



## Community Connection, Fall 2021

7307 Avon Belden Road, North Ridgeville, OH 44039 Phone: (440) 353-0819 Visit us at [www.nridgeville.org](http://www.nridgeville.org)

### Mayor's Message...

As we move into the fall season our construction projects are winding down. The second roundabout at Alternate State Route 83 and Chestnut Ridge Road is now open. We are continuing to move forward with the engineering and design on two additional roundabouts – one at Avalon Drive, Stoney Ridge Road and Mills Road (peanut-shaped) and the other at Route 83 and Chestnut Ridge Road. The construction phases are tentatively set for 2022 and 2024.

The Mills Road bridge replacement project is currently underway and is expected to be completed the first week in December. The project includes the replacement of an existing bridge, water main, and drainage structure on Mills Road between Westminister Avenue and Greenwich Avenue. Two-way traffic is being maintained using one lane and temporary traffic signals.

Two additional projects are planned for the construction phase this fall and will be going out to bid in the coming weeks. Center Ridge Road sanitary sewer extension project along Center Ridge Road from Barton Road east to the city limits and the installation of a new water main on Lorain Road from Bliss Parkway to Lear Nagle Road.



**Reopening of the Senior Center.** I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new Office for Older Adults Director Emily Lockshine. She has been extremely busy planning for the reopening of the Senior Center after being closed for nearly 18 months because of COVID-19. Please plan to attend the re-opening **Open House** scheduled for **Tuesday, September 7 from 11 AM-2 PM** where you'll have an opportunity to meet Director Lockshine. The Senior Center will resume normal business hours on Wednesday, September 1. The Senior Center will be following all CDC, Ohio Department of Health and Lorain County Public Health guidelines. At the time of printing this newsletter, the CDC recommends that all persons, vaccinated or unvaccinated, are strongly encouraged to wear masks.

**School Bus Traffic.** With school in session, I would like to remind everyone that it is illegal to pass a stopped school bus on all two- or three-lane roads. The law also states that four or more traffic lanes, a driver need not stop for a school bus approaching from the opposite direction. This would apply to the section of Center Ridge Road that has been widened to five lanes and a section of road on Lorain Road from Bagley Road east to the city limit. Also as a reminder, the speed limit in school zones is 20 miles per hour during recess and during the opening and closing hours of schools. Please pay attention and help keep the children in our community safe!

**Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance Ceremony.** Please join me on **Saturday, September 11 at 8:30 AM** at the **Ranger Stadium** for a special memorial service to honor those who tragically gave their lives 20 years ago. I would like to thank our Police and Fire Departments, VFW Post 9871, North Ridgeville City Schools, Board of Education, High School Choir, Pastor Kevin Crow, Donna and Tony Cioffoletti, and retired firefighter Lou Simonyi for their participation.



If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office at (440) 353-0811.

Sincerely,

**Mayor Kevin Corcoran**

## NEWS FROM OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT

Take a bow North Ridgeville! According to NeighborhoodScout, who analyzes crime statistics to help people find safe places to live, has again ranked your city as one of the top ten safest cities in the United States to live.

While the Police Department will take a small bit of credit for this accomplishment, we certainly realize the majority of the kudos goes out to our law abiding citizens who understand that safety is not the sole responsibility of the Police Department, but all who live here. By you reporting suspicious conditions, your willingness to share information and your past financial support of the Police Department, we as a community have been able to prevent many of the crime related issues that are currently plaguing other cities.

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Police Department will again be asking its citizens to help make their community safer by voting for a proposal that would allow for the construction of a new police station. Some of the key issues surrounding the need for a new building include the following:

### Growth

Many people don't realize that out of the 247 cities in Ohio, North Ridgeville is the 26<sup>th</sup> largest in terms of square miles (23.6) and 37<sup>th</sup> in terms of population (35,280). While we have welcomed 13,010 new residents in the past twenty years, our population density (number of people per square miles) remains relatively low when compared to other surrounding cities (see chart below):

| City             | Square Miles | Population* | Population Density           | # of Police Officers |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Avon             | 20.85        | 24,847      | 1,191 people per square mile | 40                   |
| Avon Lake        | 11.13        | 25,206      | 2,264 people per square mile | 34                   |
| Elyria           | 20.76        | 52,656      | 2,536 people per square mile | 85                   |
| Lorain           | 24.08        | 65,211      | 2,708 people per square mile | 98                   |
| North Olmsted    | 11.67        | 32,442      | 2,779 people per square mile | 49                   |
| North Ridgeville | 23.6         | 35,280      | 1,494 people per square mile | 42                   |
| Westlake         | 15.94        | 34,228      | 2,147 people per square mile | 55                   |

*\* Data is based on 2020 U.S. Census*

So what does all this mean? This illustrates North Ridgeville still has a lot of land for future growth and the population will continue to rise. If the rate of growth we have seen in the last 20 years continues, by 2030 there will be more than 41,000 people living here (density would still be only 1,737 people per square mile – still more opportunity for growth). For the Police Department, increased population means more calls for service, more people coming on station, more arrests being made, more police officers being hired and more equipment, records and evidence being taken in and stored.

### Current Building

The current police station was built in 1975 and was added onto in 1996. When the addition was built city officials touted it as a “seven-year Band-Aid” until a new police station could be built. Well the Band-Aid has held for the past twenty five years but it's growing extremely tight and getting worn out. As you can imagine, our 24 hours a day, seven days a week operation has taken its toll on this 46-year-old facility and there is no additional space to be had. The building lacks sufficient space for the public, police employees and the current and future needs of this agency. If fortunate enough to have a new station built, the plan for the “old” police station would be to house other city departments that are also in dire need of additional office space.

### Proposed New Building

Upon voter approval, the new station would be located on Ranger Way across the street from the North Ridgeville Academic Center and High School (together these buildings house approximately 3,500 students). The new proposed location would be optimal in regards to response time and may deter significant issues.

In addition, this location is city-owned property and would not require any land acquisitions. Preliminary work such as boring samples, surveying, and determination of wetlands has shown it is a viable site. In terms of space, the new police station would be 7,233 gross





## NEWS FROM OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT (cont'd)

square feet larger than the current station with the ability to house sixty officers for possible future growth. Additional land is also available at this site if future expansion would ever be needed.

### Cost

The overall cost estimate for the new building is \$12,441,096. Voters will have an opportunity to vote on Issue #11 in the November 2<sup>nd</sup> General Election to support the new police station. Issue #11 is a 20-year, .81 mill bond issue, and if voter approved, homeowners would see an increase in property taxes based on the chart below:

| Home Price | Daily Cost | Weekly Cost | Monthly Cost | Yearly Cost |
|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| \$100,000  | \$0.08     | \$0.54      | \$2.36       | \$28.34     |
| \$150,000  | \$0.12     | \$0.82      | \$3.54       | \$42.51     |
| \$200,000  | \$0.16     | \$1.09      | \$4.72       | \$56.68     |
| \$250,000  | \$0.19     | \$1.36      | \$5.90       | \$70.85     |
| \$300,000  | \$0.23     | \$1.63      | \$7.08       | \$85.01     |

While the cost of building supplies continues to rise every year the current rate to borrow money is very low, potentially saving the City hundreds of thousands of dollars in interest. And, through design choices - single story structure, flat roof, no basement, standalone storage garage (metal fabricated building), and less essential items such as an indoor firing range have been eliminated from the project in order to bring the cost of the project down.

In closing, the community is continuing to grow and the Police Department is in need of expansion and together we need to plan for our future. Please consider the above information when going to the polls on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. We appreciate your continued support and by working together we can make a difference!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at (440) 327-2191.

Sincerely,

*Chief Mike Freeman*

## NEWS FROM OUR UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

### **COMING SOON!! More payment options at your fingertips!**

We know paying utility bills isn't your favorite thing to do, so we're making it as easy as possible for you to make a payment. Later this year, the City of North Ridgeville will be launching a new user-friendly, electronic payment system. You can look forward to being able to:

- Pay your utility bill anytime 24/7 via an easy-to-use online portal
- Manage your account and view up to two years of payment history
- Receive email reminders when your bill is ready, when a scheduled payment is pending and a confirmation after making a payment
- Make a one-time payment or register to gain access to all features
- You choose when to pay – simply schedule a payment for any future date (before the due date)
- Set it and forget it with AutoPay...save time and avoid late or missed payments
- On the go? Use Pay by Text to get text notifications about your bill and have the option to pay through text message with your default payment method

The Lorain County Solid Waste District Collection Center is now open three days a week. Residents of Lorain County may drop off qualifying materials – household hazardous waste, e-scrap, fluorescent lamps and ballasts, scrap tires, books, paper products, recyclables and papers to be shredded to the Collection Center located at 540 S. Abbe Road in Elyria. There is no charge for this service when you present your ID showing proof of Lorain County residency. Hours of Operation: Mondays 9 AM-3 PM, Wednesdays Noon-6 PM and Saturdays 9 AM-3 PM. For more information, call (440) 329-5440 or visit their website at [www.loraincounty.us/solidwaste](http://www.loraincounty.us/solidwaste).

### **Special Leaf Collection, October 26-November 23**

Leaves may be placed at the curb in **plastic bags** beginning October 26 through November 23 on regular trash pick-up day. After November 23, leaves in plastic bags can only be left out as extra trash during bulk pick-up week each month. From April through October each year, yard waste must be placed in brown yard waste bags for weekly collection.

Please call the Utilities Department at (440) 353-0841 with any questions.





## **Community Calendar**

The calendar below is subject to change. Please check the city's website at [www.nridgeville.org](http://www.nridgeville.org) for the latest updates.

- September 7, 20** **City Council Meeting** at 7 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- September 8, 14** **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days** (9/8 SR 83 and all homes east; 9/14 all homes west of SR 83).
- September 11** **Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance Ceremony** at 8:30 AM at the Ranger Stadium, 34600 Bainbridge Road. You are invited to attend a special memorial service to honor those who tragically gave their lives 20 years ago on this day.
- September 13** **Coffee & Conversation with Mayor Corcoran** from 8:30-9:30 AM at City Hall in Council Chambers. Stop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with the Mayor.
- September 24** **Spaghetti Dinner** from 5-7 PM at the Senior Center. *Sponsored by North Ridgeville Lions Club.*
- October 2** **Fire Safety & Health Fair** from 10 AM-2 PM at Fire Station #1, 7000 Ranger Way. Free event. Food, face painting, and other fun activities for the kids. Information tables with fire safety and health tips for adults and children. Tour fire trucks and ambulances, police cars, Service Dept. trucks; emergency helicopter landing for tours (weather permitting).
- October 4, 18** **City Council Meeting** at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- October 5, 12** **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days** (10/5 SR 83 and all homes east; 10/12 all homes west of SR 83).
- October 9** **FallFest** from 4-6 PM at South Central Park. Free event sponsored by Parks and Recreation. Families will experience fun games, food vendors, face & pumpkin painting, balloon animals, pumpkin bowling, photo booth and hay rides (weather permitting).
- October 22** **Coffee & Conversation with Mayor Corcoran** from 8:30-9:30 AM at City Hall in Council Chambers. Stop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with the Mayor.
- Oct. 26-Nov. 23** **Special Leaf Collection** - Leaves may be placed at the curb in plastic bags on regular trash collection days.
- October 29** **Tots Trick-or-Treat** at 1 PM at City Hall. Bring your little witches and goblins to march in a parade and receive ghoulish treats donated by city employees. This is a free event for ages up to 5 years old. Please pre-register by visiting [www.nridgeville.org/parksandrec](http://www.nridgeville.org/parksandrec).
- October 29** **Spaghetti Dinner** from 5-7 PM at the Senior Center. *Sponsored by North Ridgeville VFW Post #9871.*
- October 31** **Trick-or-Treat** will be observed 6-7:30 PM – citywide.
- November 1, 15** **City Council Meeting** at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- Nov. 1-Dec. 3** **Holiday Food and Toy Drive** to benefit North Ridgeville Community Care. Non-perishable food items and toys in original packaging may be dropped off at City Hall, Parks & Recreation Department and Senior Center.
- November 2** **Election Day** – Exercise your right to vote. Polls open at 6:30 AM and close at 7:30 PM.
- November 2, 9** **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days** (11/2 SR 83 and all homes east; 11/9 all homes west of SR 83).
- November 6** **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Cleveland Stache Dash 5K/1 Mile Fun Run-Walk** at 8:45 AM for 1 mile and 9 AM for 5K race. Cost: 5K \$35 pre-registered/\$40 race day with a \$5 discount for ages 12 & under; 1 Mile \$25 pre-registered/\$30 race day. Goody bags to the first 300 pre-registered. Register by October 18 to guarantee a hooded sweatshirt and beanie. To pre-register, visit [www.nridgeville.org/parksandrec](http://www.nridgeville.org/parksandrec).
- November 7** **Daylight Savings Time Ends.** As a reminder, turn your clocks back one hour.
- November 11** **Veterans Day** – City Hall closed in observance of the holiday.
- November 16** **Coffee & Conversation with Mayor Corcoran** from 8:30-9:30 AM at City Hall in Council Chambers. Stop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with the Mayor.
- November 25, 26** **Thanksgiving Holiday** – City Hall closed in observance of the holiday.
- December 4** **Holiday on the Ridge** is the city's kick off to the holiday season. The self-guided tour takes you to multiple craft shows, business open houses and special events. Sponsored by the North Ridgeville Visitors Bureau. **Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony** at South Central Park Gazebo at 5 PM. This is an annual tradition where local scouts decorate the tree, High School Choir will lead the spectators in festive songs of the season while Mayor Corcoran lights the community tree.
- December 6, 20** **City Council Meeting** at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- December 7, 14** **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days** (12/7 SR 83 and all homes east; 12/14 all homes west of SR 83).
- December 8** **Coffee & Conversation with Mayor Corcoran** from 8:30-9:30 AM at City Hall in Council Chambers. Stop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with the Mayor.