

**2020
MAYOR'S REPORT**

VILLAGE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND MILESTONES

VILLAGE – GENERAL

Quiet Zone became official and went into effect January 10, 2020 at 12:01 am.

ODOT demolished 4 houses on Sharon between I-75 and Chester Road, which created more green space, in preparation of the widening of Sharon Road and I-75.

Presented a proclamation honoring the Glendale Heritage Preservation Women of Glendale program and exhibit.

Appointed Kathleen Ryan as the new Village Solicitor March 2, 2020.

Entered into agreement with Hamilton County to use the Alert Glendale notification system, replacing Code Red, and realized a significant annual savings in fees.

Established the new Glendale Community Improvement Corporation (GCIC), Feb. 15, 2020.

Glendale Planning and Historic Preservation Commission and Village Council each held a public hearing concerning the Sisters of the Transfiguration (Bethany) Conditional Use Permit Amendment, allowing for full participation of all concerned. Following the hearings, the application was denied. Subsequently, the applicant applied for a permit to install a terraced patio in the formerly proposed building location. After public hearings, by GPHPC and Council, the application was granted.

Authorized the installation of mini-libraries (free book-sharing stations) throughout the Village. This project was proposed and implemented by Boy Scout Troop 417 via Scout Master Mick Higgins.

Renewed an expiring 10 Mill levy for a four (4) year term: 2021-2024.

Arranged for Burwinkle Farms to set up a Farmers Market each Thursday in the new municipal parking lot, providing fresh produce to Glendale and area residents during the pandemic.

Appointed Will Kreidler to Council on July 3, 2020 to fill the vacancy of former Councilwoman Grueninger, for a term expiring Jan. 1, 2024.

Amended the Rules of Council to add clarity to Council roles.

Amended email Newsletter guidelines to clarify the standards for considering articles for publication.

The Park Board's Canopy program, to encourage and assist residents to plant trees on their property, again succeeded in helping residents plant 25 trees on private property at reduced prices.

Recorded the following births and deaths of residents in 2020
(Due to the inability to hold public meetings, these births and deaths
will not be acknowledged at Council Meetings until the meetings can be held in public)

Births:

- Noelle Junkin, September 30, 2019
- Sophie Deckrow, May 4, 2020

Deaths:

- Jack R. Cook, age 88, December 6, 2019
- Eloise G. Werrell, age 95, December 31, 2019
- Dorothy A. DeGraffenreid, age 77, January 21, 2020
- Susan Henderson-McKinney, age 74, March 1, 2020
- Ruth M. Blaut, age 86, March 4, 2020
- Robert "Bob" F. Graham, age 82, April 5, 2020
- Norman Lindblad, age 84, April 10, 2020
- John Denise, age 78, April 16, 2020
- Michael Brooks, age 63, May 6, 2020
- Edmund W. Greenwald, age 97, June 6, 2020
- Joseph M. Gaynor, age 87, June 9, 2020
- Ruth O'Dell, age 93, July 20, 2020
- Sylvia Ann Allen, age 83, July 2, 2020
- Harold "Jack" Bauer, age 82, July 29, 2020
- C. Raymond "Rick" Rieckhoff, age 85, August 7, 2020
- Steve Brockman, age 71, August 30, 2020
- Arthur "Artie" Little, age 68, September 3, 2020
- Agnes Kautz, age 93, September 11, 2020
- Jane Ellen Herzner, age 77, September 23, 2020
- Frank Joseph Auciello, age 96, October 9, 2020
- Sister Joan Michael, C.T., age 89, October 10, 2020
- Bridget Ann Fasoldt, age 77, November 16, 2020
- Alice Fish, age 88, December 7, 2020
- Leonard B. Campbell, age 60, December 10, 2020
- Brian Williams, age 65, December 12, 2020

VILLAGE – COVID RESPONSE

By the end of the year, the Village had 45 active COVID cases. We are not aware of any deaths in the Village attributable to the virus.

For the safety of all involved, the Mayor made the difficult decision to cancel the Memorial Day parade. However, with the help of resident Amanda Vandyke and many others, we were able to observe the Day with a ceremony at the Veterans Memorial, honoring our veterans.

Later in the year, the Village issued guidelines to maximize safety for those who wished to observe the holidays of Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas and others.

In compliance with Ohio restrictions on public gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Village began Virtual Meetings on May 4, 2020 via Zoom and ICRC TV to allow the continuation of Public Meetings and facilitate guest viewing/participation.

The Village received a total of \$129,495 in funding under the CARES Act to pay for first responders, personal protective equipment and other expenses associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Fire Department has worked hard to remain the point of contact for COVID-19 response here in Glendale. We were able to secure Personal Protective Equipment and supplies from Hamilton County and from Mathew 25 Ministries to benefit Village departments. All at no cost.

In addition to the \$129,495 noted above, The Village received a grant from Hamilton County Community Development Block Grant program under the CARES ACT, in the amount of \$100,000, for new equipment and other improvements in Cleveland Park. Work will be done in 2021.

The Village worked with the Hamilton County Health Collaborative to provide free COVID testing in Town Hall from November 10, 2020 through December 29, 2020. We have been told that the service will continue through March, 2021.

GRANTS AND OTHER NON-TAX FUNDING

In 2020 the Village of Glendale received additional unbudgeted (not anticipated) funds in the form of incentives, pandemic support, refunds and or grants, totaling **\$607,801**, as follows:

QUIET ZONE PROJECT: \$55,000

CSX provided to the Village **\$50,000** as incentive. The pedestrian crossing was removed and the Village parking lot was resurfaced and restriped with additional landscaping. Work was completed in August of 2020.

The State of Ohio provided \$5,000 to cover costs of planting grass, trees and bushes, following removal of the Albion Ave. RR crossing.

COVID-19 SUPPORT FUNDING RECEIVED IN 2020: \$129,495

The Village Council declared a State of Emergency due to the Coronavirus disease outbreak to enable our supportive governmental actions, and the following federal support:

- **\$83,218** in COVID-19 Round 1 for Police/Fire payroll.
- **\$46,277** in COVID-19 Round 2 for reimbursement of Police Payroll

BWC REFUNDS RECEIVED 2020: \$125,103

\$45,103 refund from Workers Compensation related to 2018 BWC charges due to our low expose/occurrences and their high return on investments.

\$80,000 refund from Workers Compensation related to 2019 BWC charges due to our low expose/occurrences and their high return on investments.

GRANTS RECEIVED in 2020: \$371,586

Police Grants:

Obtained a Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program grant for the 2020 school year for \$377.00.

Obtained a Bike Helmet Grant use to purchase 200 bike helmets worth \$1500.00.

Received the annual School Resource Officer grant of \$60, 00.00.

Received \$2500.00 in grants from three different Wal-Mart's that will be used for additional officer training in 2021.

Received a grant for \$6006.00 from the State of Ohio used towards the purchase Bullet Proof Vest for our officers. This is for 2021 purchases and is a 75/25 split grant.

Received a \$3000.00 grant for the purchase of new garage doors for the Police Department in late December.

Fire Grants:

Received a **\$98,003** private grant for remodeling of the living quarters of the Fire Station from the Visscher family.

Received an Ohio EMS Grant award from Ohio Fire Marshal of \$1,200

Parks Grants:

The Village again received two grants from the Procter Fund: **\$10,000** for the planting of trees in public spaces in the Village, and **\$15,000** for the removal of dead or diseased trees.

Received a grant from the Procter Foundation, in the amount of **\$24,000**, to clear the southern Oak Rd. greenbelt of invasive species.

Street Grant:

The Village received a grant **\$50,000** from the Hamilton County Community Block Grant program for a new crosswalk system on Sharon Rd. at S. Troy. The project was completed in August, 2020.

Parks and Playgrounds:

The Village received a grant from Hamilton County Community Development Block Grant program (CARES ACT), in the amount of **\$100,000**, for new equipment and other improvements in Cleveland Park. Work will be done in 2021.

DEPARTMENTAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Twenty-Five (25) new firefighters joined the department.

COVID 19 has absolutely taken most of the attention in 2020. The Fire Department has worked hard to remain the point of contact for COVID-19 response here in Glendale. We were able to secure Personal Protective Equipment and supplies from Hamilton County and from Mathew 25 Ministries to benefit Village departments. All at no cost.

CARES Act funding provided opportunities for some additional equipment and supplies too.

We have had more than 20% of our staff get the virus and at least as many with exposures.

Worked with the Visscher Family on their generous donation for the fire station work. Their goal was to finish up the projects requested by the firefighters themselves. This work will invigorate the firefighters and support the thoughts of providing a good place to volunteer time for the benefit of the community.

One of the first areas of completion was our training room which has been completed and now provides a training room that is second to none in the area. We have the opportunity to build on line as well as in person meetings and trainings. The audio-visual equipment gives many ways of building a high quality training session and can have instructors from all the world.

In 2020, the following training sessions and other events were held by GFD: Promotional Testing; Fire Station Renovation Phase 2; All Hands Meeting; CSX Railroad Training; MDC Purchases; New Nozzle Purchase for Engine 45; Mobile Stroke Team Training; Fire Department trainings with Forest Park, Sharonville, Woodlawn, Colerain Twp, Cincinnati, Greenhills, Wyoming, Mt Healthy, and Springfield Twp; Station Lockdown; PPE Acquisitions; Fire Vehicle Decontaminations; Acquisition of personal respirators for entire fire department; Migration to new Computer-Aided Design system at Hamilton County Communications Center; Ohio

Firefighter Against Cancer Organization; Christ Hospital Helicopter Training; Cancer Reduction measures inside Engine 45; Blue Card – Fore Officer Command Training; Traditional Flu Shots by Mercy Hospital; COVID 19 vaccinations by Hamilton County Public Health; Change of EMS Services to the Sharonville FD beginning 1-1-2021 – No cost to the village

Total of 460 Emergency Runs for the fire department.

Total volunteer hours for the fire department – 42,268.5 hours. Current value of a volunteer hour is now at \$27.20. This reflects a total value to the Village of Glendale by our firefighters of \$1,149,703.20.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Appointed Donald Jordan, David Herring and Greg Lee as new Part-Time Police Officers.

Provided expertise and support for Village Council Ordinance banning noisy Engine Braking on Congress Ave. and added signs where needed.

Glendale Police Back-to-School program provided over 77 backpacks for the children in the Glendale Community. Each Backpack was filled with every school supply needed for the entire school year.

Glendale Police program provided provided 26 Glendale Families with clothing and toys for a wonderful Christmas Holiday.

Awarded the "Gold Star Award" for D.U.I enforcement within our community for the second year in a row.

The state of Ohio recognized all Glendale Police officer for completing mandatory state training requirements on time and with scores of 100 proficiencies.

Officer Josh Hilling was one of ten officers chosen nationwide to be a part of a training panel to develop new standards and practices for all police departments across the nation. The standards and practices were related to officers involved in "Deadly Use of Force" situations. This is the second straight year he has received this honor.

All members of the Police Department received response gear to be used during emergencies.

RECREATION AND PLAYGROUNDS

Began work on the replacement of equipment and other improvements in Cleveland Park, with a completion date scheduled for March, 2021.

GLENDALE PARK BOARD

Arbor Day 2020 was again proclaimed, recognizing Glendale for their 25th consecutive year as a Tree City USA, including a 10th Growth Award. By achieving its 10th growth award, the Village became recognized as a Sterling Village by the Arbor Day Foundation.

500 tree saplings were again given away to residents at a cost of \$565

42 trees were planted around the Village via a Procter Foundation grant in the amount of \$10,000.

30 dead or diseased trees were removed and 40 trees were pruned via a Procter Foundation grant in the amount of \$15,000.

Completed the renovation of Toll Gate Park, which included new trees, irrigation, and multiple panting beds of bushes and flowers.

STREETS

The Streets Department contracted to pave nine (9) interior streets, to wit: Morse, Greenwood, Walnut, Glendale, Linden, N. Troy, Little Creek, Albion and Kingfisher, in the amount of \$159,700.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Wood chipping	114 loads	=	570 cubic yards
Leaf collecting	179 loads	=	895 cubic yards
Total Dist.	280 loads	=	1,499 cubic yards distributed back to residents as mulch.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

The Town Hall Auditorium kitchen was improved with new stainless steel work benches, shelves, new flooring, repainting, new appliances and new lighting, at a total expense of \$8,500. Following this improvement, the rental rates were adjusted accordingly.

UTILITIES

A low interest (1.37%) loan from the Ohio Water Development Authority was secured to fund the installation of a new water main on Sharon Rd.

The Sharon Rd. water main replacement project was bid and awarded to Rack and Ballauer in the amount of \$2.1m. This project will replace the aged 10" water main on Sharon Rd. from Chester to 80 E. Sharon.

Our Triennial sampling for lead and or copper at homes was non-detect.

Our first annual test for PFAS in our drinking water was non-detect.

Painted the outside of the water treatment plant and repaired the foundation of the cement clarification chamber.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Property Cleanup of Trash and Debris	8
Unlicensed Vehicles	0
High Grass over 8"	10
Grass Cut by Village (private property)	0
Parking of Boats, Trailers	3
Repairs to Homes and Garages	6
Yard Drainage Issues	1
Improper Signage	1
Sidewalk Encroachment	8
Dead or Decaying Tree Removal	1
Improper Storage of Trash Cans	3
Foreclosures – Lender	1
Foreclosures – Taxes	<u>1</u>
Total Actions Taken	43

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION

To keep our residents informed, the Village sent 147 emails in 2020, which was an increase from the 115 emails sent in 2019. This increase was due, primarily, by the increased number of Glendale Flag Notices and timely public notices (could not await the Newsletter on Friday). There are 1013 subscribers to the Village email list, up from 921 subscribers at beginning of the year, an increase of 10.0%. Our overall opening rate for 2020 (whether or not the email is opened or ignored) was 58.4% compared to the average open rate of 25.6% for government emails, and an increase of 3.5% over last year.

	2020	2019	VAR
Newsletters	52	52	0%
Public Notices	42	22	+91% (Many COVID Related)
Flag Notices	24	16	+50%
General	29	25	-16%
TOTAL	147	115	

The Building Department issued 105 building permits in 2020, collecting a total of \$18,566 in building and zoning permit fees.

Maintained the Ohio Checkbook to provide online transparency of all Village expenses. This system continues to allow residents and anyone else, to view all payments made by the Village.

Completed the redesign of the new Village of Glendale web site.

Often traveled public sidewalks, once streets were cleared, received snowplowing.

The Village assisted Harry Whiting Brown in obtaining a **\$500** grant from Duke Energy to assist with their Concert In The Park series.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

The replacement of the bridge at Sharon and Little Creek was completed in August, 2020.

Contracted with J.K. Meurer Corp. (\$117,730) to rebuild the municipal parking lot adjacent to the railroad tracks as part of the Quiet Zone project. Reconfigured parking spaces, islands, a brick pedestrian walkway and landscaping were included. Work was completed in November, 2020.

Contracted with Hindle Tree Service to clear the invasive plants in the Oak Road Greenbelt between the RR tracks and Chester Road. The cost of this project was \$24,000 and it was funded by a private grant. Work was completed in December of 2020.

Restored Oak Road in the area of Bethany School. Bethany School and Conger Construction responded to our requests to repair the damages caused by heavy construction equipment used during the schools' remodeling/expansion. The value of the repairs is estimated at \$45,000 no part of which was charged to the Village. Work was completed in December of 2020.

Removed the abandoned underground fuel tanks (3) at the Service Department at a cost of \$33,000.

Restored the Village Dump and cleaned up the rear of the Service Department / Waste Water Treatment plant at a cost \$25,000. The dump can now be used again and the rear Service yard is again usable.

Installed a new rubberized roof at the Village Office at a cost of \$22,000.