

**2018
MAYOR'S REPORT
VILLAGE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND MILESTONES**

VILLAGE – GENERAL

After 6 years of service on Council, David Schmidt resigned for family reasons. Choosing from three outstanding applicants, Council selected Joan Verchot to take Dave's place.

The Memorial Day Parade was held on May 28. Long-time resident, Addison Clipson served as Grand Marshall. Tony Kohl of the Military Order of the Purple Heart served as speaker, dedicating a stone memorial to those who have earned the Purple Heart in the service of their Country. Weather was good and, once again, our thanks go to Bett Kooris and others for a great job organizing the event.

Construction of an access ramp and new entrance to the Police Station and Village Courthouse was completed in May. The project also improved security in the Station with better control of access to work areas.

Renovation of the Fire Station, including three new truck bays, improved living quarters and upgraded training facilities has begun. After a competitive bidding process, Perkins-Carmack was selected as the low bidder and work on the bays began in December. The project is expected to be completed in the spring of 2019.

The Streets Department arranged for the repaving of sections of Willow, Laurel, Forest and Arbor Avenues, as well as Sharon West of Congress. The work was done using a process that is half the cost of conventional asphalt.

In September, Council voted to sell the Eckstein School property to the highest bidder in a competitive bidding process. The sale closed in December and the new owner indicated that they intend to renovate the building for use as a community arts and activity center, while maintaining the historic plaque that explains the history of the building as a School for African-American children.

In March, Council approved the application of United Dairy Farmers to construct a new store on the northeast corner of Sharon and Troy Avenues. Construction has begun and is expected to be completed in the spring of 2019.

The project to strip and paint 118 gas lampposts in the Village, led by Rachel and Dave Schmid, was completed. In November, Rachel and Dave, along with Mayor Don Lofty, accepted the Preservation Merit Award from the Ohio History Connection at a ceremony held in Columbus.

In May, the Village dedicated the new fountain in the Village Square. It was the third fountain to grace our Square and was donated by the Village Gardeners of Glendale Garden Club. Public Works did the installation.

The Village purchased new playground equipment in Washington Park with a matching grant that provided half of the \$62,000 total cost. In September, the equipment was installed to the immediate enjoyment of the children of the Village.

The Park Board developed a program to encourage residents to plant trees on their property to help rebuild the tree canopy that has been greatly reduced by disease in recent years.

The Quiet Zone continues to make progress, albeit at a much slower pace than many of us had hoped. Highlights in 2018 were: (1) the signing of a contract by the Village, the State of Ohio and CSX Railroad stating the obligations of each party; (2) a site visit by the State and Railroad to determine construction requirements; and (3) completion in January 2019 of plans for the design of the new gates and other safety improvements that will be needed for the Quiet Zone.

Glendale joined Ohio Checkbook to provide online transparency of all Village expenses. This system will allow residents and anyone else to view all payments made by the Village.

Under the guidance of the Village Treasurer, the Village moved its long-term investment management from a private wealth manager to Huntington Investments for an annual savings of over \$15,000 in fees.

In November, voters approved the renewal of an 8.5 mill levy, but rejected a proposed additional levy of 2.5 mills.

In 2018, 3 births and 26 deaths of residents were reported to the Village Office.

GRANTS

The Village purchased new playground equipment for Washington Park with a matching grant that provided half of the \$62,000 total cost.

The Police Department received notice of the renewal of the School Resource Officer (SRO) grant for \$100,000 from a private foundation, along with the \$12,000 grant for a crossing guard.

GPD also, received a 2018-2019 Ohio Law Enforcement Body Armor Grant for \$6667; a D.A.R.E grant for \$377; a grant to purchase 200 bike helmets worth \$1500; and a \$1000 grant towards the purchase of a new drone from Walmart.

The Fire Department received a grant from the Ohio EMS Board for \$1,200 for EMS related equipment for our first responders. This grant is an annual grant. We have received this grant for 3 consecutive years now.

GFD received a grant of over \$20,000 from a private foundation for furnishings and equipment for the Fire Station once the renovation is complete.

The Village received two grants from a private foundation: \$10,000 for the planting of trees around the Village, and \$15,000 for the removal of dead or diseased trees.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Station addition construction began and planning for renovation of interior living quarters and training facilities is underway. Construction of 3 new truck bays (Phase I) began in late 2018 and is expected to be completed in the Spring of 2019. Work in designing the interior living quarters and training facilities (Phase II) is underway.

In July, GFD dedicated a plaque, which was mounted on the Fire Station, in the memory of the former Fire Chief Jim Kloth.

With assistance from GFD officers, the Firefighter Safety Network provided training, support and education to firefighters in cancer awareness and prevention measures.

The Lexipol Program was inaugurated to provide on-line training for Police Officers and Firefighters regarding legal and regulatory compliance and best policies and practices.

Alert HC/Alert Glendale Program has replaced the Code Red program for alerting Glendale residents regarding emergencies and other safety-related information. The new program allows for messages and notifications to residents by land line, as well as by text, email and cell phone. Residents can customize their own devices based on what they want to receive. The new program saves the Village \$5,000.00 per year.

All Hazards Program is meant to provide a disaster plan for all types of hazards which could be natural disasters, transportation incidents, technology incidents, or other disasters. The program integrates with what Hamilton County Emergency Management has developed county-wide. The first principal in protection is if Main Street is prepared for a disaster then the region is safe.

Chief Hardwick served as an executive board member representing all Hamilton County Fire/EMS agencies on The Hospital Disaster Planning group. The group is sponsored by The Health Collaborative, which covers every hospital in the southwest Ohio region to provide a network of hospitals in contact with the disaster partners like Emergency Management Agencies, Fire/EMS agencies, law enforcement and all other partners.

Bid and awarded a contract for a new building, which will be located on the Village Maintenance Grounds on Sharon Avenue near Chester, for storage of antique fire apparatus. The \$30,567 project received partial funding from the Glendale Fire Association in the amount of \$18,567.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Jerry Barnell received the “Joseph Hubbard Police Officer of The Year” award for 2017. We will be announcing the recipient of the 2018 Award in March.

GPD organized their annual program in which residents provided over 73 Back-to School Backpacks for the children in the Glendale Community. Each backpack was filled with every school supply needed for the entire school year.

GPD conducted their annual program, in which residents provided 24 Glendale families with toys and clothing to help give them a wonderful Holiday Season.

The GPD was awarded the “Gold Star Award” for D.U.I enforcement within our community. This was higher honors that you can receive for DUI enforcement.

The Glendale Mayor’s Court received a perfect State of Ohio audit on its Mayor’s Court receipts.

PARKS

The Village purchased new playground equipment for Washington Park funded by private fund grant and 50/50 match by the Village for a total cost \$62,407.

The Village installed 3 new Grills in Washington Park.

Dedication of the new fountain in the Village Square island fountain was held in May. The fountain was donated by the Village Gardeners of Glendale Garden Club.

The Village installed the Purple Heart Monument on the west side of the Veterans Memorial. The Monument was donated by the Military Order of Purple Heart, Chapter 3620.

GLENDALE PARK BOARD

500 tree saplings were given away to residents.

51 trees were planted around the Village under a private fund grant of \$10,000.

48 dead or diseased trees were removed under a private fund grant of \$15,000.

The wild flower and milk weed planting program continued around the Village.

STREETS

Resurfacing of W. Sharon Rd., Forest Ave., Laurel Ave., southside of Sharon and Willow Ave. south of Sharon Rd. was done with a SAMI seal and Micro-Mat finish coat. The cost was about half that of standard asphalt.

Installation of an ADA-compliant parking area in front of the new entrance of the Police Dept.

The Village procured and outfitted snow removal equipment for the 2018 International 7400 Truck.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Installation of fiber optic lines was done by Cincinnati Bell and gas main by Duke energy, in preparation for the East Sharon Rd bridge replacement project.

Completion of a 3-year gaslight restoration project for the Village (total of 118 lampposts). Work (sand-blasting) was funded by Glendale Heritage Preservation in the amount of \$11,200.00, with priming and painting done by volunteers. Public Works removed and replaced the globes around the lights.

REFUSE COLLECTION

**Wood chipping 133 loads = 665 cubic yards
Leaf collecting 193 loads = 965 cubic yards
Total Distribution = 762 cubic yards**

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Completion of project begun in 2017 to repair soffit and flashing on the Town hall , Police Station and Train Depot.

Replacement of 8 double sash windows at the Village Office.

UTILITIES

Designed plans for Cincinnati Water Works interconnection water tie-in for the Glendale water tower on Springfield Pike. This will help provide adequate water to the Village should there be any major water main breaks or plant shutdowns.

Completed EQ Pump Basin rebuild at the wastewater plant in order to pump water out of the Equalization tank and help prevent bypasses into Town Creek.

Completely cleaned the inside of the water tower and cleared well of all sediment.

Completed the I&I (Inflow and Infiltration of ground water into sanitary sewer lines) reduction project. Phase I of the Project was done in parts of Cole Ave. Summit Ave. West

Sharon Ave. Van Ness Dr. Church St. and Congress Ave. The Village will continue to apply for I&I grants to help fund additional work.

Installed new Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system program at the Wastewater plant. SCADA communicates with our plant control system. It monitors flow, pumps, and process monitors throughout the plant. It also helps us make the correct adjustments needed for our treatment process.

Repaired communication system at the wastewater plant to automatically activate “Storm Flow Mode” during heavy rain events to help prevent bypasses. When the plant gets flows exceeding the 1.3million gallons per day capacity, the plant automatically opens valves to let the high flow go through the plant. At the same time specific valves are closed to keep solids in the plant so that solids do not leave the plant. In the past, this had to be done manually, which in some cases caused delays.

Kevin Bell received his State of Ohio Class III water and wastewater operator licenses. Marcus Couch received his State of Ohio Class II water and wastewater operator licenses.

Having a double Class III (sewer and water) is important because our Wastewater plant is a class III plant, which means we have to have a class III operator running the plant. Our water plant is a class II plant, which means we need a class II operator to run the plant, but having a class III water license is still helpful.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION

To keep our residents informed, the Village sent 167 emails in 2018, which was a decrease from the 299 emails sent in 2017 due to the adoption of the Friday Weekly Newsletter. There are 880 subscribers to the Village email list, up from 842 subscribers at beginning of the year, an increase of 4.5%. Our overall opening rate for 2018 (whether or not the email is opened or ignored) was 49.9% compared to the average open rate of 25.67% for government emails, and an increase of 10.4% over last year.

Worked with UDF staff and the GPHPC to develop designs and obtained approval of a compatible UDF Convenience store at 300 E. Sharon.

The Building Department issued 101 permits (88 residential and 13 commercial) bringing in fees totaling \$44,902.

The Village adopted the Ohio Building Code, making the Building Department a Certified Ohio Building Department.

Property Maintenance Inspector issued 65 reports for property, clean-up, high grass, needed repairs, improper signage, vegetation encroachment on sidewalks, etc.

Joined the ODOT Cooperative Purchasing Program to allow Glendale to award pre-bid contracts without bidding, thereby saving time.

Vacated Arbor Place to allow its repurposing for GFD renovation.

Parceled off land from the Eckstein property to enlarge Saunders Park playground and allow continued use as a soccer field.

Bid, awarded and sold the Eckstein property for \$25,000 to allow its private repurposing.

Applied for and awarded Tree City USA (21 years) with a Growth Award (7 years).

Prepared, adopted legislation for an 8.5 mill levy (passed) and a 2.5 mill levy (failed).

Advertised and awarded CF Bank as an additional interim depository.

Entered into an agreement with the Energy Alliance of Greater Cincinnati to educate and provide low-cost energy alternatives and improvements to Glendale homes and businesses.

Continued energy aggregation program with Eagle Energy, resulting in savings to residents and businesses of \$68,541 on electricity and \$26,911 on natural gas for total savings of \$95,452.

Renewed employee Health and Dental Insurance (2% increase).

Joined Ohio Checkbook to provide online transparency of all Village expenses. This system will allow residents and anyone else, to view all payments made by the Village.

Under the guidance of the Village Treasurer, the Village moved its long-term managements from a private wealth manager to Huntington Investments for an annual savings of over \$15,000 in fees.

Taking advantage of raising interest rates, the Village was able to find new investments to gain an additional \$40,000 in interest income.

Renewed the Ohio Public Entities Pool property and liability insurance (2.9% increase).

Applied for 0% and low % loans for the rebuilding of the Glendale water distribution system.

Prepared, submitted and adopted the Hamilton County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Obtained a grant (\$9,300 Ohio History Connection) to employ a preservation specialist to evaluate and update our Historic District designation rules and boundaries to allow more recently built homes to be included as contributing structures. Project was completed December 12.

Researched vendors for the redesign of the Village website and determined to use ReVize as the lowest and best vendor in 2019 once funding is appropriated.

Published 2018 annual newsletter and mailed to each home and business.

Resumed snowplowing of residential sidewalks in January of 2018.

Completed soffit restoration at the Depot Museum and Police Station.

Hired a part-time Building Inspector (Darren Mills) to assist Dan Bly who is now semi-retired and will continue by providing residential and business Plan review only.