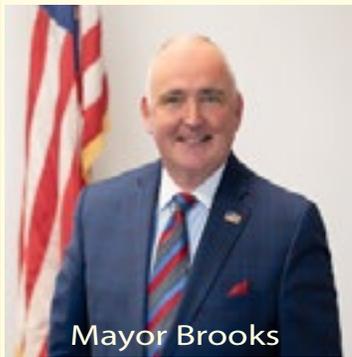


THE CLEVELAND CONNECTOR

Winter 2026
NEWSLETTER



Mayor Brooks - State of the City Address



Mayor Brooks

Mayor Brooks delivered his State of the City Address in January, highlighting the city's efforts to maintain a strong financial position with most of the city's debt being fixed and below 2.5%.

In 2025, City Council approved funding for 1) Indoor Sports, Events & Aquatic Center; 2) Mouse Creek Road widening; 3) New Elementary School; 4) Transitional Housing Center 5) and a compensation study moving staff pay to market competitive for each position.

Public Safety - The Cleveland Police Department (CPD) continues to maintain CALEA accreditation, for 10 consecutive years. Only 5% of agencies nationwide are CALEA certified. The Cleveland Fire Department (CFD) continues to provide excellent fire protection for the community, and they are in the top 3% of Fire Departments with a ISO rating of 2. Your tax dollars made it possible to purchase a new fire engine for station 5 which will strengthen coverage and improve response times. The engine is scheduled for delivery this Spring.

Development - The city purchased the old Whirlpool property for re-development. A clean-up plan is in the preliminary stages. The 3rd Street bridge, and accompanying infrastructure projects are moving forward and will provide better connectivity. The City Center project is going well. This facility will provide a one-stop-shop convenience for our community while preserving much of the history of downtown.

There are so many more exciting projects in the new year. Additional city-wide projects: traffic improvements; quality of life improvements; plans for the indoor sports, events and aquatics center, Jim Sharp Park grand opening and more... For more information on the State of the City, visit the city website: clevelandtn.gov

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EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

At the December Council meeting, numerous employees were presented a service award for their milestone work anniversary. Vice-Mayor Webb; City Council; City Manager and HR Director Kimberly Miller praised employees for their years of service, loyalty and dedication. (Several employees receiving awards were unable to attend and are not pictured)



Pictured from left: Vice Mayor/Councilman-At-Large Ken Webb; Kimberly Miller, HR Director; Billy Cochran - 25 years; Kim Bivens - 20 years; Chris Jaques - 25 years; Sandra Oliver - 25 years; Scott Wattenbarger - 25 years; Shane Hayes - 35 years; Peggy Hathcock - 35 years of service and City Manager Joe Fivas. Thank you to all for your service. You are our greatest asset.

JOHNSTON PARK CHRISTMAS

Johnston Park Christmas, a new family tradition continues in the heart of downtown. This is the second Christmas after renovations were completed. It is a pleasure to see families walking around downtown, looking at all of the festive lights, sitting on cozy park benches, listening to Christmas music, singing carols and taking family photos. They "refreshed" Johnston Park has become a beloved passive community park that everyone can enjoy.

Thousands of christmas lights were sparkling throughout downtown streets, Johnston Park & 1st Street Square. Families bundled up and came downtown for Christmas on the square, hosted by MainStreet and Visit Cleveland TN; for the annual tree lighting in front of the historic post office on Broad Street; and for the annual MainStreet Christmas parade.

MainStreet Cleveland called the events of the season, a Hallmark Christmas. For nearly a century, Johnston Park has been a part of our heritage. It is wonderful to see it become a vibrant centerpiece for downtown life, just as Mrs. Hardwick imagined many years ago.



NEW TRAFFIC SIGNAL ON SR-60

A new traffic signal is being installed at the Food City entrance on Thunderbird Drive at State Route 60. This signal was approved after a formal traffic engineering review confirmed the location meets established traffic signal warrant criteria, meaning current and projected traffic volumes and operational conditions justify signal control for safe and efficient access.

Importantly, the traffic signal is being provided at no cost to the City. In addition to improving access to Food City and enhancing safety and traffic flow along SR 60, the new signal will also establish a planned, controlled crossing point that can support future development on the north side of SR 60 by providing an appropriate location for additional connections as the area grows.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Ken Webb
Vice-Mayor/
Councilman-At-Large

Council member Ken Webb has served since September 2018, following his election in August of 2018, as an At Large member, he represents all areas of the city. In October 2024, other members of the City Council chose him to serve as Vice Mayor. Ken is a native of Bradley County and spent his entire working career in Cleveland. He retired in 2016 from Cleveland Utilities where he spent 26 years as CFO and his last 3 years as CEO. Up until his retirement in 2016, when he converted to inactive status, he held an active certificate as Certified Public Accountant. Experience prior to his time spent at CU included 5 years at a local CPA firm and six years at a local industry.

He and his wife Dianne (married 52 years) are members of the Wesley Memorial Methodist church. They have two daughters, Katherine Gouge (Nick) and Rebecca Bacon (Bubba). They are thankful and blessed to have four Grandchildren, Brody, Miles, Darcy & Owen. Ken is excited about the future and the constant effort to improve quality of life for all citizens of Cleveland as opportunities arise. He welcomes and respects your input at any time. Thank you, Vice Mayor Webb for your service!

Mayor & City Council

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Mayor

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City Departments:

- Animal Control: 423.559.3333
- Cleveland Regional Jetport: 423.650.3775
- Codes Enforcement: 423.284.4402
- Development & Recreation (Permits): 423.479.1913
- Fire (non-emergency): 423.476.6713
- Municipal Traffic Court/Business Tax: 423.472.4551
- Parks and Recreation: 423.479.4129
- Police (non-emergency): 423.476.1121
- Public Works: 423.472.2851

Job Opportunities:

Police Officer

Additional job openings are posted on the city's website at:
<https://www.clevelandtn.gov/jobs.aspx>

City of Cleveland

General Business Information, Call: 423.472.4551

City offices are open Monday - Friday

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

(excludes holidays)

City Council meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Monday, unless otherwise noted (Excludes holidays). There are two sessions.

Work session is held at 1 p.m.

Voting session is held at 3 p.m.

in the City Council Chambers located on the 2nd floor of the Municipal Building at 190 Church Street.

Agendas are posted on the city's website at:
<http://www.clevelandtn.gov/AgendaCenter>