



## **Report of the Mayor**

Benjamin Holbert III

May 13, 2020

Year-three/month 5

### ***Report***

COVID-19 has had a devastating physical, mental and economic impact on the people of our country, and, Woodmere Village is not exempt. The administration is dedicated to working to protect and serve residents. Our team has been in communication with several businesses to determine how the administration might assist them when COVID 19 subsides and the Governor further lifts the stay at home order.

### **Highlights and projects of significance:**

- **Mayor's Court:** Met with staff to outline procedures and protocols for Mayors Court for Tuesday, June 16 and Saturday, June 27. Sanitation, Spacing, Communications, Officers (full staff), supplemental pagers, UV lights that eradicate airborne viruses without harming people, kiosk, mask, gloves, signage and plexiglass are just some of the equipment needed to adequately host Mayor's Court and protect the clients and employees to perform this necessary village service.
- The Village received Personal Protection Equipment (**PPE**) gear from several sources including Mike Guyuron Progressive Mold, LLC; Rick Capretta, Ohio Real Title, and Planning and Zoning Chairman, Seth Young, Century 21. However, the need for more PPE remains real and the administration seeks donations from any and all sources.
- Councilwoman Vivian Walker coordinated an effort to get food baskets to 35 senior citizens in the Village of Woodmere. The Ohio National Guard – Alpha Company Cleveland 237th Battalion delivered the baskets. This concept was the brainchild of Councilwoman Vivian Walker. Councilman Tennyson Adams, Fire Chief Johnny Brewington, and Mayor Holbert accompanied Sergeant Tommy Davis, Guardsmen Breanna Williams, Samantha Fagan, and Nelson LaBoy.
- Teleconference with Orange School Superintendent and the Board President about a program to assist Woodmere students as well as discuss minority representation on the administrative staff. The conference was in response to community concerns of a staffer member whose contract was not renewed.

- Eton Mall – communicated with Chef Executive Officer and management staff to convey information about re-opening plans. Communicated with Village Square and other primary businesses in the Village. Communicated with Jersey Mike Subs about collaborating on Village events and Corky and Lenny’s about reopening strategies. General businesses opened May 12, 2020.

### **Mayors and Managers Association**

Meet weekly via teleconference with more than 40 members to discuss the ongoing COVID crisis and what municipality should be aware of pertaining to the Governor’s orders and federal and state relief efforts. South Pointe Hospital, through Mayor’s and Manager’s provide the Village of Woodmere with diagnostic gear to aim EMS.

### **Welfare checks**

The Mayor engaged in welfare checks for senior citizens, **the infirmed**, and assisted a resident with securing required election documents to qualify for the primary election and ensure the document was completed and returned to the Board of Elections

### **Census 2020**

The Census Bureau is encouraging people to respond to the online question that is provided in English as well at 12 additional languages, ensuring that U. S. Households can respond online in their preferred language.

- **The response rate in the State of Ohio is 63.8%**
- **The response rate in Cuyahoga County is 60.2%**
- **The response rate in Woodmere Village is 45.8%**

### **Special thanks:**

Stephanie Gandy, Webmaster; Retired Police Officer, Amy Mengay, Law Enforcement Social Media; and Jennifer Osborn (Human Resource Specialist) whose contracts were suspended through legislative appropriation review.

- ⇒ Amy Mengay: Maintained the social media platform from the police department. This communication stage allowed law enforcement to engage the community and became a resource of information for residents, businesses, and the public. The social media page staffed by Mengay was responsible for the apprehension of an armed robbery suspect who was captured on camera during her alleged crimes. Local media used the Woodmere Police Facebook page to broadcast the image of the suspect that led to the timely arrest.

- ⇒ Stephanie Gandy: revised the Village Website making it aesthetically pleasing, provided departmental functionality, (Really Simple Syndication) RSS format, end-user functionality. The website is currently in archive status.
  
- ⇒ Jennifer Osborn: Provided Human Resource Consultation for the Village. Provided employment expertise to the Mayor, Law Director and department head. Developed an Employment Handbook based on the Society for Human Resource Management protocols, (SHRM). Ms. Osborn handled job descriptions, onboarding and exit interviews, employee disputes and resolution, and employment best practices.

These women provided documented service and significant value to the Village of Woodmere. This concludes the report in progress.



**Benjamin I. Holbert, III**  
Mayor/Safety Director