



# The <sup>WH</sup> Village Voice

## From the Office of the Mayor

Dear Fellow Villagers,

I am excited to be your new Mayor! Thank you for your votes and support. First, I would like to recognize Bob Ranallo for his outstanding service as Mayor these past 12 years. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for his unwavering commitment to make Waite Hill a special place to live and work.

I would like to share with you a little bit about myself. Although my family has been in the Village for generations, I'm fairly new having been a resident since 2002. My wife, Julie, and I, put our roots down on Metcalf Road and have two daughters, Claire (8) and Hazel (5). I've served on Council for the past 16 years and co-founded the Waite Hill Foundation with former mayor, Art Baldwin. I have a passion for Waite Hill and believe we have a little bit of paradise here in Northeast Ohio.

### New Additions to the Administration

We welcomed Kerri Bowden and Stephanie Gale Winterer as our newest Council members this January. I want to thank Marcia Merritt for serving the last eleven years on council and heading our initiative to restart our recycling program. She put in countless hours of phone calls, and we could not have gotten this done without her.

Bob Ranallo has agreed to stay on as a member of the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Architectural Board of Review, and Tom Talty is the latest addition to the Board of Zoning Appeals.



The Village of Waite Hill  
7215 Eagle Road  
Waite Hill, Ohio 44094  
[waitehilloh.gov](http://waitehilloh.gov)

Mayor  
Ryan W. Cox  
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Council Vice President/  
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Council/Finance  
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Clerk-Treasurer  
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Public Service Director  
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Law Director  
Stephen Byron  
[sbyron@waitehilloh.gov](mailto:sbyron@waitehilloh.gov)

## Village Finances

The Village continues to face headwinds on a budgetary basis and are projecting deficits into the foreseeable future. In addition to the eroding effects of inflation on our expenses, the Village is facing further cuts to the Local Government Fund, which provides 10 percent of our income. At one point this funding source accounted for a third of our revenue. I will be providing you with greater details about the Village's financial picture over the next several months. My goal is to make the Village a self-sustaining entity. We can no longer count on the revenue we have received in the past from the state or county. We are evaluating options and working to develop a plan that will best serve the Village in the long term.

## Property Maintenance and Removal of Dead Trees/Limbs

Now that spring has officially arrived, I'm asking residents to be pro-active with the up-keep of their property and removing dead trees/limbs that are near our roads and power lines. Police Chief Carl Dondorfer and Service Director, Bob Haynik, will be evaluating buildings, landscaping and fences that require maintenance. They will also be marking dead trees that pose a risk to power lines and the public's safety. We have had some near misses just in the last couple of months of dead trees collapsing on our roads.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or us at Village Hall with any questions or concerns. Our website is regularly updated at [www.waitehilloh.gov](http://www.waitehilloh.gov).

Best Regards,

*Ryan Cox*

Ryan Cox





## **From the Office of the Chief of Police Carl H. Dondorfer**

Greetings, Residents of Waite Hill!

Well, we are finally out of the cold wintery weather and hopefully headed into warmer spring temperatures. I hope you are all well. The Village Voice gives me the opportunity to connect with and keep our residents informed on certain important aspects of law enforcement. In this instance, it's a current trend plaguing the profession.

Law Enforcement has continued to be confronted with Internet-based crimes to defraud and scam people across the globe. I felt it very important to inform our residents in the Village of the most common ways criminals reveal your personal information in an effort to commit their crimes. Phishing is the most common way criminals gather personal information.

Phishing is when scammers use email or text messages to try and steal your passwords, account numbers, and or social security numbers. If they get the information, they could get access to your email, bank, or other accounts. They could even sell your information to other scammers. Scammers launch thousands of phishing attacks like these every day in hopes that they are successful, and often times they are. Scammers often update their tactics to keep up with the latest news or trends, but here are some common tactics used in phishing emails or text messages.

Phishing emails and text messages often tell a story to trick you into clicking on a link or opening an attachment. You might get an unexpected email or text message that looks like it's from a company you know or trust, like a bank or credit card or utility company. Or maybe it's from an online payment website or app. The message could be from a scammer who might:

- Say they've noticed some suspicious activity or log-in attempts
- Claim there's a problem with your account or your payment information
- Say you need to confirm some personal or financial information
- Include an invoice you don't recognize
- Want you to click on a link to make a payment
- Say you're eligible to register for a government refund
- Offer a coupon for free stuff

While real companies might communicate with you by email, legitimate companies won't email or text with a link to update your payment information. Phishing emails can often have real consequences for people who give scammers their information, including identity theft.

Criminals are even using political polling as a means of Phishing. You can get a call and or text from someone claiming to be conducting a political survey. The pollster wants to ask you questions about the upcoming election and in exchange for a few minutes of your time and your opinions they promise you a free gift card or other reward. After distracting you with several questions, the caller typically asks you to provide your credit card number and allegedly will tell you that you need to pay for the shipping and taxes of a prize that you have won. This is a SCAM. Do not provide your credit card number and or personal information to persons you are not familiar with over the phone. Scammers may attempt to gain you information for fraudulent charges and identity theft. Legitimate polling companies do not offer prizes for participating in a survey and NONE would ever ask for a credit card number.

So how can you protect yourself from Phishing Attacks?

- Protect your computer by using security software. Set the software to update automatically so it will address any new security threats.
- Protect your cell phone by setting software to update automatically. These updates could give you critical protection against new security threats.
- Protect your account by using multi-factor authentication. Some accounts offer extra security requiring two or more credentials to log in to your account
- Protect your data by backing it up. Back up the data on your computer to an external hard drive or in the cloud and also back up the data on your phone also.

If you think you clicked on a link or opened an attachment that downloaded harmful software, update your computer's security software and then run a scan and remove anything it identifies as a problem. And always remember if you don't recognize the email and or sender delete the email and do not click any attachments.

By paying attention to these details, you can work to protect your important information so that it does not fall into the wrong hands and avoid becoming a victim of an identity or financial crime.

The Waite Hill Police Department prides itself in excellence of public service. If you have any questions and or concerns about this information or your police department, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Thank You,

*Carl H. Dondorfer*

Chief of Police

## **The Architectural Board of Review and The Planning and Zoning Commission**

The board is here to help villagers achieve their property goals while maintaining the aesthetics of our exceptional village. Please remember that prior approval by the Architectural Board of Review and/or the Planning and Zoning Commission is required of any new building project or accessory structure or any change to an existing building or accessory structure. Other items required for review include but are not limited to: sheds, walls, fencing, gates, pools, generators and any changes to the materials, colors, or appearance of a structure. Maintenance of existing materials is fine. Finally, any proposed substantial movement or regrading of soil should come to the board/commission for review.

### **Combined ABR and P&Z Meetings: 4th Monday of each month at 8:00am**

To be added to the agenda, electronic submittals are due 1 week prior to each meeting.

Contact Robbi Laps at the Waite Hill Village Hall for submittal details.

[rlaps@waitehilloh.gov](mailto:rlaps@waitehilloh.gov)

440-942-1612

### **Board/Commission Members:**

Ken Dery (Chair)

Ryan Cox

Abby Hiltsley (ABR/P&Z Council Representative)

Bob Ranallo

Gary Schuster

### **Waite Hill Community Events:**

With all the new families moving to our beautiful village we thought it might be nice to have a gathering to meet our new neighbors. We will send an email later in the summer with details

### **Waite Hill Village Foundation**

[waitehillfoundation.org](http://waitehillfoundation.org)

The purpose of the Waite Hill Village Foundation is to assist in Maintaining the Quality of life & Pastoral Atmosphere of Waite Hill Village. Check out the Foundation website to learn of ways you can help maintain our lovely village.



## Service Department News

Greetings to all,

As we head into spring we will be doing some road projects and would appreciate patience and keep your speed down when you see us for safety reasons.

As a reminder the Service department has been enduring large loads and untied bags which allows the items to be scattered around the village. So, we please ask you to tie your bags and if you have large amounts of loose cardboard please bag it so it does not come out of our trucks. There is also a large cardboard container for recycling that you can drop off as an option, the boxes just need to be broken down. **Please try not to overload the bags of normal garbage so we can lift them in the trucks. If they are too heavy we will leave them.** There are always some residents that forget to put there trash out on Friday or if there are contractors blocking your driveway just call on Monday we will be happy to come out and get it for you. There have been several residents with unusual large loads of trash and heavy items that should be called for Thursday pickups that two guys can lift. Your trash needs to be out by 8:am.

Our goal continues to provide the residents the best service we can so if you have any questions feel free to contact us at 440-942-2074 or stop up and just say hello.

Regards,

*Bob Haynik*

Service Director

### Recycling Reminders:

- All of your paper, aluminum cans and glass can be recycled in the marked containers behind Village Hall
- All items to be recycled must be loose and not in any type of bag
- All items must be dry and free from any leftover food or other contaminants

### Acceptable Items for Recycling:

- **Paper:** newspaper, phone books, office/school paper, magazines, mail, hard/soft bound books, catalogs, brown paper bags, flattened cardboard
- **Aluminum cans:** beverage cans – if a magnet does NOT stick to the can, it is aluminum
- **Glass:** beverage containers (beer bottles), food containers (pickle jars), candle jars, perfume and cologne bottles

## Your Invited: Spring Birding Hike At Sherwin Preserve!



We still have a few spots left! RSVP to join us for an educational walk along the trails at the Sherwin Preserve & Bird Sanctuary led by local naturalists and birding experts.

### Event Details:

Friday, May 10, 2024

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

9565 Smith Road

Waite Hill, OH 44094

REGISTER HERE: <https://wrlandconservancy.org/event/spring24sherwinhike/>

### Attire:

Please wear weather appropriate & comfortable clothing that you do not mind getting wet or dirty. Hiking shoes/boots are recommended. Attendees are encouraged to bring reusable water bottles.

## Welcome to Our New Waite Hill Village Residents

Melanie McGee & David Wank  
Gregory & Jennifer Pasiadis  
Debora Crockett

9770 Mountainview  
9818 Mountainview  
9750 Smith Road



## *In Memoriam*

Our deepest sympathies go out to anyone who has lost a loved one in recent months. We'd like to especially recognize members of our Waite Hill community that have passed away.

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Dr. Bela Ballo  | 10/7/23  |
| Polly White     | 12/27/23 |
| Carol Dow       | 2/8/24   |
| Joan Stone      | 3/14/24  |
| Dr. Jalal Afnan | 3/18/24  |

# May

2024

| SUNDAY | MONDAY                                    | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY     | THURSDAY         | FRIDAY           | SATURDAY  |
|--------|---|---------|---------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|
| 28     | 29  | 30      | 1             | 2                | 3                | 4         |
|        |   |         | Extra pick up | Independence Day | NO TRASH PICK UP |           |
| 5      | 6   | 7       | 8             | 9                | 10               | 11        |
|        | Finance 7:30am<br>Council 8:00am<br>Trash |         |               | Extra pick up    | Trash            | Recycling |
| 12     | 13  | 14      | 15            | 16               | 17               | 18        |
|        |   |         |               | Extra pick up    | Trash            |           |
| 19     | 20  | 21      | 22            | 23               | 24               | 25        |
|        | Planning & Zoning<br>8:00am               |         |               | Extra pick up    | Trash            | Recycling |
| 26     | 27  | 28      | 29            | 30               | 31               | 1         |
|        | Memorial Day                              |         |               | Extra pick up    | Trash            |           |

1

# June

2024

| SUNDAY             | MONDAY                           | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY      | FRIDAY | SATURDAY  |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|---------|-----------|---------------|--------|-----------|
| 26                 | 27                               | 28      | 29        | 30            | 31     | 1         |
|                    |                                  |         |           | Extra pick up | Trash  |           |
| 2                  | 3                                | 4       | 5         | 6             | 7      | 8         |
|                    |                                  |         |           | Extra pick up | Trash  | Recycling |
| 9                  | 10                               | 11      | 12        | 13            | 14     | 15        |
|                    | Finance 7:30am<br>Council 8:00am |         |           | Extra pick up | Trash  |           |
| 16                 | 17                               | 18      | 19        | 20            | 21     | 22        |
| Happy Father's Day |                                  |         |           | Extra pick up | Trash  | Recycling |
| 23                 | 24                               | 25      | 26        | 27            | 28     | 29        |
|                    | Planning & Zoning<br>8:00am      |         |           | Extra pick up | Trash  |           |

# July

2024

| SUNDAY | MONDAY                                    | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY     | THURSDAY         | FRIDAY           | SATURDAY  |
|--------|---|---------|---------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|
| 30     | 1   | 2       | 3             | 4                | 5                | 6         |
|        |   |         | Extra pick up | Independence Day | NO TRASH PICK UP |           |
| 7      | 8   | 9       | 10            | 11               | 12               | 13        |
|        | Finance 7:30am<br>Council 8:00am<br>Trash |         |               | Extra pick up    | Trash            | Recycling |
| 14     | 15  | 16      | 17            | 18               | 19               | 20        |
|        |   |         |               | Extra pick up    | Trash            |           |
| 21     | 22  | 23      | 24            | 25               | 26               | 27        |
|        | Planning & Zoning<br>8:00am               |         |               | Extra pick up    | Trash            | Recycling |
| 28     | 29  | 30      | 31            | 1                | 2                | 3         |
|        | Memorial Day                              |         |               | Extra pick up    | Trash            |           |