



E-NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 46 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2021

WELCOME TO OUR NEW E-NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS!!!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS. THIS WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION TO ITS READERS.

PLEASE ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO JOIN BY SENDING AN EMAIL REQUEST TO:

NEWSLETTER@WILLOUGHBYHILLS-OH.GOV

MAYOR GARDNER'S REPORT:

THANKS TO ALL OF OUR FINE RESIDENTS WHO CAME OUT FOR OUR THREE DISTRICT MEETINGS THAT WERE HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER OVER THE LAST THREE WEEKS. ALL OF THE MEETINGS FEATURED A NICE POWERPOINT PRESENTATION TO INCLUDE ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY COUNCIL AND ALL OF THE CITY DEPARTMENTS DURING THE PAST YEAR AND A HALF. EACH SESSION ALSO INCLUDED A "QUESTION & ANSWER" SESSION, GIVING OUR RESIDENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS SPECIFIC TO THEIR DISTRICT. COUNCILWOMAN TAYLOR DRAPER HAS COMPILED THESE QUESTIONS (WITH COUNCIL'S ANSWERS) AND HAS THEM AVAILABLE IN THIS NEWSLETTER. ALL OF THE MEETINGS, AS WELL AS THE POWERPOINT, ARE AVAILABLE ON THE COUNCIL SECTION OF THE CITY WEBSITE. COUNCIL LOOKS FORWARD TO OFFERING DISTRICT MEETINGS EACH QUARTER AND I THINK THEY ARE VERY HELPFUL TO OUR RESIDENTS AND APPRECIATE COUNCIL'S EFFORTS TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN.

NEWS-HERALD REPORTER MARAH MORRISON DID AN OUTSTANDING ARTICLE ON OUR SERVICE DEPARTMENT IN WEDNESDAY'S EDITION OF THE NEWS-HERALD. HER REPORTING WAS "SPOT ON" AS SHE REVIEWED THE VARIOUS PROJECTS OUR SERVICE EMPLOYEES ARE INVOLVED IN AND THE AMOUNT OF WORK THEY ACCOMPLISH TO KEEP OUR ROADWAYS AND COMMUNITY SAFE. IF YOU HAVE NOT SEEN THE ARTICLE, MY OFFICE WOULD BE HAPPY TO SEND YOU A COPY.

THE CRAFT SHOW IS SET FOR THIS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9 FROM 9AM TO 3PM, AS WELL AS THE OPEN HOUSE AT THE GRANGE (SAME TIMES). PLAN TO STOP BY BOTH THIS WEEKEND!

WE WILL PLAN OUR HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES BASED ON THE GUIDELINES SET BY THE LAKE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT. IF THE GATHERING OF CHILDREN FOR A HALLOWEEN PARTY OR TRICK OR TREATING IS UNADVISABLE, WE WILL NOTIFY OUR RESIDENTS AND WORK WITHIN THE CONSTRAINTS OF THE PANDEMIC TO MAKE SAFE, FUN ACTIVITIES FOR OUR YOUTH.

ONE LAST NOTE...PFIZER BOOSTER OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER ON MONDAY, OCT. 18 AND MONDAY, OCT. 25 FROM 9AM TO 3PM. YOU WILL NEED TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT BY CALLING THE LAKE COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT AT 440-350-2188 OR ON THE ARMORVAX WEBSITE AT <https://www.armorvax.com/>

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2021

FALL CRAFT SHOW

9:00AM – 3PM WILLOUGHBY HILLS COMMUNITY CENTER

AND

GRANGE OPEN HOUSE

**9:00AM – 3PM TOUR OF THE GRANGE BUILDING, 2454 RIVER ROAD
(SPONSORED BY BOY SCOUT TROOP 280 AND GIRL SCOUT TROOPS).**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2021

WORKING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL AND RULES & LEGISLATION MEETING

6:00 P.M. COUNCIL CHAMBERS (& FACEBOOK LIVE & CABLE TV)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2021

LAKE COUNTY SIREN TESTING

11:00 A.M.

AND

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION TOWN HALL MEETING

7:00 P.M. WILLOUGHBY HILLS COMMUNITY CENTER

ALSO AVAILABLE ON ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81610950046?pwd=eWd2enA3ZzdLR3ZHky80RXR3VWVvQT09>

Meeting ID: 816 1095 0046 Passcode: 194155

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2021

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

7:00 P.M. COUNCIL CHAMBERS (& FACEBOOK LIVE & CABLE TV)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2021

SHRED DAY

9:00AM – NOON WILLOUGHBY HILLS CITY HALL FRONT LOT

Monday, October 18, 2021 7:00 p.m. –Meet the Willoughby Hills Council-at-Large

Candidates, sponsored by the League of Women Voters. This will be on Zoom only, using the following link and access information:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82890739694?pwd=S2Z2K2FFTUQ3ZzRxRnM4dVpjaU52Zz09>

Meeting ID: 828 9073 9694 Passcode: 383101

Friday, October 22, 2021 6-8pm – Halloween Party at WH Comm. Center – This event may be somewhat revised to abide by current COVID restrictions...more info to follow!

Saturday, October 23, 2021 2:00 p.m. – Leaf Walk sponsored by John Lillich of the Audubon Society; no cost; meet at the barn on Dodd Road

Sunday, October 31, 2021 6-8:00 p.m. Halloween Trick or Treating in WH – stay safe!

ACCESS LINKS MAY BE FOUND ON THE CITY WEBSITE FOR ALL OF THESE MEETINGS.

COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE NO LONGER ON ZOOM, ONLY IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

JUST A REMINDER THAT ALL COUNCIL ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

MAY BE FOUND ON THE CITY WEBSITE AT:

http://www.willoughbyhills-oh.gov/government/city_council/records/prior_years.php

RECREATION COMMISSION NEWS:

FALL CRAFT SHOW – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2021

WILLOUGHBY HILLS COMMUNITY CENTER 9AM TO 3PM

Click on the link below to see this year's vendor list:

[http://cms2.revize.com/revize/willoughbyhills/VENDOR%20LIST%20-%20BOTH%20LEVELS%202021%20\(002\).pdf](http://cms2.revize.com/revize/willoughbyhills/VENDOR%20LIST%20-%20BOTH%20LEVELS%202021%20(002).pdf)



HALLOWEEN PARTY – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2021

WILLOUGHBY HILLS COMMUNITY CENTER 6-8PM

DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS, THE COMMISSION WILL PLAN A FUN, SAFE EVENT FOR THE KIDS. WHETHER IT IS DRIVE UP CANDY BAGS OR GAMES INSIDE, WE ARE WORKING TO BRING A SAFE EVENT...MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW AS THE DATE GETS CLOSER.



PHOTO CONTEST IS UNDERWAY! CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW FOR AN APPLICATION **(DUE OCTOBER 31)** AND ALL OF THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO SUBMIT YOUR FAVORITE PHOTO!

<http://cms2.revize.com/revize/willoughbyhills/2021%20PHOTO%20CONTEST%20APPLICATION%20FORM.pdf>



<http://www.willoughbyhills-oh.gov/departments/services/recreation/index.php>

EDITOR'S CORRECTIONS TO LAST WEEK'S NEWSLETTER:

The editor received a few calls to correct the spelling of the COVID booster vaccine that is being offered....it should have been Pfizer, not Phizer! Sorry for the error and thanks for your observant eyes!

Also, the Chairman of the Charter Review Commission pointed out that the number given as the “number of electors who voted in the last general Municipal election” (which was stated to be 5580) was incorrect since Willoughby Hills Charter bases the “last general municipal election” as being the “election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November in the odd-number years.” This means we cannot use the number of electors who voted in 2020, but rather need to defer to 2019 (an odd-number year). This means the following:

The number of electors who voted in the last general Municipal election was 2965. This in turn means that the percentages for Council and Mayor candidates in raw numbers (as it pertains to proposed amendments #6 and #8, as reported in the September 24 and October 1 newsletters respectively) should have been reported as: 30 for Council and 119 for Mayor. These two proposed amendments will be reported at the end of this newsletter, as requested by the Chairman of the Charter Review Commission.

FIRE CHIEF'S REMINDER – FALL SAFETY TIP:

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT IT IS NOT LAWFUL TO BURN LEAVES IN THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS. PLEASE USE THE YARD WASTE OR COMPOST OPTIONS AS AN ALTERNATIVE!
BE SAFE!**



COMMUNITY NEWS:

10,019

WHAT DOES THE NUMBER 10,019 MEAN TO THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS? AS A RESULT OF THE FEDERAL CENSUS OF 2020, THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS NOW HAS A POPULATION OF 10,019! THANKS TO SECRETARY OF STATE FRANK LAROSE FOR PROVIDING THE CITY WITH A PROCLAMATION THAT WILL BE DISPLAYED AT CITY HALL WITH ALL OF THE OTHER CENSUS COUNT DOCUMENTS!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ERIC KUBISH ON RECEIVING HIS CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION OF APPRENTICESHIP FROM THE ELECTRICAL TRAINING ALLIANCE. ERIC IS NOW A TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN AND WE WISH HIM WELL ON HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS!

SAVE THE DATE: NOTTINGHAM BAPTIST CHURCH'S FALL FESTIVAL
FREE EVENT!!! OCTOBER 30 FROM 4 TO 7PM
NOTTINGHAM BAPTIST CHURCH, 2921 BISHOP ROAD
WWW.NOTTINGHAMBAPTIST.ORG

RESIDENT NEWS:

THE CITY IS CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO SERVE ON THE RECREATION AND CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONS. PLEASE CONTACT GLORIA IN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15TH.

WHISPER VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED IN ORDER TO COMPLETE FIVE YARD WORK PROJECTS THAT HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO HELP OUR SENIORS. PLEASE SIGN UP NOW BY FILLING OUT AND APPLICATION AND THEN GOING THRU A QUICK BACKGROUND CHECK TO GET OUT IN THE COMMUNITY TO HELP OTHERS!!!!



PROPOSED AMENDMENT #9 – ARTICLE IX – REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Subsection 9.3 REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Charter Review Commission prepared Amendment #8 with the following intent: The Charter Review Commission voted to clarify that the Mayor is the administrator of all city employees, but he is not the administrator of Council.

THIS IS HOW THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT WILL APPEAR ON THE BALLOT:

ISSUE 11

"PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT- #9

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

"Shall Article IX, Sub-Section 9.31 – Removal by the Mayor of the Charter of Willoughby Hills be amended to authorize the Mayor to remove any officer or employee to whom he may appoint a successor, unless otherwise provided to the contrary in the Charter for violation of any of the Charter requirements stated in Section 9.2?"

For a link to all proposed Charter amendments for the November ballot, click on the link below:

<http://www.willoughbyhills-oh.gov/Proposed%20Charter%20Amendments%20Final%206.30.21.pdf>

ELECTION REMINDER!!!!

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2.

**IF YOU WANT TO VOTE VIA ABSENTEE BALLOT, YOU CAN
REQUEST YOUR BALLOT NOW!!!!**

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE MAILED.
TO REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, CLICK THE FOLLOWING
LINK OR CALL 440-350-2700:**

<https://www.lakecountyohio.gov/boe/>

ABSENTEE BALLOT INFO

IF YOU NEED A PRINTED APPLICATION FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, PLEASE CONTACT GLORIA IN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AT 440-918-8730 AND SHE WILL FACILITATE GETTING THE APPLICATION TO YOU. ABSENTEE BALLOTS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN TO BE MAILED.



COMMUNITY/BUSINESS NEWS:

THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS PARTNERED WITH CLASSIC LEXUS AND CLEVELAND CLINIC FAMILY HEALTHCENTER TO BRING THE 7TH ANNUAL 5K RUN/WALK ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3. THE MISTY WEATHER DID NOT KEEP THE RUNNERS HOME AND THE MASCOTS FROM LAKE COUNTY CAPTAINS AND CLEVELAND INDIANS WERE ON HAND TO TIME THE RACE. ALL PROCEEDS BENEFITTED THE ST. NOEL FOOD PANTRY, HARVEST FOR HUNGER AND VELOSANO FOR CANCER RESEARCH! THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED!



COUNCIL DISTRICT MEETING RECAP:

By Councilwoman Tanya Taylor Draper

Here is a recap of the questions & answers from the recent Council District meetings:

Question: “Our email Newsletter is great! Have you considered getting a mail service like Mail Chimp or Constant Contact...? “

Answer: Thank you for the suggestions. It is worth looking into. We are always looking for the best ways to keep residents informed and to save money for the city.

Question: “Shred Day is good. Could we do other collection days like electronics recycling or chemical hazardous chemical collection?”

Answer: We are happy to look at possibilities of doing that in the city. Please remember that electronic recycling & hazardous chemical collection are services currently available through Lake County.

Question: “What’s the status of bringing new businesses into Willoughby Hills...there still are a lot of empty buildings?” and

Question: “Are there any potential developments for the former Marcs/LaSalle (Gold Circle/Rini’s building?”

Answer: Council and the Mayor’s office will be having quarterly meetings with Shoppes of Willoughby Hills owner, Scott Scheel and COO Ray Somich to re-affirm the City’s support for their ideas and endeavors and to keep communication lines open. Just as important, we are continuing to build a relationship with our current businesses as they will play an important role in creating the business atmosphere that will serve our residents and nearby cities as well. We are not at liberty to discuss any plans for these buildings at this time but will share as soon as we get the official word.

Question: “When will Eddy Road (over 271) open again?”

Answer: It is scheduled for the end of October – early November.

Question: “How did Bishop Park Towers benefit from the 2020 Cares Act money?”

Answer: Over \$15K of 2020 Cares Act Money was distributed to the 4 apartment complexes in Willoughby Hills. These dollars enabled the businesses to remain open and operating to serve its residents. Items such as hand sanitizer, face shields/masks, plastic screens, floor distancing decals and signage all provided a safe working environment for apartment employees and the resident they serve.

Question: “Does the city have an emergency plan in place in case of a large scale emergency? If so, is it known/available to the residents?”

Answer: In general, it would depend on the type of emergency. Willoughby Hills Police, Fire and Service Departments each have their individual protocols and training for large scale emergencies. There are such services as Reverse 911, WENS (Wireless Emergency Notification System) that could alert residents by describing the crisis and instructions on how to proceed. The City works with various internal and external resources in Lake County to properly address the situation. More specific answers to certain types of emergencies are available upon request.

Question: “What exactly is being done with First Energy; I lose power about 5-6 times every year?”

Answer: The Mayor’s office has had several productive meetings with First Energy representative Wendy Zele and will continue to meet routinely to advocate on behalf of our residents. CEI has upgraded the Newport substation and city officials continue to ask for a review of potential upgrades to infrastructure in the city. All residents are strongly encouraged to report every outage or flickering light; even when your neighbor has already called. Ms. Zele has provided City officials with a clear understanding of their operations, procedure and challenges. Stay tuned.

Question: “Has the City considered sidewalks on the west end by Loehmann’s Plaza?”

Answer: The Planning and Zoning, Architectural Board Review Commission is in the process of reviewing and updating the city’s current Master Plan and sending its recommendations to City Council. Sidewalks near the Shoppes of Willoughby Hills as well as walking paths close to the unofficial downtown area (6 & SOM Center) are being discussed. There is still time to let your opinions be heard on Master Plan ideas. Next meeting will be announced in the Newsletter and on the City’s website.

Question: “How is the City addressing the ongoing hazardous conditions at White Road & Bishop Road (intersection?)”

Answer: This matter has been an issue for many years. Council and the Mayor’s office is actively looking at possible solutions including additional patrols in the area and additional signage. More to come...

Question: “Is there a class offered called Citizens Police Academy?”

Answer: Great idea; however, the city does not have the additional resources to offer this program to its citizens at this time.

Question: “What is City’s plan to get all roads paved?”

Answer: The City’s goal is to repair all of its streets/roads; but can only budget to address a small number every year. Our Road Superintendent, Mark Grubiss, travels all city roads daily. He is able to evaluate the road’s conditions and make recommendations to Mayor Gardner. Those in need of immediate attention are prioritized and listed for repair the following year.

Question: “Fire Sprinkler System – Residential:
Can you help provide a list of certified contractors that work on our systems – Repair, replace & service?”

Answer: Per Fire Chief Gandee: “As a city, we are unable to make any recommendations. However, if an individual does a search for sprinkler repair companies or alarm repair companies they can find a list of companies in the area. As far as if they are legitimate or not, if you give us the name of the company we can verify that...”

Question

Answer:

“Why are you not taking LIVE questions?”

Council chose the format that would best deliver the information and maintain an environment where questions could be asked and answered while honoring the 1-hour event duration promise.

Question

Answer:

“What is Council’s position should the Feds or State try to force vaccinations?”

This matter has not presented itself to this Council and it will not attempt to form opinions on hypothetical situations.

Question:

Answer:

“Updates on resurfacing Pleasant Valley –west of bridge?”

We patched the street this year but unsure if it will be on the schedule for next year. Schedule has not been released.

Question:

Answer:

“What about barrier on Dodd Road?”

Repairs started yesterday.

Question:

Answer:

“What about resurfacing on Chardon Road?”

Plans are to schedule that project next year.

Question:

Answer:

“Are there any updates on the replacement of the guardrails?”

That job has already started. Some have been repaired; others not. Please tell me which ones you are referring to?

Question:

Answer:

What is being done about the need for a cell tower?”

The proposed Grange tower would have needed a second tower at the Waite Hill City Hall. That one was defeated by residents, so the Grange tower would not have helped us. New technology coming in the future hopefully will provide the answer. We will revisit.

Question:

Answer:

“What is the crime breakdown in Willoughby Hills; the percentages in each district? How many police cars patrol daily?”

That percentage data is not readily available but available by calling the Police Department.

Routinely, there are 3 officers on the streets along with 1 supervising Sergeant.

Question:

Answer:

“What channel is the Willoughby Hills bulletin board on Spectrum?”

1024

Question:

Answer:

“How many lawsuits against the city?”

There are a few Worker’s Compensation cases.

Question:

Answer:

“Possible to take some money from repaying debt and use it to complete the pickle ball courts?”

The delay is not due to funding; the project has been financed. The delay in finishing the courts is due to supplies being on backorder.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT #6 – ARTICLE VIII-The Electorate

Subsection 8.2 POWERS OF THE ELECTORATE

Charter Review Commission prepared Amendment #6 with the following intent: The 2021 CRC voted to recommend increasing the number of valid signatures on a petition for a mayoral candidate to appear on the ballot, and to clarify the election used to determine the number of signatures needed.

How many electors voted in the last general Municipal election? 2,965

This means the percentages for Council and Mayor candidates in raw numbers would be: 30 for Council and 119 for Mayor.

THIS IS HOW THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT WILL APPEAR ON THE BALLOT:

ISSUE #8

"PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT- #6

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

"Shall Article VIII – Sub-8.r21 - Nominations of the Charter of the Willoughby Hills be amended to remove the nominating petition minimum requirement of twenty-five signatures and require individual nominating petitions for Municipal elective office to require at least one percent (1%) for Council Member candidate and least four percent (4%) for Mayoral candidates of the number of electors voting in the last general Municipal election, and remove the minimum requirement of twenty-five signatures?"

PROPOSED AMENDMENT #8 – ARTICLE VIII-The Electorate

Subsection 8.31 ELECTIONS

Charter Review Commission prepared Amendment #8 with the following intent: The proposed language conforms to a federal law, the Uniformed and Overseas citizens Absentee voting Act, which requires absentee ballots to be sent 46 days prior to an election. Currently, the Mayoral runoff election must be held 42 days following the election, which is 4 days short of this requirement. The Charter Review Commission voted to recommend the elimination of a post-election runoff for mayoral candidates. Consequently, the candidate with the most votes will be elected which is how we vote for Council members.

How many electors voted in the last general Municipal election? 2,965

THIS IS HOW THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT WILL APPEAR ON THE BALLOT:

ISSUE 10

"PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT- #8

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

"Shall Article VIII – Sub-8.31 - Elections of the Charter of the Willoughby Hills be amended to eliminate a runoff election on the sixth Tuesday immediately following the general municipal election between the leading two vote getters for Mayor in the event no mayoral candidate receives a majority of the vote?"

ONE LAST THOUGHT FOR THIS WEEK....SEE IF YOU CAN RELATE.....

Several men are in the locker room of a golf club. A cell phone on a bench rings and a man engages the hands-free speaker function and begins to talk. Everyone else in the room stops to listen.

MAN: "Hello."

WOMAN: "Hi Honey, it's me. Are you at the club?"

MAN: "Yes."

WOMAN: "I'm at the mall now and found this beautiful leather coat. It's only \$2,000; it is okay if I buy it?"

MAN: "Sure, go ahead if you like it that much."

WOMAN: "I also stopped by Classic Lexus and saw the new models. I saw one I really like."

MAN: "How much?"

WOMAN: "\$90,000."

MAN: "OK, but for that price I want it with all the options."

WOMAN: "Great. Oh, and one more thing...I was just talking to Denise and found out that the house I wanted last year is back on the market. They are asking \$980,000 for it."

MAN: "Well, then go ahead and make an offer of \$900,000. They'll probably take it. If not, we can go the extra eighty-thousand if that's what you really want."

WOMAN: "Okay! I'll see you later! I love you so much!"

MAN: "Bye, I love you, too!"

The man hangs up. The other men in the locker room are staring at him in astonishment, mouths wide open.

He turns and asks, "Anyone know whose phone this is?"



HAVE A GREAT WEEK! STAY SAFE!!! CALL CITY HALL IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS
AT 440-946-1234 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.WILLOUGHBYHILLS-OH.GOV