROAD WILL BE ON THE AGENDA.**

7:00 P.M. – Council Chambers

Monday, October 10, 2022

WORKING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL MEETING

6:00 P.M. Council Chambers

Thursday, October 13, 2022

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

7:00 P.M. Council Chambers

**ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDE ORDINANCE 2022-051, WHICH PROPOSES
AUTHORIZATION OF THE USE OF AUTOMATED SPEED CAMERAS IN SCHOOL ZONES IN THE
CITY AND OFFICER OPERATED HANDHELD SPEED CAMERAS IN THE CITY. PLEASE COME
AND GIVE COUNCIL AND THE ADMINISTRATION YOUR INPUT ON THE USE OF THESE
DEVICES IN OUR COMMUNITY.**

NOPEC – IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!!

The City received an important notification from NOPEC regarding their program as it relates to our residents' electric rates. The following bullet points from the notification is provided:

- The energy markets have been experiencing unprecedented inflation due to international tension and hotter than normal weather this year.
- Unfortunately, NOPEC is not immune to this current inflationary spike.
- NOPEC is taking immediate proactive steps to put all of its customers in a position to save significant money on their electric bills during these economically challenging times.
- NOPEC will be temporarily transitioning their 550,000 electric customers enrolled in the Standard Program Price option back to the utility default service for the remainder of this year and into the Spring of 2023 so they may take advantage of significantly lower pricing until the market stabilizes. (This is the Illuminating Company's "Price to Compare" or "PTC" option that has been advertised in the last few newsletters, where residents were advised to call NOPEC to get into this plan immediately!). (Now they are automatically putting you in that plan if you are on the Standard Price Program, but if you are in one of the 12 or 24 month "fixed rate" plans, you will not be affected).
- NOPEC electric customers do not have to do anything to start getting the lower rates and will not be charged any fee to transfer. NOPEC will immediately notify the electric utilities to return its Standard Program Price accounts to the default service. Depending on each customer's meter read date, it may take one to two billing cycles for the transfer to take effect.
- Customers will receive a letter from NOPEC detailing the reason for the change and direction regarding where they can go for more information.
- Customers who are returned to the utility's default service will remain eligible for NOPEC's aggregation program in the future. By Spring 2023, NOPEC is forecasting that energy markets will normalize and its electric rates will be in line with the utilities' newly established "Price to Compare" and all eligible customers in NOPEC member communities will be notified via mail that they will be automatically re-enrolled in NOPEC at that time, unless they notify NOPEC that they wish to opt out.
- NOPEC's natural gas aggregation is unaffected and will continue uninterrupted. NOPEC's current natural gas price is still lower than other retail offers as well as the current Dominion East Ohio default service rates.

We will continue to disseminate information as it becomes available to us.



***Happy Retirement,
Gloria!***

The City of Willoughby Hills
will say so long to its beloved citizen and employee

Gloria Majeski

~~~~~

Saturday September 24 from 1-4pm \* Willoughby Hills Community  
Center

Plan to drop in and wish her well!!!

Bring photos, letters, cards that you'd like to contribute toward the gift

~

***"Book of Love and Memories"***

You will also be able to record a 30 second video message to Gloria that  
will be added to the book.

-Unable to attend, please email Karen at [council@willoughbyhills-oh.gov](mailto:council@willoughbyhills-oh.gov) for more  
information.-

\*Light Refreshments served\*

# TRIVIA NIGHT IN WILLOUGHBY HILLS

The next Trivia Night in Willoughby Hills will be Tuesday, September 20, 2022 in the O'Ryan Room of the Community Center starting at 7:00 P.M. This program is open to anyone age 50 and over that is interested in a friendly night of competition. Teams of up to 6 (you can and should bring friends!) compete against each other in 6 rounds (3 questions each) and a final challenge. The evening usually finishes around 8:30. We hope you can attend!

## CITY HALL FALL DECORATIONS

**Thanks to Council Beautification Team for their work to decorate City Hall and this summer and fall! I hope everyone enjoys the fall decorations that were put up Wednesday evening.**





*Mark  
your  
calendars!*



**September 17 | 10 AM-2 PM**

Willoughby Hills City Hall | 35405 Chardon Road



For updates and reminders,  
like us on Facebook:  
[facebook.com/WilloughbyHillsREC](https://facebook.com/WilloughbyHillsREC)



Sign up to receive city alerts and  
the weekly newsletter, by emailing:  
[newsletter@willoughbyhills-oh.gov](mailto:newsletter@willoughbyhills-oh.gov)

## CITY NEWS

### PROTOTYPE DRAWINGS OF THE PROPOSED SHEETZ CONVENIENCE STORE AND GAS STATION PROVIDED TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION:



## CITY NEWS

The Recreation Commission is seeking new members to assist with the planning and implementation of City recreation events including: Pancake Breakfasts, the Easter Scavenger Hunt, Fall and Spring Craft Shows, the City Halloween Party, Winterfest, Christmas Card Lane, the Holiday Lights Contest, the City Photo Contest and Breakfast with Santa. The Commission is also evaluating a potential all day City event (similar to Rock and Roll Day in 2022). Anyone who is interested in becoming a part of the Commission can fill out an application and deliver it to City Hall. Applications are available on the City's Website. Simply select the "Government" Tab, then drop down to "Boards and Commissions" and select "Become a Member of a Board or Commission" from the menu on the Left. From the Boards and Commissions Page, you can also review minutes of the Recreation Commission's past meetings.

### **HELP WANTED**

**The City of Willoughby Hills has an immediate need for a part-time clerk to assist our Recreation Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning Commission/Architectural Board of Review. This part time position requires general office skills and offers flexible hours, but requires some evening hours for Commission meetings. Applications are available on the City's Webpage or at City Hall.**

**If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out:**

**City of Willoughby Hills, 35405 Chardon Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094**

**440-946-1234 and ask for Mayor Gardner's Office**