



**Report of the Mayor  
Benjamin Holbert, III**

*May 10, 2022*

*Year-five/Month 5*

- Mayor appointed panel to review candidates for the position of Fire Chief. The expectation is a new chief candidate will be presented to Council for confirmation no later than the summer of 2022.
- Attended the swearing-in ceremony of Gigi Traore, first African American mayor of Newburgh Heights.
- The Headquarters Highway Kick off is slated for Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM at Bedford Heights City Hall. Members of Council are welcome to attend. This project germinated in Woodmere and has a workforce, broadband and gazelle business component. (A gazelle company is a young fast-growing enterprise with base revenues of at least \$100,000 and four years of sustained revenue growth) Economic Development Specialist, Gary Murphy, is coordinating the project in concert with Cuyahoga County, Department of Development.
- Appointed Avondale resident Toni Parker to the Records and Retention Board. Her appointment is effective May 1, 2022.
- Attended the Annual Prayer Breakfast at the Renaissance Hotel. The mayor was invited by former Pepper Pike, Mayor Bruce Akers, who was an original member of the program during the Mayor George Voinovich era.
- Congratulations to Robert Stark who will assume the Presidency and Chairman of Stark Enterprises LLC. Also, congratulations to Ezra Stark who has been named Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation.
- Mayor Holbert has been asked to participate in the Orange High School Commencement Exercises to be held June 3 at Connor Theatre at Playhouse Square. Twelve students from Woodmere will be in the graduating class of 2022. The Administration will recognize Woodmere students the week of June 6 – exact date to be determined.
- Finally, Mayor Holbert was selected Citizen of the Year by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Fourth District. The Fourth District is comprised of 36 Chapters in both states. Mayor Holbert will compete for the International Citizen of the Year of Omega Psi Phi at the Grand Conclave that will be held in Charlotte NC July 19th through July 25th.

This concludes the mayor's report in progress.