

June 2024 Mayor's Report

6/17/24

Solicitor RFP Update. We have advertised the position city and county wide, but have received only one application. I've ordered that we add an additional advertisement Statewide, which may pull applicants from surrounding counties. I've extended the applicant deadline with this additional advertisement to middle July, at which point the administration and I will make a recommendation to council for the selection of village solicitor.

Magistrate RFP Update. I received two applicants for the village magistrate position. I reviewed both and have made a decision, pending approval of compensation, to continue the contract we have with Ellen Wolf, with an increase in her pay to reflect the current market. The other applicant had a very impressive resume, with extensive experience as a prosecutor and winning capital cases, but I believe Ellen Wolf would be a better fit for Golf Manor.

I believe the ideal candidate has experience with both prosecution and defense, and as such knows how to best meet the needs of both in creating an environment for a fair hearing. That's what I want for our residents, and I believe Ellen Wolf more closely meets this standard. I welcome her continued service to the residents of Golf Manor.

Safety Task Force. I am creating a safety task force that will make recommendations to the administration, and to council, as needed on issues related to community safety. The task force will consist of village employees and may periodically recruit experts and volunteers as deemed relevant to topics of review. The structure of the task force is currently under review by our legal counsel and will formally be launched upon completion of this review, which is anticipated by early July.

Property Descriptions Added to Property Report. I've requested that property descriptions be added to the property report given to council. I'm hoping this will make the report more user-friendly when assessing the number and type of properties that the village controls.

Meeting with the Hamilton County Coroner. The First Suburbs Consortium hosted a presentation by the Hamilton County Coroner, Lakshmi Sammarco, MD., at our monthly membership meeting. Dr. Sammarco gave an overview of the jurisdiction and services offered by the Hamilton County office, which is quite extensive. I'll be making a request as an executive member of the consortium that future guest speakers be recorded such that video of these presentations can be shared more readily with our membership.

Annual Conference of Ohio Mayors. I attended the annual two day conference in Columbus of the Ohio Mayors Association, which consisted of mayors from across Ohio, had guest speakers and round tables on a variety of topics including economic development, issues and bills of municipal interest, Ohio Public Works resources, securing municipal grant funding, property management strategies, and strategies for addressing housing and economic challenges. I'm

working on getting the slide deck associated with each presentation to share with interested members of council.

Economic Development Task Force. I am creating an economic development task force that will make recommendations to the administration, and to council, as needed on issues related to economic development. The task force will consist of village employees and may periodically recruit experts and volunteers as deemed relevant to topics of review. The structure of the task force is currently under review by our legal counsel and will formally be launched upon completion of this review, which is anticipated by early July.

One of the items discussed at the Mayors' Conference roundtables was the best practice of identifying residents who have experience in grant writing, to help respond on short notice to grant opportunities. Many of these opportunities open up with a short window to respond, and provide no advanced forewarning of the opportunity. Having a team of volunteers experienced in grant writing is deemed essential for success in communities our size. Likewise it is considered best practice for the administration to prepare a template that can be used by these volunteers in responding to grant opportunities. I anticipate the task force addressing these best practices along with other priorities as we move forward.

On a related note, I have a meeting scheduled with the programs manager of community development at the Center for Local Development next week, with our legal counsel, to review best practices for the use of memorandums of understanding (MOUs) and requests for proposals (RFPs) when discussing development projects with potential contractors.

Proclamations this past week. I have three proclamations I'm submitting for affirmation from council... See attached.