

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DANIEL FRITZ

Dear Residents,

As I mentioned last month, Council recently debated and voted on our proposed 2022 budget. I'm happy to report that after extensive discussion our 2022 budget was approved. A great deal of work is now complete. But in some regards the work related to our budgeting process is just beginning. In the new reality of supply chain issues and material cost escalation, our efforts must constantly focus on the best use of your tax dollars. Whether it's a new pickup truck or a wastewater equalization tank, the purchase still requires scrupulous planning and strict adherence to conservative financial planning. We never take this responsibility lightly and can assure you that, even though we now have an approved budget, we remain focused on cost savings whenever possible.

Our 2022 Road Program comes in at a projected cost of \$1,985,183.00 and includes the resurfacing of a deteriorated section of Chagrin Boulevard. Additionally, the Road Program contains vast improvements ranging from complete resurfacing to pavement marking, slope stabilization and chip seal/micro sealing. Our roads continue to be a priority and this year's approved budget ensures we remain on track with our five-year projections for anticipated improvements. Also under "infrastructure" we have anticipated costs related to erosion issues, storm sewer repairs and cleaning, retaining wall repairs, sanitary sewer system improvements and other related expenses. Together with the Road Program, our costs related to Village infrastructure are expected to be nearly 2.9 million dollars. This is a very strong financial commitment and keeps us on track in terms of maintaining the infrastructure in our Village.

Our budget also contains less costly but very significant line items related to areas such as new landscaping in targeted cul-de-sacs, recreational programming at our new pavilion, audio visual upgrades in Council Chambers, new signage,

improvements to James A. Garfield Birth Site Park and additions to our vehicle fleet. As your mayor, I am very excited about our scheduled improvements in 2022.

May 7th is just around the corner. The grand opening of our new pavilion will be our first community event and many people are working hard to ensure its success. We will have live music provided by Ben Gage, food and activities. Of course, we will also be hosting a dedication ceremony as we reveal the name of our new pavilion. Members of our Parks Commission, Green Commission and Administration are also planning events that will take us through the entire year. Look for a schedule of events to be released soon. A reminder that our pavilion can be reserved for your family events. A list of regulations and reservation forms can be found on our Village website or by contacting Sherri Arrietta at Village Hall. Please keep in mind that while our regulations have been drafted, they may change over time as we become aware of improvements or areas that may be affecting our neighbors on River Road. Our focus is simple, to provide a family and community gathering place in the heart of our beautiful hills.

You may have heard that the state legislature approved a new law permitting the use of class C fireworks on 10 separate holidays throughout the year. Based on the advice of our fire chief, fire marshal and police chief, we are considering "opt out" legislation regarding this use. Like our adjoining communities, we have concerns related to safety, fire hazards and nuisance. Should Village Council vote to "opt out," our Village would continue to prohibit the use of fireworks.

Lastly, while we are still monitoring the pandemic closely, we have relaxed the COVID restrictions at Village Hall. I am confident that this year will allow us to gather in our parks and enjoy the tranquility that defines our amazing Village.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY
INVITED TO OUR
**PAVILION GRAND OPENING
AND DEDICATION
CEREMONY**

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
FOOD, FUN, LIVE MUSIC,
AND MORE!

**SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2022
12:00PM-3:00PM**

VILLAGE PARK AT
FOREST RIDGE PRESERVE
3800 CHAGRIN RIVER ROAD

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Please DO NOT FLUSH products that are not meant to be flushed; this includes ANY TYPE of wipes (even those labeled "flushable"), feminine hygiene products, and paper towels, for example. These products clog the pump station equipment and the sanitary sewer system, posing an ongoing problem, which could result in a sewage back-up into residents' homes.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Mayor

Daniel Fritz, dfritz@morelandhills.com

Council

David Emerman, demerman@morelandhills.com

Thomas Fish, tfish@morelandhills.com

William Janke, wjanke@morelandhills.com

Laura Kozminski-VanderHart,
lkvanderhart@morelandhills.com

Stephen Richman, srichman@morelandhills.com

Ethan Spencer, espencer@morelandhills.com

Clerk of Council

Sherri Arrietta, villagehall@morelandhills.com



Village of Moreland Hills
4350 S.O.M. Center Road
Moreland Hills, Ohio 44022

Presort Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Cleveland, OH
Permit No. 2280



Moreland Hills *At a Glance*

COMING EVENTS

Good Friday – April 15

Village Offices will be closed on Friday, April 15.

Income Taxes Due – April 18

Municipal income tax returns are due Monday, April 18, even if no income tax is due. For filing requirements, contact RITA 1-800-860-7482 or visit their website at www.RITAOhio.com/faq.

Chipping Week – April 18-April 22

The Service Department will chip branches and sticks on your street. The branches should be cut into 4-foot lengths and stacked, in small bundles, facing the same direction; they DO NOT need to be tied. Piles with crisscrossed branches and anything over 5 inches in diameter WILL NOT be chipped. THIS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED. Please have the bundles stacked by the side of the road by 7:00am on April 18; the Service Department will chip them over the entire week. Please note: per Village Ordinances, the first 15 minutes will be provided without a charge. Any additional time needed for chipping will be charged at a rate of \$30 for each 15 minutes over the allotted time.

Pavilion Grand Opening and Dedication Ceremony – May 7

Please join us as we dedicate our new pavilion with food, live music, and more on Saturday, May 7 from Noon to 3:00pm. Additional details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Greening the Hills – May 21

Greening the Hills will be held on Saturday, May 21, from 9:00am to Noon at Village Hall.

Masking protocols have been lifted on campus; however, we will continue with the drive-through format. Employees and volunteers will be on hand to take your items.

Community Kids Fishing Day – SAVE THE DATE – June 11

The Seventh Annual Community Kids Fishing Day Event will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2022, at Potts Pier. Like last year, there will be two different sessions that day; 9:00am-Noon and 1:00pm-4:00pm. To register for this event, go to the Village Facebook page or website for the link to the registration form or email Chief Wyant at kwyant@morelandhills.com.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Plots are available in our Community Garden again this year. There is a new and improved static water source, making it much easier for our gardeners to access it. If you are interested in a plot, please email Sherri at villagehall@morelandhills.com. Spots are filling up quickly, so act fast!

SAFETY CORNER – LOOK TWICE, SAVE A LIFE

It is that time of year again, as temperatures start to rise, when motorcyclists are heading to the streets. Please follow these tips to help keep them safe:

- Give motorcycles extra room and time, as it is easy to misjudge their speed and distance.
- Slow down when going through intersections. Failure to notice a motorcycle at an intersection is one of the leading causes of collision with motorcycles and vehicles.
- Talk with young and inexperienced drivers about being aware of the presence of motorcycles and explain that a fender bender for them could be fatal for a motorcyclist.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

The following Ordinances and Resolutions were passed in March:

Resolution 2022-12 – appoints a Charter Review Commission.

Ordinance 2022-13 – establishes the permanent appropriations for the fiscal year 2022 for the Village. This ordinance establishes our yearly budget.

Ordinance 2022-14 – amends Section 1519.04 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Moreland Hills to prohibit the discharge, ignition, or explosion of fireworks on certain days each year. Placed on First Reading

Ordinance 2022-15 – amends Chapter 157, “Parks Commission” of the Administrative Code, to provide for the appointment of a participant in the Moreland Hills Student Civic Leadership Program as a voting member on that commission.

Ordinance 2022-16 – amends Chapter 159, “Green Commission” of the Codified Ordinances, to provide for the appointment of a participant in the Moreland Hills Student Civic Leadership Program as a voting member on that commission.

Ordinance 2022-17 – amends Chapter 161, “Diversity and Inclusion,” of the Codified Ordinances, to provide for the appointment of a participant in the Moreland Hills Student Civic Leadership Program as a voting member on that commission.

BE SEPTIC SMART

In response to concerns raised by some residents regarding odors in their neighborhoods, please follow these tips on how to be a good neighbor and septic owner:

- Have your system inspected every three years by a qualified professional or according to your state/local health departments recommendations
- Have your septic tank pumped, when necessary, generally every three to five years
- Avoid pouring harsh products (oils, grease, chemicals, paint, medications) down the drain
- Discard non-degradable products in the trash (floss, disposable wipes, cat litter) instead of flushing them
- Keep cars and heavy vehicles parked away from the leach field (drain field) and tank
- Follow the system manufacturer’s directions when using septic tank cleaners and additives
- Repair leaks and use water efficient fixtures to avoid overloading the system
- Maintain plants and vegetation near the system to ensure roots do not block drains
- Use soaps and detergents that are low-suds, biodegradable, and low or phosphate-free
- Prevent system freezing during the cold weather by inspecting and insulating vulnerable system parts (i.e. the inspection pipe and soil treatment area)

For more ways to be Septic Smart, visit <https://www.epa.gov/septic>