



# WARD 5 NEWSLETTER

## Spring, 2018

### Councilwoman Nancy Meany



Phone: (440) 248-1575  
E-Mail: [nmeany@solonohio.org](mailto:nmeany@solonohio.org)

Happy Spring to all my residents!! Although Mother Nature is not cooperating yet, one day soon we will be enjoying the flowers and green trees.

The following is an update of what has been happening in our Ward and our City.

#### **Ward 5 News**

The Ward saw a number of projects completed last year. Richmond Road was resurfaced with culvert replacements. The Miles Road sanitary sewer replacement has been completed and the trees that were removed will be replaced in the fall. A number of streets received partial concrete replacement.

The Ward will see a number of road projects this year. Lansdowne Drive and part of Naiman Parkway will be replaced as part of the concrete repair program. The list of other roads that may get partial concrete replacement has not been released as of this time. I realize there are a number of concrete roads that need to be addressed in the Ward and I will keep pushing to have these replaced in the next couple of years.

The 2018 Asphalt Repair Program has a number of streets in the Ward due to be repaired, including Lake Vista Drive and Woodall Road from Neptune Drive to

Lake Vista Drive. This is a partial list and hopefully more streets will be included.

There has been continued interest in the unfinished portion of the Villas of Emerald Woods Senior Housing project, located off of Emerald Ridge Parkway. The developers are looking to modify the approved plan to enable construction of stand-alone single family units without increasing the approved density levels. Any modification to the previously approved development plan would require Planning Commission and City Council approval. The residents in this area will be notified if this would occur.

#### **City Issues**

In December, the City welcomed a new Mayor, Ed Kraus. I have had the pleasure of working with Ed on Council for the past seven years. I'm excited to work with Ed and the Council to achieve great things for Solon. We also welcomed two new Council Members, Jeremy Zelwin who represents Ward 3 and Bob Shimits who represents Ward 6. They have already proven to be great additions to Council.

There will be two local ballot issues on the May ballot. The first is a rezoning request from Omni Senior Living to rezone property located at the Kruse

Drive/Bainbridge Road intersection from the Historic District and the Restrictive Commercial District to the Senior Citizens Residential District. The proposed project, if approved by the voters, would include a four-story building with 90 independent living apartments, a three-story building with 42 assisted living apartments and eighteen memory care units.

The second issue is a school levy for which the Solon Board of Education is seeking approval for an incremental operating levy to be phased in over two years with the first increase of 1.6 mills effective in 2019 and an additional increase of 6.9 mills beginning in 2020. Any questions regarding the levy should be directed to the Solon Board of Education at 440-248-1600.

There have been a number of changes in voting locations throughout the City. However, Ward 5 will continue to vote at the Advent Lutheran Church on Harper and Cannon Roads. The primary election will be held on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

The City has implemented a new community life program registration system. Residents are able to sign up for Recreation and Art programs online by creating an account by going to <http://solonrec.maxgalaxy.net/home.aspx>.

The City has recently joined the "OhioCheckBook.com" site which was launched in 2014 by the Ohio Treasurer's office and allows citizens to see how their tax dollars are being spent. Mayor Kraus and the Council place a high value on the need to be transparent and accountable for the tax dollars spent on behalf of our

residents. One can access this on the City's website, at [www.solonohio.org](http://www.solonohio.org) and follow the links.

There will be a number of infrastructure projects slated throughout the City in 2018. The SOM Center/Aurora Roads Intersection Improvement Project should begin in the next couple of months. There will be an additional lane added on SOM Center Road which will eliminate the split phasing of the signal as well as an additional lane on Aurora Road. Residents should expect delays during construction.

Starting soon, in accordance with our Master Plan, the retaining wall at the railroad bridge on SOM Center Road will be refaced with an attractive brick veneer and a decorative fence installed on the top.

The City is currently working on developing several bike/walking paths throughout the City as part of the project known as "Rails to Trails", which is occurring throughout the Country.

One project would involve the installation of a paved all-purpose trail on the former Chagrin Falls and Southern Railroad right-of-way. This right-of-way passes immediately north of Carter Lumber and runs approximately two miles to the Bentleyville border. The trail will eventually continue to Chagrin Falls. City Council approved applying for a Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant that could provide as much as \$500,000 for the project. We will not know until October if our application has been approved.

The other path being considered would use the Norfolk and Southern Railroad

line that passes through the center of town via the SOM Center Road overpass and would connect with the trails already established in Portage County.

Mayor Kraus will be holding a town hall meeting on Monday, April 23, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. at the Solon Center for the Arts to discuss these trails.

The City continues to pursue improvement in our retail/commercial area. There have been ongoing discussions with Chick-fil-A to occupy the former Panini's at Solon Road and Kruse Drive. The former Paco's Tacos on SOM Center Road will become an Italian Restaurant, Rose Italian Kitchen, which will include an outdoor patio with two bocce courts – fun!! It appears there may be some movement on the former Sears site next to Marc's. The lease for this property will expire and they will no longer be paying on the property so one would assume the property owner will start entertaining discussions with developers. This site is long overdue for development and the Administration is working with the property owner to see that this happens.

### **Future Events**

The following is a list of upcoming events that may be of interest to you:

Town Hall Meeting - Rails to Trails,  
April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 P.M. at the  
Solon Center for the Arts

Earth Day Celebration – April 29<sup>th</sup>  
8:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at the  
Solon Service Department located  
on Cochran Road

Solon Home Days – July 13-15 at  
Solon Community Park

In closing, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. I am here to serve you. I have received a number of phone calls that have been cut off in mid-sentence and I have been unable to hear your phone number and full message. If you do not get a return call from me, please call back!! The most reliable way to reach me is by email at [nmeany@solonohio.org](mailto:nmeany@solonohio.org) or phone 440-248-1575.

Nancy E Meany