



## **PRESS RELEASE**

December 3, 2024

The following is a statement from Sylvania Mayor Craig Stough. He announced his retirement as Mayor of Sylvania effective December 31, 2024, following the City Council meeting held last evening, December 2, 2024:

“It is always difficult to know when to retire and to leave a wonderful and productive part of your life behind, and to move onto new and undiscovered possibilities and futures. After much thought, I have decided the end of this year is the right time for me to retire from the mayor’s office, on my own schedule, on my own terms, for the right reasons, and to provide a smooth transition for the City.

As I retire, the City of Sylvania is in great shape, in great hands and has great expectations for the future. So much is right in the City of Sylvania and the promising years to come.

The City’s finances are strong. Our work force is talented, efficient and dedicated. And our infrastructure is being maintained and improved every day. Most streets have been rebuilt or repaved, the water system improved with a new water tower, and the sewer system mains relined with an updated pumping station on the way. New projects improving our downtown streetscape and our expressway interchange have been planned, financed chiefly with grant dollars, and are ready to begin construction next spring.

The City is a great place to live, work and raise a family, with one of the highest qualities of life in the region. Sylvania continues improving its great schools, recreation programming and venues, healthcare opportunities, city services and community safety. Our vibrant downtown continues to offer more cultural and community activities, attract new businesses and provide economic development momentum for the whole Sylvania area.

Our relationships with our neighboring communities have never been better, and our long-term utility and service contracts have been improved and renewed. We have helped to create a new regional water commission and negotiated a new water contract. We also have a new economic development and annexation agreement with Sylvania Township.

Being mayor of Sylvania for 29 years has been the greatest privilege of my life. I have met so many wonderful people, both residents and officials, and successfully faced many challenges and opportunities with them. I have met presidents, governors, mayors, federal and state legislators, city council members, township trustees, county commissioners, board members, managers, directors, and so many more wonderful and creative people. Many have become cherished and continuing friends, who I would never have met otherwise, and will never forget.

I will miss working with them and facing challenges together, but look forward to a new and exciting future with more time to explore other long delayed interests and possibilities.

Thank you to everyone who has helped, supported and guided me over the years, and helped me do the best job for the Sylvania community. I have been one of the luckiest people on earth to have served in Sylvania! I was able to participate in regional governance as TMACOG Chair for 2 years and Northwest Ohio Mayors and Managers Association President for 4 years. It has been the honor and privilege of my life to serve 10 years on Sylvania City Council and 29 years as Sylvania's mayor, surely one of the best jobs in northwest Ohio!"

Craig A. Stough  
Mayor, City of Sylvania, Ohio

President of Sylvania City Council, Mark Frye, will become Mayor upon the Mayor's retirement.

For any follow-up questions or additional information please contact Bill Sanford at 419-270-3419 or [bsanford@cityofsylvania.com](mailto:bsanford@cityofsylvania.com).