CITY OF FAIRBORN
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
Citizens Forum #14
March 24, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.
Fairborn Senior Center
325 N. Third Street
Fairborn, OH 45324

COUNCIL MEMBERS	Present	Absent
Dan Kirkpatrick, Mayor	☒	☐
Clint Allen, Councilman	☒	☐
Sylvia Chess, Councilwoman	☐	☒
Adam Fritzsche, Councilman	☐	☒
Rodney McCubbins, Councilman	☐	☒
Mary Reaster, Deputy Mayor	☒	☐
Tana Stanton, Councilwoman	☐	☒

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kirkpatrick opened the forum at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Kirkpatrick explained as there were only three council members present this would **not** be considered an official Council meeting. He explained Emily Gay would make a community engagement presentation, then the Fairborn Historical Society would make a presentation about Fairborn's history and discuss the 75th Anniversary celebration plans. After that he would take questions and comments.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Emily Gay, Fairborn's Communications Manager, provided a brief presentation to include new ideas developed to engage the community including:

- Weekly "Ask the Mayor" Post
- "This Week with Council" Posts
- Coffee with Council - Quarterly meetings at Fairborn coffee shops
- Council Conversations – June, July and August
- Mayor's Forum – Quarterly forums replacing Citizens' Forums – topic specific.
- Town Halls – hosted in September and October ahead of budget season.
- Citizen's Academy – Fall 2025 – 8-week program- Weds. 6 pm to 8 pm
- Other Engagement- attend Fairborn PD Neighborhood Walks (Quarterly); Lunch with Law Enforcement (June); attend Coffee with a Cop (June)

Brian Dodd asked if the city will still be doing the Citizens Police Academy. Ms. Gay responded yes, in the spring.

A citizen requested that information about the Citizen's Academy activities be posted on the city website.

Ms. Gay explained they would take April to create an exact schedule of activities and that should roll out in May.

Mayor Kirkpatrick stated these new processes will help engage citizens with Council.

He welcomed Mike Gebhart to the meeting. Staff filled in for Mike while he was off for surgery, but it is always great to have the boss back in the office.

FAIRBORN HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTATION

Ryan Riffle explained that the Fairborn Historical Society was formed in 2015 with the purpose of teaching others about Fairborn's history. He provided a brief presentation dating back to Fairfield in the 1790's. If you would like a detailed history the book "The Frontiersman" would be a good choice to read. He discussed the times when George Washington and Thomas Jefferson were president and the significance of their actions. He discussed Fairfield and Osborn history. He discussed the 1913 flood which brought four months of rain in four days. He discussed Mr. Deeds' designing of the dam.

Craig Moore discussed Mr. Patterson and his formation of NCR (National Cash Register). He discussed the creation of the Miami Conservancy District and the formation of the Osborn Removal Company and the part they played in the joining of Fairfield and Osborn to become Fairborn.

Mark Routt provided a picture presentation of some of the homes that were moved from one location to another, including 17 E. Xenia Drive and 11 E. Xenia Drive. He provided a picture comparison of various locations in Fairborn from both then and now.

Trey Clifton asked about the Armstrong Silos. Ryan Riffle explained those were grain silos.

Joey Bryant asked historically who proposed the name Fairborn. Mr. Moore explained that it would have been Edward Deeds.

OTHER COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

- Was the Historical Society approached about the two lots downtown that there are RFPs out on. Mayor Kirkpatrick directed the gentleman to speak with Cherise Schell.
- Carolyne Uecker discussed the 75th Anniversary Activities currently scheduled:
  Ongoing Trivia Contest – grand finale in July
  Interior Design show at 66 S. Central with a gala on April 25th
  Ice Cream social.
  Family Picnic with Bath Township to Include a Pinewood Derby
  Juneteenth Celebration scheduled.
  July 3rd Block Party and Fourth of July Parade

- Bryan Dodd suggested getting houses downtown on the Historical Registry. Linda Riffle would love to see that happen. It would fall to the homeowners to do that.
- A citizen questioned what would happen to the 26.2 acres that Baker School is located on once the school is demolished. Mayor Kirkpatrick stated the Fairborn City Schools own the land and that would be a question for the School Board.
- The appearance of Fairborn Apartments was discussed.
- Does Oberer Companies now own Fairborn Apartments? Mayor Kirkpatrick believed so but stated that would be a question for Cherise Schell.
- Citizens present suggested the acreage Baker School sits on be turned into: Senior living, a youth center, an arcade, a small industrial park, higher scale businesses, mixed use, and recreation area for the youth.
- Fairborn Apartments will negatively impact whatever would go into the former Baker School location.
- Terri Perkins questioned if Greene Met vouchers were being issued. Ellen Slone stated she has heard their vouchers are now being issued.
- Transportation issues were discussed. Blue Line bus transportation route needs more publicity.
- Terri Perkins asked if an updated Street Card was available. Ellen Slone stated she had some in her lobby.
- A citizen stated the slumlords in Fairborn should be held accountable.
- Who is responsible for railroad track approaches. Mr. Kirkpatrick stated he believed it was Norfolk Southern who would be responsible.
- Pickleball courts need attention.
- Lack of sidewalks in areas of Funderburg Road were discussed.
- Need to overcome litter in the City.
- Trash coming from Rumpke Trucks – Mayor Kirkpatrick asked citizens who see that to please call Rumpke directly.
- The need for sidewalks from Garland to Marchmont were discussed. Mayor Kirkpatrick agreed the school walkers/track and field runners need sidewalks.
- The truck stop was brought up from the previous meeting. Emily Gay stated she believed a revised plan had been submitted.
- Mayor Kirkpatrick discussed the marijuana moratorium stating the City is waiting on the State to make final decisions.
- Ellen Slone discussed the upcoming Christmas in Action Day scheduled for August 8th and 9th with a rain date of August 22nd and 23rd. Applications are due by June 3, 2025. Mayor Kirkpatrick encouraged everyone to take part in those efforts.
- Second Saturday Events will start up in May.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kirkpatrick closed the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK, CITY OF FAIRBORN



1

Weekly "Ask the Mayor" Post

How It Works:

- Resident Participation: Submit questions by Friday at noon via website or social media.
- Filming: Mayor and/or staff tape responses the following Monday afternoon.
- Sharing: Videos are posted on the website and all social media platforms.

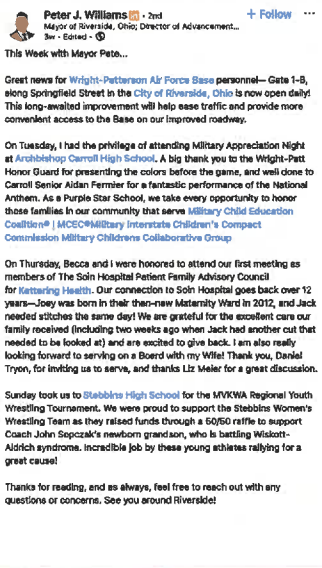
Key Benefits:

- Enhances community engagement
- Builds trust and transparency
- Promotes open communication with local government

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2

"This week with Council" Posts



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Mayor of Riverside, Ohio; Director of Advancement...
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This Week with Mayor Pete...

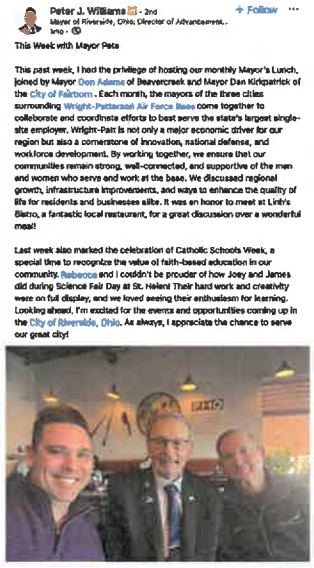
Great news for Wright-Patterson Air Force Base personnel— Gate 1-B, along Springfield Street in the City of Riverside, Ohio is now open daily! This long-awaited improvement will help ease traffic and provide more convenient access to the Base on our improved roadway.

On Tuesday, I had the privilege of attending Military Appreciation Night at Archbishop Carroll High School. A big thank you to the Wright-Patt Honor Guard for presenting the colors before the game, and well done to Carroll Senior Aidan Fermier for a fantastic performance of the National Anthem. As a Purple Star School, we take every opportunity to honor those families in our community that serve Military Child Education Coalition® | MCEC®Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission Military Childrens Collaborative Group

On Thursday, Becca and I were honored to attend our first meeting as members of The Soin Hospital Patient Family Advisory Council for Kettering Health. Our connection to Soin Hospital goes back over 12 years—Joey was born in their then-new Maternity Ward in 2012, and Jack needed stitches the same day! We are grateful for the excellent care our family received (including two weeks ago when Jack had another cut that needed to be looked at) and are excited to give back. I am also really looking forward to serving on a Board with my Wife! Thank you, Daniel Tryon, for inviting us to serve, and thanks Liz Meier for a great discussion.

Sunday took us to Stebbins High School for the MVKWA Regional Youth Wrestling Tournament. We were proud to support the Stebbins Women's Wrestling Team as they raised funds through a 50/50 raffle to support Coach John Sopczak's newborn grandson, who is battling Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome. Incredible job by these young athletes rallying for a great cause!

Thanks for reading, and as always, feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. See you around Riverside!

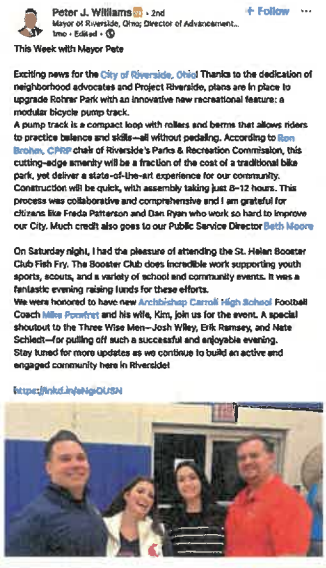


Peter J. Williams · 2nd
Mayor of Riverside, Ohio; Director of Advancement...
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This Week with Mayor Pete

This past week, I had the privilege of hosting our monthly Mayor's Lunch, joined by Mayor Don Adams of Beavercreek and Mayor Dan Kirkpatrick of the City of Fairborn. Each month, the mayors of the three cities surrounding Wright-Patterson Air Force Base come together to collaborate and coordinate efforts to best serve the state's largest single-site employer. Wright-Patt is not only a major economic driver for our region but also a cornerstone of innovation, national defense, and workforce development. By working together, we ensure that our communities remain strong, well-connected, and supportive of the men and women who serve and work at the base. We discussed regional growth, infrastructure improvements, and ways to enhance the quality of life for residents and businesses alike. It was an honor to meet at Link's Bistro, a fantastic local restaurant, for a great discussion over a wonderful meal!

Last week also marked the celebration of Catholic Schools Week, a special time to recognize the value of faith-based education in our community. Rebecca and I couldn't be prouder of how Joey and James did during Science Fair Day at St. Helen! Their hard work and creativity were on full display, and we loved seeing their enthusiasm for learning. Looking ahead, I'm excited for the events and opportunities coming up in the City of Riverside, Ohio. As always, I appreciate the chance to serve our great city!



Peter J. Williams · 2nd
Mayor of Riverside, Ohio; Director of Advancement...
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This Week with Mayor Pete

Exciting news for the City of Riverside, Ohio! Thanks to the dedication of neighborhood advocates and Project Riverside, plans are in place to upgrade Rohrer Park with an innovative new recreational feature: a modular bicycle pump track.
A pump track is a compact loop with rollers and berms that allows riders to practice balance and skills—all without pedaling. According to Ron Brohm, CPRP chair of Riverside's Parks & Recreation Commission, this cutting-edge amenity will be a fraction of the cost of a traditional bike park, yet deliver a state-of-the-art experience for our community. Construction will be quick, with assembly taking just 8–12 hours. This process was collaborative and comprehensive and I am grateful for citizens like Freda Patterson and Dan Ryan who work so hard to improve our City. Much credit also goes to our Public Service Director Beth Moore

On Saturday night, I had the pleasure of attending the St. Helen Booster Club Fish Fry. The Booster Club does incredible work supporting youth sports, scouts, and a variety of school and community events. It was a fantastic evening raising funds for these efforts.
We were honored to have new Archbishop Carroll High School Football Coach Mike Fermier and his wife, Kim, join us for the event. A special shoutout to the Three Wise Men—Josh Wiley, Erik Ramsey, and Nate Schlecht—for pulling off such a successful and enjoyable evening.
Stay tuned for more updates as we continue to build an active and engaged community here in Riverside!

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3

Coffee with Council

- Quarterly meetings at Fairborn coffee shops



Key Benefits:

Promotes Community Engagement: Provides a casual setting for residents to voice concerns, ask questions, and share feedback.

Builds Stronger Connections: Fosters trust and transparency between city council members and their constituents.

Encourages Open Dialogue: Encourages discussions about local issues, allowing citizens to actively participate in decision-making.

Improves Civic Understanding: Increases awareness of local government processes and how residents can get involved.

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4

Council Conversations

- Dates in June, July, August
- Opportunity to discuss ideas, projects, and city services.

Key Benefits:

Improved Communication and Transparency: Residents can get direct answers about projects, services, and city policies, promoting transparency and trust.

Increased Civic Engagement: These conversations encourage active participation and build stronger connections between residents and council members.

Better Decision-Making: Feedback from residents provides valuable insights, leading to more informed decisions that align with the community's needs.

Trust and Accountability: Regular interactions help build trust and hold council members accountable for their actions and decisions.

Future Involvement: These conversations inspire residents to become more engaged in governance and influence future policies.

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5

Mayor's Forum

- Quarterly forums
- Replaces Citizen's Forum
- Topics needed



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6

Town Halls

- Hosted in September in October ahead of budget season

Key Benefits:

Transparency: Provides residents with a clear understanding of the city's financial situation and budget priorities.

Community Input: Allows residents to voice their concerns and help prioritize spending, ensuring the budget reflects community needs.

Accountability: Gives city leaders a chance to explain budget decisions, fostering a responsive and responsible government.

Education: Educates the public on complex financial topics, enhancing financial literacy.

Collaboration: Creates a platform for dialogue between residents and officials, leading to better budgeting solutions.

Building Trust: Strengthens trust between residents and the city by showing that their input is valued.

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7

Citizen's Academy

- Fall 2025
- 8-week program
- Wednesdays from 6pm to 8pm

Topics

- City Council
- City Manager's Office (Communications)
- Finance
- Public Works (Engineering, Streets, Water & Sewer, Building Inspection)
- Parks & Recreation
- Planning & Economic Development (Code Enforcement, Neighborhood Betterment)
- Police
- Fire

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8

Other Engagement

- Attend Fairborn Police Department Neighborhood Walks (Quarterly)
- Attend Lunch with Law Enforcement (June)
- Attend Coffee with a Cop (June)



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9