



**Report of the Mayor
Benjamin I. Holbert, III
July 10, 2019**

Year Two: Meeting Seven

Madam Chairman, Members of Council, Residents and Visitors.

I'm very pleased to report out to the community the work of the administration for the last 30 days.

- ⇒ July 8, 2019, the Mayor attended the Orange Board of Education Meeting and accepted a resolution of congratulations on the 75th Anniversary of the Village of Woodmere from Superintendent Lynn Campbell and members of the Board of Education.
- ⇒ The Village has received more than a dozen proclamations and well wishes on the 75th Anniversary of the incorporation of Woodmere.
- ⇒ The Mayor met with U.S. Marshal, Pete Elliot. Mr. Elliot offered the services of his office to assist the Village in any law enforcement needs Woodmere might encounter.
- ⇒ Master Planning Committee continues its work. The committee met this morning at Village Hall 10 AM to review its findings in preparation of a final report to the community and Village Council.
- ⇒ The Mayor and Economic Development Consultant Gary Murphy met with Orange Mayor Kathy Mulcahy and have meetings planned with other neighboring mayors to discuss a collaborative effort to advance technology in the region. This concept originated in Woodmere and has the interest of the Cuyahoga County Development office and several community colleges.
- ⇒ The mayor attended the Greater Cleveland Partnership Briefing - in Washington DC. Met personally with Congresswoman Marcia Fudge. We shared with the Congresswoman projects that are beneficial to Woodmere, the 11th District, and potentially the entire state of Ohio. She has assigned a staffer to stay in touch with us on how her office might assist.

- ⇒ The Mayor has been invited to provide the Commencement Address for 2019 Graduates of Kent State University. The invitation came after the Mayor met the incoming President of Kent State University, Dr. Todd Diacon.
- ⇒ The Mayor was selected for Leadership Cleveland class of 2020. This is a nine-month competitive program. The Village received support from Dominion to participate in this prestigious program.
- ⇒ The Administration is working with the Cleveland Sports Commission to come speak with our businesses about how they can prepare for the NFL Draft to be held in Cleveland in 2021. The NFL indicates that the draft could realize \$133M in direct spending and \$224M in economic impact to the region.

- ⇒ Flemings Steakhouse closed in Woodmere at the end of June 2019. The mayor's office learned that a lease agreement with the landlord could not be reached. This office is working to assist the displaced workers with other restaurants in the Village of Woodmere.
- ⇒ Renovations to Village Hall continue through Phase 1. Modifications were presented on the third change order presented by Affinity Construction. The second phase relative to the Fire Department will likely begin in August 2019.
- ⇒ The mayor and First Lady of Woodmere attended the NAACP 107th Freedom Fund Dinner. It was a tremendous networking opportunity. The mayor met a representative of the Cleveland Cavaliers (David Kone). Discussions evolved on how the Village might partner with the Cavaliers and introduce business opportunities in the Village for the Pro team.
- ⇒ There are 46 days until the second Woodmere Village Music Fest. Coordinator Vicki Dansby has secured the music group **Ole Skool**. The musicians are billed as the Best Cover Band in Cleveland. The Music Fest has been promoted on social media and so far on Facebook the marketing effort has reach more than 20,000 people.
- ⇒ Roselawn resident Walter Sheer died in June 2019. The Mayor's office provided a proclamation of condolences to the family.

- ⇒ Mayor attended the County Stakeholders meeting at Cleveland State. Woodmere Village mentioned by County officials during presentation for pending projects as well as the Village's engagement in the master plan.
- ⇒ Mayor attended Mayor's and Managers meeting at Cuyahoga Community College Metro Campus. Discussion pertained to the metro campus expansion, MetroHealth's efforts to provide medical attention to the underserved communities, and grant opportunities in Cuyahoga County.

- ⇒ The Mayor's office is working with the American Red Cross to sponsor a blood drive this fall.
- ⇒ Daphne Evans has attended several meetings for the complete count committee for the 2020 census. Our goal is to make sure that every resident in Woodmere Village on April 1, 2020 is counted.
- ⇒ The Mayor and Human Resource Specialist continues to look for a qualified Chief Building Official. The individuals who hold these certifications are in high demand and gravitate toward higher paying opportunities. This office has reached out to other municipalities for references.
- ⇒ The administration continues to plan to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Village pending the allocation of funding from Village Council.
- ⇒ Administration spoke with Vera Hughes of Case Western Reserve University who indicates the institution wants to feature former Village Mayor, Bettie Perry in a University tribute. The Mayor's office will assist CWRU in this effort.

A copy of this written report is on the table.