

MAYOR'S REPORT – FEBRUARY 2014

By Mayor Robert Weger

On February 18, I was privileged to give the State of the Cities Address at the Willoughby Western Lake County Chamber of Commerce luncheon. Like my fellow mayors from Wickliffe and Willowick who presented with me, I explained the challenges with reduced government funding and property tax reductions. I commended my fine staff and department directors at City Hall who continue to work hard to increase revenue and decrease expenditures. I reported on the upcoming plans to start the Maple Valley subdivision and Clover Development with the optimism that these building plans will provide a nice place to live for some new Willoughby Hills residents and provide income tax funds. I also reported that we welcomed O'Reilly Auto Parts Store, The Appliance and Mattress Warehouse and the Wood Room and hope to soon welcome Dunkin' Donuts, Heritage Motorcycle and Willoughby-Eastlake Schools in the former Eaton location. I equated the merger of the Willoughby and Western Lake County Chamber of Commerce groups to our recent change in Council seats that will require changes on both the part of Council and Administration to work together to be successful. I believe we are trying to do the best for our residents and continue to work on economic development to attempt to ease our financial burdens. I appreciate the support our residents give our businesses and that is what will continue to help existing businesses flourish. Our Economic Development Director Steve Roszczyk will continue his open communication with the property owners at the west end of Willoughby Hills to encourage new businesses in our city.

As I reported in the City Newsletter this month, there will be challenges ahead, but we will continue to work hard to make the city a nice place to live and work. I will be offering the State of the Cities Address once again at the Senior Potluck on Tuesday, March 18 and welcome you and any questions you may want me to address. Please plan to come.