

Oak Hill news

MAY 2009

INSIDE

2 Message from the City Manager

3 Safety report, news briefs

4 Around City Hall

NEWS FLASH

Water work to slow Harding Place traffic

The Metro Water Department will be replacing water mains along Harding Place from Granny White Pike to Belle Meade Blvd. beginning June 8. Work will be staggered to avoid rush-hour traffic. Streets will be reduced to one lane while the 12- and 16-inch water main is being installed. This will likely cause congestion and drivers may choose alternate routes, causing additional traffic on neighborhood streets. The project is expected to take six months to complete. 🌿

City plans to have off-duty officers start patrols by July 1

Oak Hill continues to make progress in negotiating with Metro Nashville officials on a contract allowing the City to hire off-duty Metro police officers.

Oak Hill's safety coordinator Tommy Jacobs will be responsible for scheduling the officers to give them maximum visibility in the City. Plans call for officers to work in four-hour shifts, for a total of about 12 hours per week, or as needed.

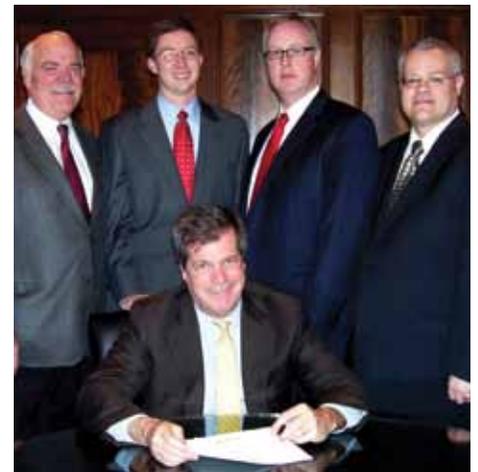
"We are aiming for no later than July 1," City Manager Kevin Helms said. "We will get them as soon as the officers can be scheduled. We are in the final stages of completing the contract."

In addition to providing visibility, the officers will be available as first responders to all emergencies in Oak Hill. However, they will return to their regular patrol duties as soon as an emergency has sta-

bilized, and they will not be called from their patrol to handle non-emergency calls. Those situations will still be handled by the regular Metro shift officer assigned to this area.

"I want to use this opportunity to remind and encourage all Oak Hill residents to be sure to report any criminal activity," Helms said. "Even if a robbery, for example, does not result in anything very valuable being taken, it is important to report the incident. Residents may not realize that the statistics of such occurrences affect the amount of police coverage Metro assigns to the City."

The off-duty officers will be contract workers for the City of Oak Hill, not employees. Metro will be responsible for their employee benefits and liability issues. 🌿



Oak Hill officials including Safety Coordinator Tommy Jacobs, Vice Mayor Austin McMullen, Mayor Tommy Alsup and City Manager Kevin Helms watch as Nashville Mayor Karl Dean signs an ordinance allowing satellite cities to contract with off-duty officers.

Oak Hill exploring options to expensive sound walls

Options to concrete sound walls are being explored after the Board of Commissioners declined to approve the proposal for the sound barriers along I-65 because of the cost.

City Manger Kevin Helms is investigating "green barriers" of trees and foliage as well as walls constructed of materials other than concrete that would be less expensive.

"We recognize that the noise level from I-65 is very high for our residents and hope that a less costly solution can be found," Helms said. 🌿

City adds official minutes, other info to website

The City of Oak Hill is now posting official minutes online.

Minutes of the Board of Commissioners, Planning Commission, and Board of Zoning Appeals can be found on the relevant board page. Minutes will be posted approximately one month after the date of the meeting. Unofficial summaries of the meetings are posted shortly after each meeting.

In accordance with the Tennessee Public Records Act, the City of Oak Hill provides full access and assistance in a timely and efficient manner to Tennessee residents who request access to public documents. Visit www.oakhilltn.us/services.html for complete procedures, fees, timelines, and a request form.

You'll also find the City's ethics policy at www.oakhilltn.us/officials.html, complete regulations for subdivisions at www.oakhilltn.us/board_planning.html, and some helpful web links at www.oakhilltn.us/services.html.

"This is the first step in adding more information to our website so that it will be of greater use to our residents," said City Manager Kevin Helms. 🌿

City of Oak Hill

Mayor

Tommy Alsop
Oak Hill Office: 371-8291

Vice Mayor

Austin McMullen 298-1492

Commissioner

Ray Throckmorton 255-3559

Planning Commission

Art McWilliams, chair

Mike Allison

Patricia Carlson

Judy Hoover

Trevor Howell

Annelle Rucker

Julia Wesley

The mayor, vice mayor, and commissioner also sit on this commission.

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tom Lawless, Chair

Steve Wasserman

City Attorney

Robert J. Notestine 297-1568

City Engineer

Collier Engineering 331-1441

City Manager

Kevin Helms 557-7672

Assistant City Manager

M.C. Sparks 509-4812

Safety Coordinator

Tommy Jacobs 557-7329

Administrative Assistant

Patrick Steiner 371-8291

Building Official

Bill Burdette 371-8291

Office

5548 Franklin Pike Suite 102

Hours

Monday through Friday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

www.oakhilltn.us

Meeting Dates

Third Thursday

Planning Commission,

Board of Commissioners Meeting

Oak Hill City Hall, 5548 Franklin Pike, 5 p.m.

Tuesday before Commissioners' Meeting

Board of Zoning Appeals

Oak Hill City Hall, 5548 Franklin Pike, 5 p.m.



Don't throw away this newsletter; recycle it!

City manager system has a hundred-year history

Having just completed a year-long celebration of the 100th anniversary of the city manager form of government in the U.S., I thought it would be a good time to discuss this innovation in the operation of local government.

On April 2, 1908, Staunton, Virginia, was the first local government in the U.S. to employ a city manager. As a result, it was recognized last year by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) for this accomplishment.

This change was brought on by a troubled form of government thrust upon Staunton in 1905 by a state law mandating the governmental structure when the city exceeded a population of 10,000. However, due to the overriding state law, the position was originally referred to as a general manager from 1908 to 1916. Charles E. Ashburner of Richmond was chosen to fill this position and thus became the first city manager in the U.S. He later went on to manage other cities in Virginia, Ohio, and California, and was the first president of ICMA when it was founded in 1914.

This experiment in local government was so successful that in 1916 the Commonwealth of Virginia changed the existing state law to allow for the official position of a City manager to work with the city council and mayor. It was the first time that state law recognized the need for a single trained professional to oversee the day to day operations of a city. In the one hundred years that followed, there has been no substantive change to the council-manager form of government.

In this form of government, the political and administrative roles are separated. The council is elected by the residents and is responsible for setting the overall policies of the jurisdiction. It is responsible for employing a manager who operates in a non-political role. The manager directs the day-to-day activities of the city to carry out the policies set forth by the elected officials.

To sum up Staunton's contribution I will quote Harry Toulmin Jr., who said, "The city manager idea has been a distinct improvement and success in Staunton. True as it was that the city manager plan was yet to be developed in its entirety, nevertheless, Staunton had the basic idea and pioneered the innovation despite risk

and ridicule.

To Staunton then go the laurels for the first practical application of a business manager scheme to civic affairs." Toulmin was an early student of the manager form of government.

Today approximately 3,700 U.S. cities and 525 U.S. counties employ a manager. These professionals run governmental entities that govern about 80 million Americans. Of cities in the U.S. with a population of more than 2,500, 48% operate under the council-manager form of government. Thousands of other cities around the world also employ managers to oversee their governmental organizations as well.

In the next issue of the newsletter, we will discuss the manager form of government in more detail as it relates to Tennessee and the City of Oak Hill. I would like to thank the City of Staunton, Virginia, and the ICMA for providing much of the material used in this article. For more information, visit www.staunton.va.us and www.icma.org. 🌿

FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Kevin Helms



Sign up for email news updates, CrimeWatch

The City of Oak Hill has two updates by email, City News and CrimeWatch.

Sign up to receive news about Oak Hill and important information about crime in your neighborhood from Oak Hill Safety Coordinator Tommy Jacobs.

Visit oakhilltn.us and click *Get news updates by email* at the top of the home page. You can choose to receive either City News or CrimeWatch or both. You can unsubscribe at any time.

Not getting your updates?

If you signed up for updates and haven't received any, they may be in your mail program's spam folder. To ensure you always receive updates, add update@oakhilltn.us to your address book. 🌿

City benefits when you cooperate with Census

When officials from the U.S. Census come to your door, please take a moment to accommodate them. Doing so has a direct benefit to the City of Oak Hill.

Much of the funding the City gets from state and federal government agencies is based on population. Those statistics tie directly back to information gathered by the Census.

All Census workers carry official identification, and residents should not hesitate to ask to see it if in doubt. "Feel free to report on situations that make you uncomfortable to the City office or to safety coordinator Tommy Jacobs," City manager Kevin Helms said.

Solicitors require permit

From time to time the City office receives reports that door-to-door solicitors are moving through Oak Hill neighborhoods. City ordinance 08-6 requires that anyone who knocks on your door must have a Solicitation Permit issued by the City of Oak Hill.

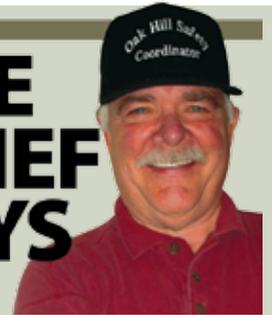


All solicitations for charitable or religious purposes or subscriptions must complete a sworn application. A non-refundable fee of \$50 is required for those selling subscriptions. 🌿

If someone comes to your door to solicit, follow these precautions.

- Avoid opening the door to anyone who seems suspicious.
- Ask to see identification and an up-to-date Solicitation Permit from Oak Hill.
- Contact City officials at 371-8291 or 557-7329 if the solicitor refuses or if the Permit is not valid.

THE CHIEF SAYS



Just as residents should BOLO (be on look out) at all times, it is extremely important that you communicate what you see.

If you spot suspicious vehicles or persons in the neighborhood, don't hesitate to call the office or me even if it doesn't rise to the level of a crime.

The person responsible for the recent burglaries eventually was caught because concerned citizens were watchful and communicated what they saw.

It is equally important to report all crimes, regardless how small, for crime statistics determine assignment of police patrols.

Crime in progress: 911

Crime committed: 862-8600

Oak Hill Safety Coordinator: 557-7329

NEWS BRIEFS

Oak Hill trees win contest

Three Oak Hill trees are winners of the Nashville Tree Foundation's Big Old Tree Contest.

An eastern red cedar owned by Margaret and Patrick Boyd on Granny White Pike is 63 inches in circumference and 52 feet high with a 7.5-foot crown spread.

Two trees at Franklin Road Academy, a 60-foot hackberry and a 42-foot white oak, also were named champions of the 22nd annual contest.

City garden on Seeds of Hope tour

The garden of John and Dana Atkins on Gateway Lane is one of eight chosen for the 2009 Seeds of Hope Garden Tour.

The June 6 event benefits at-risk youths ages 16-24 living at the nonprofit Monroe Harding campus at 1120 Glendale Lane.

Tickets are \$15 the day of the tour or \$12 in advance at brandontisdale@monroeharding.org or at all Bank of Nashville branches.

Residents discuss issues at Forum

More than 60 residents of Oak Hill primarily discussed safety and sound walls at the Mayor's Forum April 26 at Judson Baptist Church.

Vice Mayor Austin McMullen reported the City is very close to having security patrols using off-duty Metro Police officers.

Safety Coordinator Tommy Jacobs said the officers will concentrate in areas where there have been such problems as burglaries or traffic-related including speeding and ignoring stop signs. Jacobs, who will be responsible for scheduling, said the officers will patrol areas, make traffic stops, and issue citations.

City Manager Kevin Helms, attending his first Mayor's Forum, discussed his background and outlined changes being made to the website to make information more accessible. He said the city is looking into the possibility of posting audio or video of board meetings. Helms asked citizens to contact him with suggestions of other ways to improve the website. 🌿

CALENDAR

- **June 14**
Purity Miss Martha's Ice Cream Crankin
First Presbyterian Church
Grounds
4815 Franklin Pike
4-7 p.m.
Tickets/Information:
Judy Gaither/254-1791
- **June 16**
Board of Zoning Appeals
Monthly meeting
Oak Hill City Office
5548 Franklin Pike
371-8291
- **June 18**
**Planning Commission/
Board of Commissioners**
Monthly meeting
Oak Hill City Office
5548 Franklin Pike
371-8291

QUICK CALL LIST



CITY OF OAK HILL

5548 Franklin Pike #102
371-8291 FAX 373-6886
www.oakhilltn.us

SOLID WASTE SERVICES

Chipper Service

Jackaroo: 371-8291

Garbage Pickup

Clean Earth Sanitation: 371-8291

Snow and Ice

Management Service

Mid Tennessee Erosion Control:
371-8291

Public Street Repairs, Street Signage, and Drainage Maintenance

City Office: 371-8291

Dead Animal Removal

City Office: 371-8291

After Hours: 862-8971

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency Fire: 327-1300

Non-Emergency Police: 862-8600

West Sector Patrol: 862-7747

Oak Hill Safety Coordinator: 557-7329



Unofficial summary

Board of Zoning Appeals

April 14, 2009

- Approved request of Phil Husband, 854 Glendale Lane, for construction of a new master bedroom.

- Approved request of Gary Waddey, 4716 Lealand Lane, for construction of a new three-car garage and office.

- Approved request of W.R. Coles, 1045 Gateway Lane, for construction of a new garage with office/exercise room and to record a variance for an existing grandfathered encroachment of seven feet by the living room and one foot by the screened porch.

- Postponed until May 19 meeting at the request of Father Ryan High School the review of the conditional use permit in order to comply with previous conditions from 2006 for the stadium lights.

Unofficial summary

Board of Commissioners

April 16, 2009

- Approved Vice Mayor Austin McMullen's motion to appoint Scott A. Shumann, vice president of Bank of America, and Gary Waddey, compliance officer with Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, as two of three members of the newly created Financial Advisory Committee.

- Decided that the estimated cost of \$4 million for the sound wall along I-65 was prohibitive considering the small number of people it would benefit.

- Approved motion to have city manager explore the feasibility and potential cost of a "green wall" along the I-65 corridor.

- Adopted a resolution recognizing the 60th anniversary of the Municipal Technical Advisory Service.

- Moved adoption of a resolution to participate in the Tennessee Municipal League Risk Management Pool Insurance Program to May 21 meeting.

- Adopted the Municipal Technical Advisory Service model resolution regarding the Tennessee Public Records Act.

- Directed the City Manager to move forward on negotiations to expand office space into Suite 103 and to have a detailed proposal for consideration at the May 21 meeting.

- Learned that the contract for hiring Metro Police Officers should be finalized before the next meeting and that Lorelee Gawaluck has resigned from the Board of Zoning Appeals as she will be out of town for six of the next seven meetings.

Unofficial summary

Planning Commission

April 16, 2009

- Approved steep slope request of Brad Gulmi, 970 Overton Lea Road, for construction of sunroom addition: 3 yes, 2 no, 1 abstain.

- Approved in principle the sign ordinance with grammar and punctuation errors to be corrected before final approval at the May 21 meeting. 🌿

You can find agendas, unofficial summaries, and minutes of Oak Hill board and commission meetings at

www.oakhilltn.us

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