

# Willoughby • Ward 2 Newsletter



Volume 1, December 2018

Councilman: Ken Kary

## Citywide News

### What's happening in the City

#### WINTER SEASON BANNERS part 2



Starting, January 7th, 2019 the city will place on display 70 new banners both in North Willoughby and Downtown. The artist, Cathy Gojak (resident of Ward 2) interpreted many of the more prominent structures in our great city. We hope you will enjoy the art from this ART HAPPENS in Willoughby project. Thirty-four banners will go in DTW, twenty-six in the North End, and ten on the Lost Nation Bridge. Only 4 of the 12 designs are shown.

## Ward 2 News

### WARD 2 NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING REPORT



On Monday, November 12, 2018, we held a neighborhood ward meeting for the residents of Ward 2. There were approximately 50 residents in attendance, along with all the Directors for the City of Willoughby. The meetings primary agenda was to answer questions from the residents regarding Ward 2 issues and concerns as well as the same for the City as a whole. The overall tone of the meeting was, in the words of the residents, informative, organized. I promised those in attendance that I would also take time in my

next Newsletter to answer the same questions, so those who were not able to attend the meeting could hear the concerns of their neighbors as well as the answers that were presented. Again I want to thank the Directors from the city that were in attendance. Their knowledge and explanations made answering any and all questions an easy task. **SOME OF THE QUESTIONS ASKED**

**1.** What is happening with the property on Lost Nation Road owned by Mr. Figler and others?

Mr. Figler is currently in negotiations with a potential buyer for two lots he owns on Lost Nation Road, across from the Airport. The developer is a "strong" purchaser with the intent to develop the first lot with retail business/s. I am not able to share much more than that at this time on request of Mr. Figler and the buyer.

**2.** Are boats allowed to be parked in residential driveways? Boats are NOT allowed to be parked in driveways. They must be parked in the rear of the property or on the side if the Board of Zoning Appeals grants permission.

**3.** What is the status of the Riverside Commons Project? The Riverside Commons Project has been tied up in the courts for years. We are very close to a resolution, and when that happens, we expect the property to be developed.

**4.** Is the paving of Hodgson Road complete? No, the paving is not complete. The edges still need to be addressed, as well as a few touch up areas. Then the final striping will be applied. Weather has caused the delays.

**5.** When will the city Zoning and Planning updates be done? The task is being addressed by Council and the Planning Commission "right now."

## Citywide News

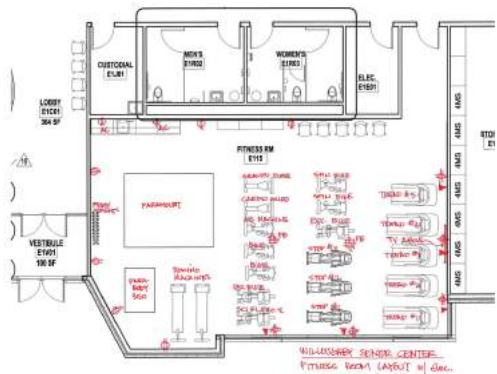
### What's happening in the City



**David E. Anderson**  
SENIOR CENTER  
opens Fall 2019



MAIN DESK



FITNESS ROOM LAYOUT

OFFICES•BILLIARD ROOM  
•REGISTRATION AREA  
•AEROBICS ROOM•SOCIAL  
ROOM•PRESCHOOL ROOM  
•2 SETS OF RESTROOMS AND A  
FAMILY RESTROOM  
•STORAGE•ACCESS TO POOLS

## Ward 2 News

**6.** Why is a turn on red at Gilson and Lost Nation not in existence?

This intersection does not meet state warrants or criteria to have a turn on red, hence we would not, as a city go against the recommendations from the state. If we did put one in, and there was a severe accident, the city could be held accountable.

**7.** What can you share with us about the so-called Erie Street Project we hear is being discussed?

The Erie Street Reconstruction Project is a road replacement project of approximately 1,200 feet in length. This is from Elm Street to Stevens Blvd.. Erie Street in this area is in poor condition with improper grading allowing flooding of the roadway and water to drain onto private property. Sidewalks, drive aprons and curbs are likewise in poor condition and a hazard to residents. The project will encompass improved drainage, new pavement, new curbs, new drive aprons, new sidewalks and possibly a retaining wall along the eastern side of the roadway. This portion is under study as part of the engineering plan. We are currently in the Engineering phase of the project, which is scheduled to be completed in August of 2019. The completed proposals will be sent to ODOT for review, and with approval, we hope to be able to advertise for bid in October of 2019. Construction is set to begin in early 2020. NOACA does not fund road projects by themselves. They are more in tune to support project studies such as the Vine Street Project. We have applied to OPWC, and we were unsuccessful in being awarded funding there. However, we were close and had therefore completed the full application should monies become available. We will reapply in 2019 with a slightly different approach in the hopes of being successful in some type of funding. We currently have received the earmark funds of \$ 500,000.00. In addition, we have an additional 40,000.00 from the Norfolk and Southern Railroad, which can be used here if we so desire. We also have a commitment of \$10,000.00, which can be used on a preapproved safety project and an additional \$5,000.00 to be used for the closing of the Church Street Crossing. These funds are also coming from the Ohio Railroad Commission and Norfolk and Southern Railroad. All rail funding comes with the condition that we close the rail crossing on Church Street.

## Citywide News



### EXCERPTS FROM THE DECEMBER 2018 MAYOR'S REPORT

What is the Willoughby Arts Collaborative? This group of volunteers, (all with strong backgrounds in the Arts) have been working to establish our Downtown as a premier location to experience the arts with the goal to increase traffic for our merchants and continue the success of our bars and restaurants. This effort has received tremendous support from the Merchants and Restaurant and Bar owners. Some of them have already stepped up to the plate to create Art Pop-Ups in their businesses.

Watch for more of this to happen in 2019. Some of the projects you may have seen take place to date or soon to appear are the painted crosswalks in DTW. Also, there has been the creation of the new Banners for the city, for the winter, to bring a stronger presence of the Visual Arts to our streetscapes. In North Willoughby, we have invested more amenities at Osborne Park, and we have been adding banners and flowers to match the character of our downtown. A private developer has started construction on a manufacturing warehouse facility at Lost Nation Airport that will add more jobs for our city and help sustain the airport. Also, we are getting increased interest in new commercial construction along the Lost Nation Corridor, and we will continue to solicit others to invest in retail to support the area.

## Ward 2 News

### WARD 2 NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING REPORT

It is the intention that we fund the project with a State Infrastructure Loan for any balance of the project. As of now, the Project has an estimated construction cost of \$ 2,088,000.00, minus the earmark monies of 500,000.00, leaving a balance of 1,588,000.00. Railroad funds would come off of that if we so chose. I will also state that I will be meeting with ODOT to discuss this project on Wednesday afternoon and will update should anything change. Thank You for your patience in receiving this response as I was trying to work with ODOT on some items to include but was unable to get any response other than to get a face to face meeting with them.

*This information was provided by, the City of Willoughby Service Director, Mr. Lee Bock.*

**8. When was the last traffic study on Lost Nation Road?** This past summer, one was done by CT Consultants. Their goal for this particular study was to assess the existing traffic signals. They reviewed and adjusted the timing to provide for the safest traffic flow possible.

### HELP ME GROW MY MAILING LIST FOR WARD 2

I am asking for your help as recipients of my Newsletter to share with friends and neighbors that they too can get these mailings.



It is my goal to get the Newsletter out to as many residents as possible keeping those in Ward 2 informed. Have them contact me using the information below.

**Thank You**

### Contact Ken

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*The views I express in these Newsletters are my own and do not reflect any official view or position of the City of Willoughby*