

# Oak Hill NEWS

Summer 2022

## From the Mayor's Desk

Dale Grimes, Mayor



Greetings Oak Hill neighbors and friends!

As we have gone through Spring and enter the fullness of Summer, the Oak Hill Board of Commissioners ("BOC") has continued its work to preserve the quality of life we all love about living in our fair City. Here are some highlights.

**New City Manager.** After an extensive search, and several months of narrowing the field, the BOC spent a Saturday in mid-March meeting and interviewing three fine candidates, ultimately deciding on one to be our new City Manager. Steve Collie commenced serving in that role on May 31. Steve is experienced in city management, business, and the military, and comes to us from serving as City manager of Millersville, Tennessee. We are looking forward to working with Steve. Please join us in welcoming him to Oak Hill.

**Thank You to City Staff.** A big thank you to outgoing Acting City Manager Austin Edmondson, who stepped into leading our City administration nearly a year ago. We are most grateful to have had the service of such an experienced person, and appreciate his personal sacrifice in commuting from his home in western Kentucky each week. The entire City Staff is to be commended for their flexibility and dedication during all the transitions in the City Manager position over the last 18 months.

**Financial Matters.** The BOC spent considerable time this Spring reviewing and fashioning the 2022-23 budget. The Acting City Manager provided extensive information and backup for the line item proposals in the most transparent budget process I have experienced as a BOC member. In May, we passed the budget on first reading, and at our June meeting we will vote on a second and final reading. The budget consists of over \$4 million of revenues and expenditures, including \$1.6 million of "one-time money" from the federal American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") and some leftover funds from Metro for streets and related infrastructure expenditures that did not get spent in the just ended 2021-22 fiscal year. We are making sure that one-time money is appropriated only to one-time expenditures, and we are closely watching our other, recurring revenues to stay on top on any negative trends resulting from the current headwinds of inflation and higher interest rates. With the full phase-out of the Hall Income Tax, our primary sources of unrestricted recurring revenues are sales taxes and building permit fees; both are sensitive to changes in the overall economy. Any revenue reduction will require careful review of expenditures.

*Continued on next page.*

## Meet Your New City Manager!

Joy O'Dell, Commissioner

We welcomed Steven Collie as the new Oak Hill City Manager officially on May 31st!

Steve retired from the United States Air Force at the Rank of Major. While stationed at the St. Louis International Airport, he was the commander of the Military Airlift Detachment with operational oversight for the movement of military and Department of Defense passengers and cargo to Europe and the Far East. He enjoyed sitting on the Board of the St. Louis Airport Authority, working with commercial airlines, and Federal regulatory authorities to include the Mayor's Office and Airport Director. This led to Steve running the business of cities after his retirement.

Steve resigned as City Manager of Millersville to accept the position of Oak Hill City Manager. He describes success in his new position as operating the city within its financial constraints while upgrading systems, ordinances, contracts, and financial accounting. "Stable changes", he relates, are his goals. He also considers "process improvement" as a goal city and governments should strive for and maintain. Steve is excited and looking forward to leading this effort at Oak Hill.

Steve is a good golfer...really good. In fact, he once considered a career as a professional golfer. He and his wife enjoy traveling and snow skiing. Steve is very proud of the fact that he has taught his three granddaughters to play golf and ski, as well as to play the ukulele.

Steve can be reached at this direct number (615) 553-7213.



**Steven Collie**  
City Manager

## From the Mayor's Desk

### Continued

**Infrastructure Improvements.** You may have noticed our public works contractor working on some culvert improvement and rehabilitation projects throughout the City. There are a number of culverts needing work that have been on a list for a decade. We approved a process of "slip-lining" the culverts by inserting a new pipe inside the old one and then sealing it with a concrete-like grout. So far about \$125,000 of our ARPA money has been authorized for this work. The anticipated project of cap-grouting and then repaving Prescott and Norfleet Drives should be underway when you receive this newsletter. The new fiscal year should see the implementation of our new road paving program, that will use a portion of roadwork moneys for maintenance of some roads that are in reasonable shape in order to extend their useful lives and avoid the level of deterioration that would require major work and major expenditures down the line.

**Garbage Collection.** For the second year in a row, our garbage and recycling contractor, Clean Earth, has made a request for a supplemental payment due to the exigent circumstance of a substantial increase in the tonnage of waste the City has generated during the pandemic. Residents staying home for work or school is seen as the cause (along with a great many more Amazon deliveries!). Clean Earth documented extra expense for labor, fuel, and landfill fees, etc., and requested an additional payment of nearly \$100,000 for 2021. The BOC thoroughly discussed the issue, and concluded that Clean Earth had experienced unforeseen and unforeseeably higher costs during the year, that they provide good and reliable service to our residents, and in fairness the City should pay an additional amount of \$75,000 as a compromise. However, the discussion also emphasized the need to return to regular contractual operations, and the possibility of rebidding the contract to take into account the many unforeseen changes in the economy.

**In Closing.** The BOC has a number of items on the agenda for the Summer. We look forward to working on those with our new City Manager. If you have questions or concerns about the matters discussed in this report or anything else affecting Oak Hill, please feel free to contact any member of the Board of Commissioners.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy Fourth of July!



## Keep Our City & Homes Safe

Tommy Campsey, Safety Coordinator



Here are 10 simple tips that will help make your home less attractive to residential burglars while you are out of town or on vacation. Most are common sense and all are easy to do.

1. Stop your mail and newspaper. Failure to do so is an obvious sign that you're not home and issues an invitation to burglars.
2. LOCK ALL DOORS & WINDOWS. It sounds like a no brainer, but you would be surprised how easy it is in your haste to leave doors or windows unlocked or open.
3. Don't leave outside lights or floodlights on. They are an obvious sign that nobody is home. Motion sensor lights are the best choice for perimeter coverage.
4. Leave inside lights on a timer or have a neighbor come in to turn different lights on and off (mix it up). It gives the appearance somebody is actually home.
5. Do the same with your different windows, blinds, shades, or curtains (especially on the sides and in the back of the house)
6. Have grass cut while gone
7. Stop deliveries (Fed Ex, UPS, etc.) or have a neighbor pick them up in a timely manner. Porch pirates will steal the deliveries, but something left visible from the street left more than a day is an easy give away.
8. Be sure to secure your most treasured, smaller valuables such as jewelry and spare keys by taking them to your bank lock-box, or a family member.
9. Tell your trusted person and / or neighbors of your travel plans so they can help keep an eye out on your house and for notification purposes. Let your neighbor know if you have a caretaker to water plants, take care of pets, etc. Neighbors are already in the area. They know what looks familiar in the area and what does not. If you are doing this for your neighbor, and you see something that looks suspicious, call the Metro Police non-emergency line at 615-862-8600 and report what you saw or heard. If you see someone break a window or see someone walking around a house and you then hear glass break, that warrants a call to 911. It's not being a nosy neighbor, it's your civic duty. The police certainly don't mind, it's what they get paid to do. If it turns out to be someone legitimately there, they won't mind being confronted by officers.
10. Lastly, consider utilizing our vacation watch program. To do so, simply go on-line to [oakhilltn.us](http://oakhilltn.us), search vacation watch and select. Fill out the electronic form and email to [safetycoordinator@oakhilltn.us](mailto:safetycoordinator@oakhilltn.us). I will conduct a security walk around your home to make sure doors are secure and that there are no signs of breaking and entering. If a potential burglar is in the area, it's a good deterrent. They do not know my purpose, and do not know if I am the homeowner or not

Scan QR Code to go directly to Vacation Watch form.





# The Over & Under About Trash

Joy O'Dell, Commissioner

As residents, we pay for our garbage and recycling services. Currently, our contract is with Clean Earth. Unfortunately, all costs associated with trash pickup is escalating at an unforeseen rate. The tipping fees that Metro charges our vendor have risen from \$55 per ton to \$65/ton. Additionally, the cost of diesel increased in March 28% in a matter of 21 days!

It seems to follow that this year the volume of trash generated in Oak Hill would be closer to pre-pandemic volumes as more people are returning to their offices and children at returning to in-school education. However, that is not the case. Let's take a look at the first quarter of 2022 verses 2019:

	Garbage Tonnage 2019	Garbage Tonnage 2022	Garbage Increase Between 2019 & 2022
January	176	201	14%
February	106	183	72%
March	121	177	46%

How can we decrease the tonnage? Be careful about what goes into your trash! Make sure that your non-recyclable trash is limited to routine household waste. If it doesn't fit into your kitchen bag, it does not belong for pick up. For those items, you may schedule a one-time pickup with Clean Earth (jonathan.cummings3@gmail.com) for a reasonable fee. Recycling bags can be purchased at the City Office for \$10 per box (40 count).

# Recycling Guidelines

## PAPER



Office Paper, Mail, Telephone Books, Magazines, Paper Beverage Cartons  
\*Shredded paper can only be composted. Bag in a paper bag & drop off at compostable material drop-off locations.

## Cardboard



Boxes, Paper Towel & Toilet Paper Rolls, Cereal Boxes  
\*No Pizza Boxes. Flatten cardboard

## PLASTIC



Bottles, Jars and Jugs— Beverage, Kitchen, Laundry & Bath  
\*Attach caps to bottles  
\*NO: Spray or Pump Nozzles, Tub Containers (yogurt), styrofoam, plastic cups, etc.

## Metals



Aluminum & Steel Food & Beverage Containers  
\*No Aluminum Foil or Aluminum Trays

## General Tips

- Empty and rinse all food and beverage containers.
- "When in doubt, throw it out"
- Do your part to keep our trash and recycling costs reasonable.

## Additional Recycling Options

- **FOOD WASTE**—Compost at a local convenience center.
- **STYROFOAM**—Recycle clean takeout containers at Publix.
- **PLASTIC BAGS**—Recycle at local grocery or big box stores. (Acceptable items include: grocery bags, dry cleaner bags, bread bags, toilet paper & paper towel plastic wrap.)
- **GLASS**—Recycle at local drop off sites.



# Solicitation in Our City

Austin Edmondson, Former Acting City Manager

Recently we posted on our website that members from the Seventh Day Adventist Church would be in Oak Hill going door-to-door. This has been supported by a Supreme Court decision stating that they are exercising their free speech rights. However, this only applies to religious organizations. Remember, that just because someone says they are with a 501 c 3 does not mean that they are a religious organization covered by that First Amendment protection. Solicitation or door to door sales, like most things here in Oak Hill, is highly regulated. Those entities wishing to solicit door to door must first visit the city offices to obtain a permit. Provided they meet the requirements, the City will issue a permit for them to carry on their activity. That does not mean the city endorses them or requires you to open the door; listen to; or donate to any organization or individual soliciting business within the City of Oak Hill. For those individuals granted a permit, they must always have the permit in their possession when conducting their activity. Any door-to-door solicitation can only take place between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM Monday through Friday. If you wish to open your door to them it is recommended that you first, ask to see their permit. They must have a current permit. If they do not, DO NOT engage with these individuals! Notify the city offices and we will investigate the situation. If you are unable to reach the city offices, your next option would be to contact METRO police and notify them of the situation.

Scan QR Code for active solicitation permits



Join the Community Fun!



4th of July at 10am on Stonewall Dr.  
Show your patriotism and join the parade. Bikes and potluck dishes are welcome.

# Let's Have Some Fun!

## Oak Hill History

Q Y I Y P K C F L H H J K X H I Q N  
D R T S E R S R E L L E V A R T T I  
U A S L Z N A T C H E Z T R A C E N  
Y X V Q L Q U M D W R L M E O U M E  
K S E I C R B D G T W U J P H W R T  
T H A O D Z T M X L O R O B F E A E  
F Z C T S S X L Z W A C I M T O C E  
W X E C E U O T F D P C O I S M K N  
R J F J P L K N N X P E H B R C S F  
N F Q O J N L O C Y J W D K W Y V I  
N C O T Y P R I I O A W A M I J R F  
R L W I J L O X T D U Q T I F T T T  
V Y G O A O F K N E Z N G C U R U Y  
J T H K L X K I T M C P T I F H U T  
A K E G V V C H P B W I M Y H A N W  
I N W S R U P Z J Q Q Q T G G M P O  
L N H V L A G H A S D A J Y X A L W  
J O H N O V E R T O N V I T Q G J H

- NINETEENFIFTYTWO
- TRAVELLERSREST
- SATELLITECITY
- LUCINDAWHITE
- NATCHEZTRACE
- DAVIDSONCOUNTY
- JOHNVERTON
- RADNORLAKE

If you have captured The City of Oak Hill's beauty and would like to share your photos with the community, email front.desk@oakhilltn.us.

## City of Oak Hill Boards and Commissions

### Board of Commissioners

Regular Meetings—6:00 pm the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month at the Oak Hill City Office

Members	Commission Term:
<b>Dale Grimes</b> , Mayor	2018-2022
<b>Winston Evans</b> , Vice Mayor	2020-2024
<b>John DeLuca</b> , Commissioner	2020-2022
<b>David DeMarco</b> , Commissioner	2020-2024
<b>Joy O'Dell</b> , Commissioner	2020-2022

### Board of Zoning Appeals

Regular Meetings—6:00 pm the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month at the Oak Hill City Office

Members	Term Expires:
<b>Chris Taylor</b> , Chair	June 30, 2022
<b>Zach Baldwin</b>	June 30, 2023
<b>Mary Catherine Bradshaw</b>	June 30, 2024
<b>Chris Goetz</b>	June 30, 2024
<b>Emmie Thomas</b>	June 30, 2022

### Planning Commission

Regular Meetings—6:00 pm the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month at the Oak Hill City Office

Members	Term Expires:
<b>Wade Hill</b> , Chair	August 31, 2022
<b>Robert Diehl</b> , Vice Chair/Secretary	August 31, 2024
<b>Mitch Barnett</b>	August 31, 2022
<b>Michael Barry</b>	August 31, 2024
<b>Flynn Doyle</b>	August 31, 2023
<b>Winston Evans</b>	August 31, 2022
<b>Dale Grimes</b>	August 31, 2022
<b>Shali Scott</b>	August 31, 2024
<b>Greer Tidwell</b>	August 31, 2023

**Save the Date**  
**Thursday, August 4, 2022**

## City of Oak Hill Elections For the Board of Commissioners



### City of Oak Hill Staff

**J. Steven Collie**, City Manager  
citymanager@oakhilltn.us  
**Stephen Snow**, Code Enforcement Officer  
code.officer@oakhilltn.us  
**Victoria Talbott**, Office Manager / Court Clerk  
victoria.talbott@oakhilltn.us  
**Desiree Lohr**, Administrative Assistant  
front.desk@oakhilltn.us  
**Tommy Campsey**, Safety Coordinator  
safetycoordinator@oakhilltn.us



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### GOING DIGITAL

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NEWSLETTER

TENNESSEE

