

Oak Hill news

MAR 2010

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NEWS FLASH

Write in 1907 on tax return

Make sure your income tax return contains "City of Oak Hill" and 1907, the four-digit location code.

This is necessary for the City to receive its due portion of various local and state taxes including Hall Income Tax. These annual reimbursements fund the City's operating budget, which includes services for back-door garbage pickup, leaf and limb removal, supplemental police patrols, and street maintenance. 🌿

Oak Hill financial reserves above average

By Mayor Tommy Alsup

As we see news of the financial melt-down over the last year experienced nationwide, I wanted to take this opportunity to provide your family a view of Oak Hill's financial outlook.

As of June 30, 2009, the City had just over \$7.9 million in reserve fund balance. Over the past five years these funds earned an average of \$295,615 in interest from an average rate of 4.2% per year from various long-term investments.

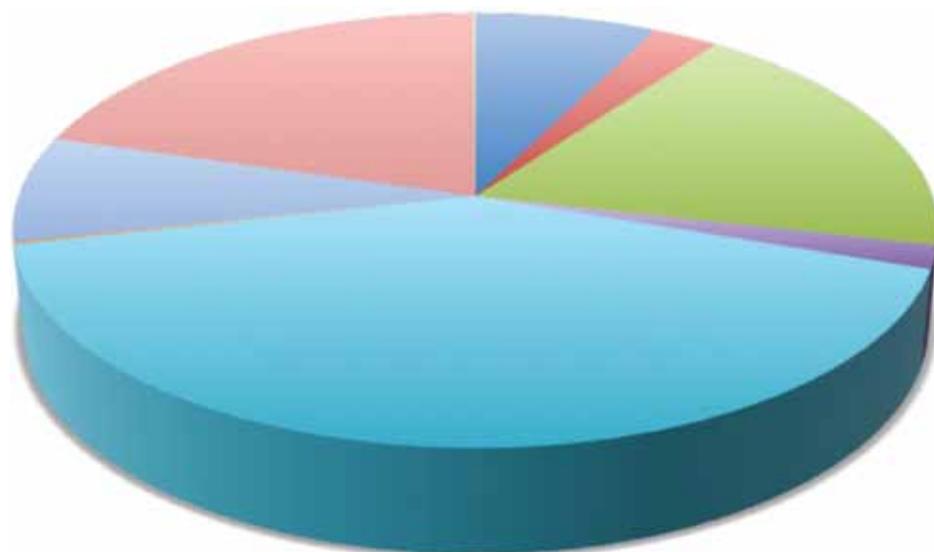
As many of you know, municipalities, including Oak Hill, are limited in the type of investments they can utilize for investing fund balances. Since we are limited to the most conservative of investment tools, our rate of return is much lower than what a private company or individual might earn.

The reserves for the City have increased by \$1.06 million since June 30, 2002. This equates to an increase of 2.15% per year for a total increase of 15% since that date. On average the

City has been fortunate to be able to move more than \$150,000 per year to the reserve fund balance at the end of each fiscal year.

A look at other cities around our state suggests Oak Hill is well above the average for reserve funds to budget ratio.

Continued on page 4



Oak Hill revenue sources for FY2009

Licenses and Permits	\$125,165	State Beer Tax	\$2,465
TVA In Lieu	\$45,321	State Street Income	\$133,630
State Sales Tax	\$312,912	Interest/Investments	\$344,024
Local Sales Tax	\$29,253	Miscellaneous	\$1,902
State Income Tax	\$696,375	Total	\$1,691,047

Election is June 8

Two seats on the Board of Commissioners will be filled at the election scheduled for Tuesday, June 8.

Voting is at Brentwood Hills Church of Christ, 5120 Franklin Pike. Oak Hill citizens interested in filing can pick up a petition for candidacy from Davidson County Election Commission, 800 Second Avenue South. Qualifying petitions are due at the Election Commission by noon, Thursday, March 18. Call 862-8800 for information.

Early voting will be from May 17 through June 3.

The four-year terms to be filled are held by Mayor Tommy Alsup and Raymond T. Throckmorton III. Both were reelected in 2006.

The other seat is held by Vice Mayor Austin McMullen whose first term expires in 2012. 🌿

City of Oak Hill

Mayor

Tommy Alsup
Oak Hill Office: 371-8291

Vice Mayor

Austin McMullen 298-1492

Commissioner

Ray Throckmorton 255-3559

Planning Commission

Art McWilliams, Chair

Mike Allison

Patricia Carlson

Joe Hodgson

Judy Hoover

Annelle Rucker

Julia Wesley

The mayor, vice mayor, and commissioner also sit on this commission.

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tom Lawless, Chair

Craig Buffkin

Tonya P. Matthews

City Attorney

Robert J. Notestine 297-1568

City Engineer

Kimley-Horn & Assoc. 564-2701

City Manager

Kevin Helms 557-7672

Assistant City Manager

M.C. Sparks 509-4812

Safety Coordinator

Tommy Jacobs 557-7329

Administrative Assistant

Patrick Steiner 371-8291

Building Official

Bill Burdette 371-8291

City Hall

5548 Franklin Pike Suite 102

Hours

Monday through Friday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

www.oakhilltn.us

Meeting Dates

Third Thursday

Board of Commissioners Meeting

Oak Hill City Hall, 5548 Franklin Pike, 5 p.m.

Fourth Tuesday

Planning Commission Meeting

Oak Hill City Hall, 5548 Franklin Pike, 6 p.m.

Tuesday before Commissioners' Meeting

Board of Zoning Appeals

Oak Hill City Hall, 5548 Franklin Pike, 5 p.m.



Don't throw away this newsletter; recycle it!

Update on traffic projects

THE CITY of Oak Hill has recently undertaken a number of traffic-related enhancement projects. The current status of these projects range from evaluation to construction. They also vary greatly in size and scope. I thought it would be a good time to share some of these with you. I encourage you to offer your opinion of these projects by contacting our office via email or telephone.

Speed tables

A little more than a year ago speed tables were installed on Oak Valley Lane and Glendale Lane. These were established to help control speeds in and around the school zones in particular. This effort was enhanced by the installation of new and expanded school zone signs in and around these two areas.

The projects were done in coordination with neighborhood representatives. Additional police patrols have been used in these areas to further enforce speed limits and stops at stop signs, the source of numerous resident complaints.

Tyne/Franklin signal

Our new City engineers have recently made some traffic signal timing changes to the light at the intersection of Tyne Blvd. and Franklin Pike. This change should result in shorter wait times for traffic on Tyne Blvd. during non-peak hours.

Additionally, warning signs have been installed on Tyne Blvd. to alert motorists to slippery conditions that occur when water drains across the roadway and freezes. This occurs at times other than during typical icing conditions.

The City has also directed its engineer to research and design a longer-term solution.

Intersection projects

We are also considering enhancements at various intersections throughout the City that could improve the flow of traffic. I want to emphasize that these projects are only being evaluated at this point in time. Community support and federal or state funding would likely be needed to make these projects a reality. More information will be given regarding these projects as it becomes available.

We are also looking at methods to better control vehicular speeds in some areas. One of those being studied is South Curtiswood Lane. Another area that has had a number of new signs installed for this purpose is the Lakemont and Hillview area. This area will also be targeted with extra police patrols to slow motorists, many of whom use this area to avoid the Franklin Pike and Old Hickory Blvd. intersection in the afternoon.

We have also met with representatives from the Tennessee Department of Transportation about the possibility of adding a left turn lane on Franklin Road for northbound drivers to turn onto Lakemont Drive or Forest Hills Drive.

This would allow vehicles to wait outside the main flow of traffic for an opportunity to make the left-hand turn. We are currently assessing pavement conditions in these areas to determine how to proceed with this project.

Sign replacement

In an effort to complement the new street name signs, we

FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Kevin Helms

khoakhill@bellsouth.net



are trying to make the other road signage throughout our City look better. We are incrementally replacing old signs with newer ones that do not look old and worn. I encourage you to notify us of signs that need replacing.

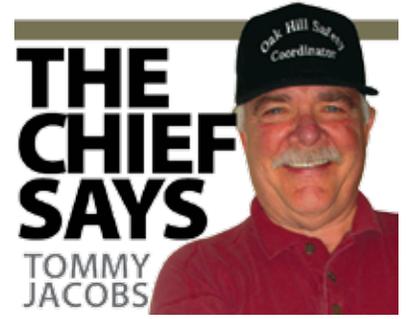
Safety measures

Based upon the suggestion of our Safety Coordinator, we are adding painted stop lines on the pavement at a number of intersections to better indicate the proper place to stop safely.

I would like to point out that when we use extra police patrols it is for enforcing traffic for safety reasons only. We often do this in conjunction with resident requests in the neighborhoods that they patrol. The City of Oak Hill does not receive a single dollar from the tickets that they write so there is no financial incentive to the City for this activity.

Bike/pedestrian paths

It is our goal to provide a safe environment along the roadways of Oak Hill. To that end, we are happy to confirm that the City has approximately \$232,835 in grant funds to construct bike and/or pedestrian paths in Oak Hill. The City will have to match these funds with approximately \$58,209. I encourage you to email me with ideas as to where these paths should be constructed. 🌱



THE CHIEF SAYS
TOMMY JACOBS

Have fun, but please stay safe

Always think safety when using city streets. Don't assume that just because a road is marked with school zone signs, or children at play signs, that a pedestrian has free reign of the roadway.

Roads are intended primarily for vehicles, and pedestrians should use caution.

Weather conditions like we have recently had often bring children, and adults, into the roadway for sledding and other snow-related activities. Every year, more than 15,000 children ages five to 14 go to the ER for sledding-related injuries.

Please don't pull a sled behind your car. It's illegal—and incredibly dangerous. Just because a road is covered in snow does not mean that there will be no vehicles on it.

Use caution when simply walking or running in or near the roadway.

Finally, portable basketball goals and other play equipment should never be set up on a roadway. Have fun, but think safety.

Crime in progress: 911

Crime committed: 862-8600

Oak Hill Safety Coordinator: 557-7329

Report any criminal activity—no matter how small—because response from Metro is based on number of crimes reported.

New lines at stop signs catch drivers' attention

Oak Hill is taking steps to catch the attention of drivers and promote safety.

The City has painted broader white lines in front of stop signs in its neighborhoods so that there is no confusion on the part of

drivers about where to stop. Safety Coordinator Tommy Jacobs points out that the law requires drivers to come to a complete stop behind the white bar. Failure to do so constitutes running a stop sign. 🌿

Buffkin joins BZA

Mayor Tommy Alsup has named Craig Buffkin to fill an unexpired term on the Board of Zoning Appeals.



"After enjoying Oak Hill for almost 13 years and having a wife who grew up in Oak Hill, I thought serving on the Board of Zoning Appeals would be a great way to give back to a community that has meant so much to our family," Buffkin said.

He replaces Steve Wasserman, who resigned over potential conflicts with his position with the Court of Appeals.

Buffkin is currently involved with Boy Scouts of America and has served on the boards of Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Y-Cap of YMCA.

He's the founder of The Buffkin Group, an executive search firm. 🌿

Live audio of meetings set to begin in April

The City of Oak Hill has received computer equipment needed to begin streaming the audio of meetings on the website. A kickoff meeting with the service provider, Granicus, February 5 set the schedule for equipment installation, software installation, and training.

The meetings will first be recorded in the month of March, but at that time the audio will be posted about a week after the meetings are held. Beginning in April, the meetings will be streamed "live" with a delay of approximately two minutes. 🌿

Documents posted online

The City has posted a number of documents online as part of City Manager Kevin Helms's open-government initiative. You can find several documents regarding a Tyne Blvd. traffic study, the City's ethics policy, plus ordinances on private streets and security gates at www.oakhilltn.us/documents.html. 🌿

Old Hickory Blvd. water line work runs through May 15

Metro Water Services is replacing water lines along Old Hickory Blvd.

The project will affect the north side of Old Hickory Blvd. between Franklin Pike and Granny White Pike. It is scheduled to last through May 15.

"We recently found out about this project," said City Manager Kevin Helms. "We have requested but not yet received a copy of the construction drawings. Once these are in our possession, residents may visit City offices to view the plans," he said. 🌿

Financial reserves (continued from page 1)

Comparison of Cities	FY2002	FY2009
Oak Hill Fund Balance as Percent of Revenues	579%	473%
Belle Meade Fund Balance	203%	190%
Signal Mountain Fund Balance	29%	71%
Athens Fund Balance	30%	58%
Goodlettsville Fund Balance	26%	16%
Columbia Fund Balance	44%	38%
Gatlinburg Fund Balance	36%	28%
Oak Ridge Fund Balance	21%	19%
Johnson City Fund Balance	10%	29%
Brentwood Fund Balance	74%	83%
East Ridge Fund Balance	47%	43%
White House Fund Balance	13%	18%
Lakewood Fund Balance	0%	50%
Sevierville Fund Balance	71%	53%
Alcoa Fund Balance	29%	16%
Kingsport Fund Balance	26%	26%
Bristol Fund Balance	42%	43%
GFOA Recommended Minimum	5%	17%
MTAS Recommended Minimum	N/A	20%

As noted in the above comparison, Oak Hill is well positioned, compared to other municipalities, to survive a financial meltdown. If revenues decrease, or worse yet dried up altogether, the City of Oak Hill could potentially continue operation with little or no change to current services for six to ten years.

In conclusion, I would like to address the issue of City revenue sources. The pie chart on page 1 shows the amount that the City received from various sources during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009. I would like to point out that Oak Hill receives no property tax revenue. All of your property tax payment goes to Metro Nashville Davidson County Government. Oak Hill provides your services based primarily upon revenue received from State Shared Taxes distributed by the State of Tennessee with the largest portion of this distribution coming from the Hall Income Tax.

If you have questions about City finances, please contact the office. Check the City website at www.oakhilltn.us for financial information including monthly financial statements, annual financial audits, and the City budget. 🌿



Unofficial summary

Board of Commissioners

January 21, 2010

- Approved the first reading of an ordinance amending the current zoning ordinance to allow for the creation of private streets that are built to public street standards, requested that this proposed ordinance be posted on the City website, and called for a public hearing to be held prior to the February meeting of the Board of Commissioners.
- Approved the first reading of an ordinance to monitor the operation of gated communities within the City and requested that this proposed ordinance be posted on the City website.
- Postponed consideration of an ethics complaint and an ordinance to change the meeting time of the Board of Commissioners until the full board was in attendance.
- Added to the agenda and approved Commissioner Throckmorton's request that the antique furniture purchased from Glen Leven mansion be placed on loan at that facility and that new furniture be purchased for the waiting area of the office.
- Approved a one-year extension of the agreement between the City and Clean Earth Sanitation to provide sanitation services to City residents with no increase in the price.
- Postponed a decision on projects to be recommended to the Metropolitan Planning Organization for funding until the City Attorney can further research this situation and asked that the traffic study forming the basis for the recommended projects be posted on the City website.
- Approved two projects to be presented to Tennessee Department of Transportation for consideration: addition of left turn lanes for northbound traffic

on Franklin Pike at Lakemont Drive and Forest Hills Drive. Commissioner Throckmorton recommended that the paving schedule for Franklin Pike be checked for coordination with these projects.

- Approved a contract at the same cost as last year with John Poole to provide auditing services for the FY2010 fiscal year when it closes June 30.
- Heard a presentation regarding land acquisition plans for Radnor Lake State Natural Area from Park Manager Steve Ward who asked the City to consider assisting with this project. *(See page 5.)*
- Accepted report of City Manager that new signs have been ordered for Lakemont Drive and Hillview Drive in an attempt to better control traffic. Installation of the signs will be coordinated with extra police patrols in these areas.
- Learned from the City Attorney that it appears the bonding company for the Reserve at Radnor subdivision will bid and complete the work themselves and that City engineers will be onsite to monitor the construction.

Unofficial summary

Board of Zoning Appeals

January 19, 2010

- Denied request of Aaron Vallett, 4007 Newman Place, for a variance to construct a detached garage.
- Approved request of Mr. and Mrs. Tracy Duke, 926 Evans Road, for a variance to allow construction of a new patio with a concrete structure for a grill, fireplace, and seating area.
- Upheld the building permit for installation of utilities and building up an access easement for property at 5208 Granny White Pike owned by Linda and Karl VanBecelaere.

Unofficial summary

Planning Commission

January 26, 2010

- Approved request from Bruce Beck, 5531 Hillview Drive, to build an addition expanding the main and second floor of the residence in a steep slope area.
- Reviewed ordinances for private street and gated communities and recommended to the Board of Commissioners their adoption with noted amendments. 🌿

Agendas for the Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, and Commissioners Meeting are posted online in the week before the meeting.

Unofficial summaries of board and commission meetings are posted in the week after the meetings.

Approved minutes of Oak Hill meetings are posted after they are voted on at the next meeting held.

VISIT www.oakhilltn.us

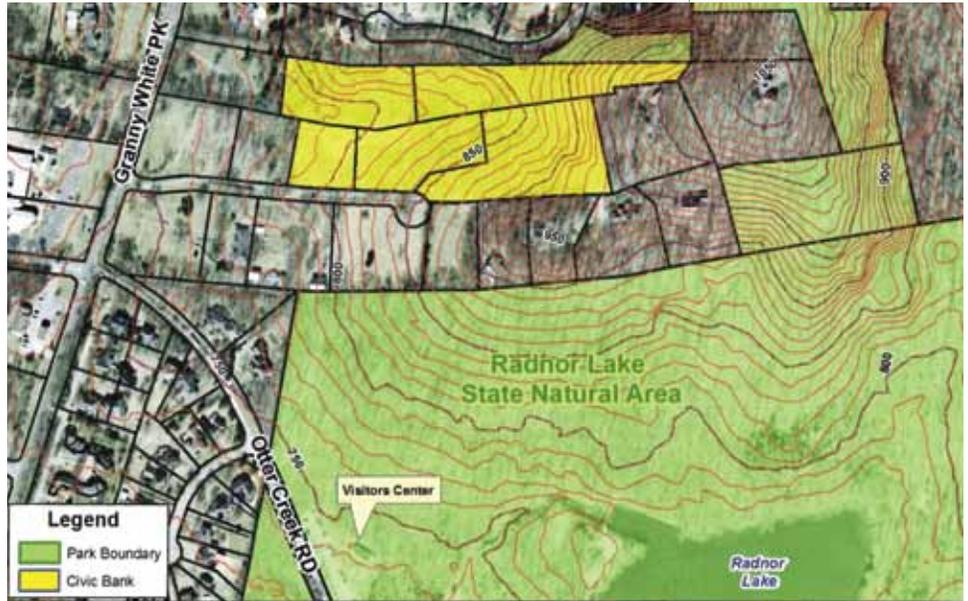
Radnor asks City to help acquire adjacent property

Oak Hill would improve residents' quality of life, protect water quality, and preserve its viewshed if it helps Radnor Lake acquire adjacent land, says a proposal from Steve Ward, park manager of Radnor Lake State Natural Area.

Friends of Radnor Lake has bought six acres in the past 18 months: five acres in 2008, and one acre in December 2009. It wants Oak Hill's help in acquiring a third property. (See map.)

"We would like to request the City of Oak Hill to consider financial support of \$750,000 for the 9.5 acres currently owned by Civic Bank," Ward's proposal to the City says. "With this financial support, the land acquisition priorities/needs in this portion of Oak Hill (outlined in 1973) will be finished."

The proposal adds that Friends of Radnor Lake could use Oak Hill's money to match upcoming federal grants through the Land and Water Con-

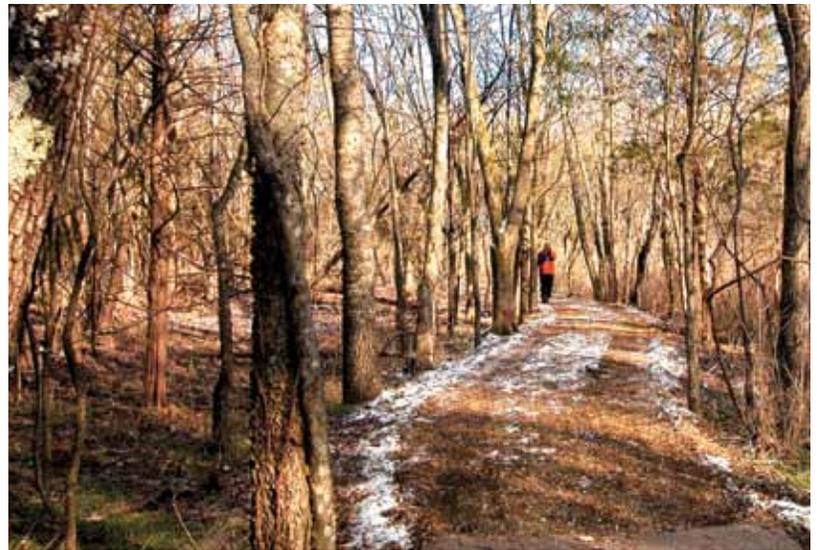


servation Fund, to purchase additional acreage.

Oak Hill will benefit from better quality of life. Development around Radnor Lake would negatively impact water quality and wildlife populations, as well as "viewshed"—the natural environment that is visible from a specific viewing point.

The ultimate goal, the proposal says, is to ensure high quality of life for Oak Hill residents, wildlife, and Radnor Lake visitors. 🌿

Radnor Lake needs Oak Hill's help in acquiring the property shaded in yellow.



Christmas trees feed Radnor trails

As a part of the annual Trees To Trails program, Christmas trees of Oak Hill residents are picked up from beside the road by Jackaroo, chipped, and delivered to Radnor Lake where the chipped mulch replenishes the six miles of hiking trails.

QUICK CALL LIST



CITY OF OAK HILL

5548 Franklin Pike #102
371-8291 FAX 373-6886
www.oakhilltn.us

SOLID WASTE SERVICES

Chipper Service

Jackaroo: 371-8291

Garbage Pickup

Clean Earth Sanitation: 371-8291

Snow and Ice

Management Service

Mid Tennessee Erosion Control:
371-8291

Public Street Repairs, Street Signage, and Drainage Maintenance

City Office: 371-8291

Dead Animal Removal

City Office: 371-8291

After Hours: 862-8971

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency Fire: 327-1300

Non-Emergency Police: 862-8600

West Sector Patrol: 862-7747

Oak Hill Safety Coordinator: 557-7329

Cold weather the best time to plant trees

You might not know it, but cold weather is actually a good time to plant trees. By planting while the tree is dormant, it has the best chance to recover and establish itself before the stress of summer heat hits.

One of the most important parts of planting a tree is planning ahead for its ongoing and future needs. You'll need to pick a spot that provides the amount of sunlight, moisture, and drainage suited to the particular species of tree you select.



Equally important is envisioning what it will look like in years to come. Do your homework ahead of time to determine the tree's mature height and crown spread.

Never plant a tall variety of tree under or

near powerlines. If you do, the tree ultimately will have to be drastically cut back or removed, and no one likes to see that.

Nashville Tree Foundation, in cooperation with Nashville Electric Service, Metro Tree Advisory Committee, and Metro Parks, has produced a booklet called "Powerline Approved Trees" with guidelines for site selection and examples of species that can safely be planted under wires. Free copies are available from the City office or at www.TreesNashville.org/resources.html. 🌿

Tree contest deadlines April 1

The Nashville Tree Foundation's annual Big Old Tree Contest celebrates its 23rd anniversary of finding the biggest and oldest trees in Davidson County.

Do you have a big old tree, or know where one is? Just visit www.NashvilleTreeFoundation.org/botc.html to enter. Deadline for entries is April 1.

Anyone can nominate trees of any species in Davidson County. Trees can be on the property of the nominator, the public, neighbor, friend, or stranger. The owner's permission is suggested but not required. 🌿

Write in 1907 on tax return

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Official Publication
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