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Fire (Issue 5) and Police (Issue 6) Renewal Levies November 6 Election

The City of Clayton's emergency services, including fire/emergency medical services and police, are provided through voted property tax levies. Voters will be asked to approve two renewal levies Issues 5-Fire and 6-Police on Tuesday, November 6. A renewal levy generates the same revenue for the city from year to year. There is no increase in taxes as a result of these levies. If approved, the levies for the fire and EMS and police become effective in 2013 with the actual taxes being collected in the calendar year 2014.

Without this funding, the department cannot function to protect all of us. Issues 5 and 6 continue funding the departments at the same level as 2008. Any shortfall is expected to be made up through income tax revenue.

The fire and EMS department responds to over 1,800 calls per year and provides a multitude of other related services to our residents, businesses and guests. The department actively seeks Federal and State funding opportunities to acquire the newest equipment and technology. Since 2008, the department has received over \$68,000 in grant funds to purchase fire gear and EMS equipment.

The police department, working in unison with our residents, continues to enjoy one of the lowest crime rates for cities in Montgomery County, based on Uniform Crime reports for cities with a population of 10,000 or more residents. The department has partnered with the Northmont School District providing the services of a School Resource Officer (SRO) at Northmont High and Middle Schools. The SRO serves as mentor for students and builds relationships with students and staff in an effort to thwart many issues before they rise to the need of traditional law enforcement intervention.

The continuation of the emergency services levies is essential to maintaining the high level of service that Clayton residents and business owners have come to expect. Mayor Joyce Deitering stated, "Since 1998, our residents have not wavered in their support of our police and fire services. With their continued support, the city can continue to provide the level of service our residents deserve."

The renewal levies Issues 5 and 6 have been endorsed by Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association – Sergeants, the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association – Patrol Officers and the International Association of Fire Fighters.



City Charter Amendment (Issue 7)



The City of Clayton is seeking a minor change in the city charter in order to better utilize part-time personnel in the public safety departments. The requested change to Article XI in the Clayton City Charter will remove current restrictions on the number of hours that part-time personnel are

authorized to work. The change is good for the Clayton residents, the public safety departments, and the men and women who serve in the police, fire and emergency medical service capacity.

A "Yes" vote for Issue 7 will not raise taxes and will help the city maintain our excellent public safety departments.



CALENDAR

November

1	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
6	Election Day	
12	Veterans Day – Gov’t Offices Closed	
15	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
20	Board of Zoning Appeals (If Needed)	7:30 p.m.
22-23	Thanksgiving Holiday – Gov’t Offices Closed	
26	Planning Commission (If Needed)	7:00 p.m.

December

6	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
18	Board of Zoning Appeals (If Needed)	7:30 p.m.
20	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
24-25	Christmas Holiday – Gov’t Offices Closed	
31	New Year’s Holiday – Gov’t Offices Closed	

January

1	New Year’s Holiday – Gov’t Offices Closed	
3	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
15	Board of Zoning Appeals (If Needed)	7:30 p.m.
17	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
21	Martin Luther King Day – Gov’t Offices Closed	
28	Planning Commission (If Needed)	7:00 p.m.

February

7	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
19	Board of Zoning Appeals (If Needed)	7:30 p.m.
21	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
25	Planning Commission (If Needed)	7:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor	Joyce Deitering	jdeitering@aol.com
Council Member	Tim Gorman	johnmgorman@aol.com
Council Member	Robert Peters	pettersbob@aol.com
Council Member	Beverly Smith	bradandbevsmith@gmail.com
Council Member	Greg Merkle	greg.merkle@wright.edu
Council Member	Ray A. Slone, Jr.	cruisenwith@yahoo.com
Council Member	Kenneth Henning	kennethchenning@yahoo.com

CITY STAFF

City Manager	David Rowlands	drowlands@clayton.oh.us
Asst. City Manager	Debbie Manns	dmanns@clayton.oh.us
Director of Public Safety	Richard Rose	rrose@clayton.oh.us
Director of Community Services	Joe Klosterman	jklosterman@clayton.oh.us
Director of Economic Development	Gwen Eberly	geberly@clayton.oh.us
Director of Finance	Kevin Schweitzer	kschweitzer@clayton.oh.us
Clerk of Council	Barbara Seim	bseim@clayton.oh.us

Income Tax Switch

The primary source of revenue for local units of government is city taxes. Beginning with the collection of taxes owed for the 2012 year the City of Clayton’s local income taxes will be collected by the City of Vandalia. The switch from the Regional Income Tax Agency (R.I.T.A.) is being made to provide better customer service to our residents and business taxpayers. Under the new system, in addition to calling with your questions you may walk in and talk to a tax representative at their convenient local office. You may still file your municipal income taxes online or by mail if you choose to do so.

The City of Vandalia also performs income tax collection for the cities of Brookville and Union. If you want to contact the Vandalia Tax Department by telephone, they may be reached at: (937) 415-2240, or at their toll-free number (866) 898-5891. You may also contact them by email at tax@vandaliaohio.org. or in person at their office at 333 James E. Bohanan Drive.

If you need forms they can be found at: www.clayton.oh.us

To file your local income tax online, follow this link:

<http://www.municconnect.com/vandalia/login.aspx>

In order to ensure a smooth transition, please be aware of the fact that income tax filings and/or payments which are made after December 1, 2012 should be sent to the City of Vandalia.

CPR Training



The fire department offers CPR and first-aid training to residents and members of the business community. The classes follow the American Safety & Health Institute guidelines. Participants who successfully complete the training will receive a certification card, and the certification is valid for a two-year period of time.

Assistant Fire Chief, Brian Garver encourages residents to take advantage of the classes. He stated that “Most people wonder what they would do if they found themselves in an emergency situation or if they arrived at an accident before 911 was called. Having these basic skills can save a life and/or prevent further trauma to victims during the critical minutes preceding the arrival of emergency medical providers.” For those interested in registering for a class, please contact Captain Paula Creech at (937) 836-3500.

Fire and Rescue Golf Outing

For the past eight years the Clayton Fire and Rescue Association has hosted a golf outing with all proceeds being used to help those in the community that are in need. This year’s outing took place at the Meadowbrook Country Club. While the Fire Association conducts various fundraisers throughout the year, the golf outing is the most successful. This year over \$3,000 was raised while providing a day of fun for the participants. Proceeds from the event will be used to support charitable work including: helping families affected by fire, Christmas gifts for local children and the Northmont FISH Program. The Fire Association thanks the golfers and event sponsors for making the event a success and for helping them to further serve the community.



Pictured are some of the members of the Clayton Fire and Rescue Association

Mayor's Corner



Autumn is my favorite time of year. It is a great time of year to take a walk in the cool breeze or simply to sit next to a fire and savor the season. For me, it is also a chance to pause at least for a moment, and reflect on who we are, where we are and how we got here.

When I was elected as Mayor in 2006, I took an oath of office and made a personal commitment to provide transparency and good government. That commitment has been put to practice over the years and has become the driving force of much of what City Council and I do. Our objective has always been to provide the

highest level of service for citizens and look for opportunities to continually improve our community.

Each fall, we are asked to exercise our right to vote. As an elected official I acknowledge the enormous trust and confidence that you extended in electing me to serve as your Mayor. Many people think that their vote doesn't matter but I feel differently. Voting is a great way to stay connected to your elected officials at the local, state and federal level.

They are an important resource to you when you are unhappy about an issue. Remember they were voted into office to serve you.

Although important at every level, voting can have a significant impact at the local level, This November; the city has placed three issues on the ballot for your consideration. Issues 5 and 6 are renewal levies for the operation of the police, fire/emergency medical service departments and Issue 7 is request to change the City Charter to remove the current restrictions on the number of hours that part-time personnel are authorized to work in the police and fire/EMS departments. Issues 5 and 6 are critical pieces to help us maintain the level of services our residents deserve. Issue 7 is an important tool to manage personnel budgets and stay fiscally responsible for taxpayers. There are more details about these three ballot issues in the newsletter.

Take advantage of the autumn season to reflect on who you are, where you have come from, and where you want Clayton to be. Then make sure your vote is counted.

It is an honor and a pleasure serving you,

Joyce Clutering



New Fire Engine

The fire department will have a new fire engine hitting the streets early next year. The new truck is replacing Engine 84 which is 27 years old. Clayton firefighters and officers worked together on the specifications to design the apparatus to meet the needs of the community. The new Sutphen fire engine will serve at Station 85, located at the southeast corner of Taywood and Old Salem Roads. The fire truck currently being used there will move to Station 84 located on the southeast corner of Wenger Road and Crestway Drive.

The fire engine is the first pumping engine purchased by the city since 1997. The National Fire Protection Association advocates that first-line pumping engines should in general, be replaced every 10-15 years. The fire



Pictured is a demonstration model of the Sutphen Fire Engine

department vehicles are used efficiently and are well maintained leading to a longer life expectancy.

The fire engine will be delivered in the spring of 2013. It will be put into service once it is outfitted with equipment and after the firefighters have been trained in its use. The fire engine is equipped with a light tower to provide site lighting for incidents occurring after dark, a 1,000-gallon water tank, and a 1,500-gallon-per-minute fire pump. It will also be equipped with a full complement of state-of-the-art rescue tools.

Clayton Goes Greener

The City of Clayton recently contracted with Energy Optimizers, USA to complete an energy audit of the city's three primary government buildings. As a result of their work, the city was able to take advantage of an energy rebate program offered by the Dayton Power & Light Company. The rebate proceeds were used to implement many of the improvements recommended by Energy Optimizers.

The improvements helped the city to update lighting fixtures, improve energy efficiency, reduce annual energy operating cost and lower related maintenance costs. Once the improvements have been completely implemented, the city anticipates reducing annual lighting energy cost by 52% which is approximately



\$4,000 a year. Additionally, through the use of the rebate program funds and the expected reduced utility costs, the city will achieve a return on investment in less than a three-year period of time.



Economic Development Update



Since its opening earlier this summer, the Hospitality House has brought some interesting new elements to 8268 North Main Street. Located next to the Healthy Alternative, the Hospitality House is both a great location to host your next corporate event, banquet, reception or private party and also a fun place to attend a hosted wine tasting or wine education workshop.

For rental purposes, there are four rooms available to host events, each having its own unique style. The rooms can each accommodate 40-80 people and for larger events, the rooms can be combined. Since the former use of the building is that of a restaurant, a full-service kitchen is available for food preparation. Visit www.thehospitalityhouse.biz or call 937-890-0300 for more information on pricing and to get a list of pre-approved caterers to take care of your on-site event needs.

In addition to the event space, the Hospitality House has gathered much local support for the Splash!-Tasting Room & Wine Bar which features wine tasting events each week. A different selection of wines is presented each week so that guests can explore new styles and tastes. The wine tastings are held from 5:00-8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays. A recent event featured selections from Meeker Vineyards and gave guests the opportunity to talk with one of the vineyard owners. Look for more special events like this in the future. Go to www.splashtastings.com for more information on times and selections.

If you have a wine enthusiast on your gift list for the upcoming holiday season you may also be interested to know that you may order wine, accessories, books, pairing wheels, wine tools and gift packaging either in person at an event or at www.splashtastings.com.

Texting While Driving



The State of Ohio recently adopted two laws which make it illegal to use hand-held electronic devices to send or receive text messages while operating a motor vehicle. For purposes of the law an "electronic device" has been defined as a wireless telephone, personal digital assistant (PDA), computer, laptop, computer tablet, or a text-messaging device. The difference between the two laws is outlined below and relates to the age of the driver, exceptions to the law and the penalties associated with a violation.

For drivers 18 years of age or older

The new law is intended to be enforced as a secondary offense, meaning a primary violation of another law must be observed before this section can be enforced.

Exceptions to the law are:

- If using the device for emergency purposes, including contacting law enforcement, hospital or health care provider, fire department or a similar emergency agency.
- When a person is using the device while in a stationary position outside the normal lanes of travel.
- While reading, selecting, or entering a name or telephone number for the purpose of making or receiving a telephone call.
- When sending or receiving a message regarding the operation or navigation of a motor vehicle including any messages concerning emergency, traffic or weather alerts.
- While conducting wireless communication with a device that does not require manually entering letters, numbers or symbols or

reading text messages, exception is for the activation, deactivation, or initiating the device or a feature or function of the device.

Citations for this portion are punishable as a minor misdemeanor, and carry a maximum penalty of \$150.

For drivers under 18 years of age

No other offense needs to occur or be observed in order to be stopped by law enforcement and cited for using an electronic wireless communications device.

The new law stipulates the following exceptions:

- If using the device for emergency purposes, including contacting law enforcement, hospitals or health care provider, fire department or a similar emergency agency.
- While a person is using the device in a stationary position outside the normal lanes of travel.
- While using a navigation device in a voice-operated or hands-free manner who does not manipulate the drive while driving.

A **first offense** of this section constitutes a minor misdemeanor and a maximum penalty of \$150 along with a suspension of driving privileges for (60) days.

A **second offense** increases the penalty to a \$300 dollar fine along with a suspension of driving privileges for one year.

The Clayton Police Department encourages all drivers to voluntarily comply with the new laws and make our roads even safer.

If you are observed to be in violation of the law prior to March 1, 2013, warnings will be issued in lieu of citations. After March 1, 2013, the full realm of penalties shall apply.

If you have any questions regarding these new laws, please contact the Clayton Police Department at (937) 836-3500.

Pre-Sale Inspection Program Reminder

In December of 2010 the city adopted a program whereby all residential properties in the city must be inspected prior to sale, rental or lease. The scope of the inspection program is limited to the exterior of properties and considers items such as: concrete repair or replacement, removal of dead trees, replacement of windows or doors, paint and all carpentry-related repairs; roof, chimney, gutter and downspouts.

It is recommended that property owners apply for an inspection prior to entering into an agreement to sell, rent or lease a property. The reason for this recommendation is because a certificate of occupancy cannot be issued until the violations



have been corrected or alternatively in the case of a sale, the purchaser of the property agrees to assume responsibility for the repairs. Inspections are typically conducted during normal business hours but evening and weekend appointment times are available.

The Pre-Sale Inspection Program fee for a one-, two-, or three-family dwelling is fifty dollars.

If you have any questions about the program, please call (937) 836-3500 and we will be happy to help you.

2012 Road Improvement Program Completed

The city completed its 2012 Road Improvement Program. The construction associated with this year's project was funded through the use of local income tax revenue. The nearly \$550,000 project involved resurfacing of the following:

Westbrook Road between Cheri Lynne Drive and Ashbrook Road

Union Road between Westbrook Road and State Route 49

Putnam Road between Sweet Potato Ridge and Phillipsburg-Union Roads

Diamond Mill Road between Kimmel Road and U.S. Route 40

Sweet Potato Ridge Road between State Route 48 and Old Mill Road

Union Road between Valley Brook Drive and Old Salem Road

Philadelphia Drive between Westbrook Road and the Stillwater River

Oak Field Drive between Laurel Fork and Northfield Roads

Virginia Springs Court

Debbie Court

The method of resurfacing that was used is referred to as milling and overlay, and it is a very effective way to prolong the life of streets. Milling is the process of removing irregular pavement while maintaining the original road design. It also involves the removal of two to three inches of base to prepare for the overlay. Overlay is the establishment of a new layer of pavement on a combination of existing, milled and leveled surfaces.

