

MINUTES REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

7:14 p.m.

March 4, 2025

Pursuant to Codified Ordinance Chapter 107 and ORC Section 121.22, notice of the following meeting was given on February 28, 2025.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Tomaselli, Anderson, Carr, Garry and Kary

Absent: Councilman Merhar and Councilwoman Sievers

Others Present: Mayor Fiala, Law Director Lucas, Service Director Palmisano, City Engineer Lannon, Fire Chief Ungar, Police Chief Schultz, Chief Building & Zoning Inspector Keller, Parks & Recreation Director Keller, Finance Director Hoffman, Clerk Novak

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli to excuse Councilman Merhar from tonight's meeting.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Anderson to excuse Councilwoman Sievers from tonight's meeting.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

The meeting was led in Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance by Councilman Kary.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Garry to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2025.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

STANDING AND REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of Full, Mr. Carr – No report.

Economic Development Committee, Mr. Anderson – No report.

Environmental Planning Committee, Mr. Kary – No report.

Finance and Audit Committee, Mr. Tomaselli – The committee met this evening to discuss the 2025 budget and will meet again on March 18th.

Parks & Recreation Committee, Ms. Sievers – Absent.

Personnel Committee, Mr. Merhar – Absent.

Safety Committee, Mr. Tomaselli – No report.

Service Committee, Mr. Anderson – No report.

WPCC Committee, Mr. Garry – No report.

Planning Commission, Mr. Kary – No report.

CORRESPONDENCE: Clerk Novak read two requests from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control. The first request was for a D5 and D6 transfer from Carmen V LLC, dba Vital, Unit C, 4041 Erie Street, Willoughby, Ohio 44094 to Geracis Downtown Willoughby LLC dba Geracis, Unit C, 4041 Erie Street, Willoughby, Ohio 44094. There were no objections. The second request was for a stock transfer for Cocoslocos Willoughby Inc. dba Cocoslocos Mexican Restaurant Unit 12, 35535 Euclid Avenue, Willoughby, Ohio 44094. There were no objections.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Mary Feathers, 886 Bellvue, Willoughby, Ohio – Ms. Feathers stated the White Cane Walk will be held on October 11th. Pasta for Puppies will be held at LaMalfa on April 15th.

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli that all ordinances and resolutions be read by caption only and that as to legislation not containing an emergency clause, the rules requiring that ordinances and resolutions be read on three separate days be waived.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-21

A resolution approving EAS #2-1-25 for demolition of the existing building and construction of a bank facility located at 36212 Euclid Avenue (JP Morgan Chase).

Motion made by Mr. Kary and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Resolution No. 2025-21.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-22

A resolution approving EAS #3-1-25 for construction of a two-story airport terminal located at 1825 Lost Nation Road contingent upon approval by the Planning Commission of an application for lot split and consolidation (Lake County Executive Airport Terminal).

Motion made by Mr. Kary and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli to adopt Resolution No. 2025-22.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-23

A resolution approving EAS #4-1-25 for front glass and a new glass door located at 4927 Robinhood Drive (American Red Cross).

Motion made by Mr. Kary and seconded by Mr. Anderson to adopt Resolution No. 2025-23.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-24

A resolution authorizing an expenditure in the amount of \$14,520.00 from the Public Art Fund to implement projects recommended by the Public Arts Committee, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Kary that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2025-24 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Kary to adopt Resolution No. 2025-24.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-25

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to accept and enter into a subrecipient grant agreement with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to implement the Osborne Park Coastal Wetlands Project, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Garry that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2025-25 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Resolution No. 2025-25.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-26

An ordinance amending Chapter 913 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Willoughby, Ohio, titled, "Sanitary Sewerage System Charges"; specifically, Section 913.10, titled, "Surcharge for Extra-Strength Wastes".

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-26.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-27

A resolution authorizing an expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$92,000 for the purchase of one (1) 2026 EAST Dump Trailer from Pinnacle Trailer Sales Inc. for use by the Willoughby-Eastlake Water Pollution Control Center, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Garry that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2025-27 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Resolution No. 2025-27.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Fiala stated the negotiations for the contract for the new Police Station have been completed. A ground breaking will take place in the near future.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Law Director Lucas – No report. Mr. Carr asked about the letters sent to commercial property owners regarding the installation of sidewalks at Rt. 84 and SOM Center Road. Mr. Lucas stated he will follow up on the deadline those property owners were given.

Service Director Palmisano – No report. Mr. Kary thanked Mr. Palmisano for his quick responses to his questions.

City Engineer Lannon – Mr. Lannon reported the full closure of River Street is about a month away for the retaining wall work; the watermain replacement is ongoing. Two large projects are out to bid; the Lakeshore East Equalization Basin Project which is \$11 million and Nason Basin to Vine Street Storm Sewer Project which is \$6 million. The River Street road closure will be at the intersection of River Street and South Street so no driveways will be blocked. Detailed information will be given to the residents affected with a door hanger.

Fire Chief Ungar – Regarding the recent calls the department had for natural gas odors, Chief Ungar stated that the gas lines were over pressurized with the odor that is added (mercaptan).

He stated that the Fire Department has shut some gas mains off just to make residents feel comfortable, but nothing has been detected as an explosive limit on any of the calls. He stated he e-mailed out a severe weather alert out for high wind warning for this evening.

Police Chief Schultz – Chief Schultz stated he will have extra officers working on St. Patrick’s Day including foot and vehicle patrol.

Chief Building and Zoning Inspector Keller – No report.

Parks & Recreation Director Keller – Ms. Keller stated construction will be starting at Osborne Park; the company will be bringing in the boulders. A preconstruction meeting will be held this Thursday. Letters will be going out to the residents in the area by the end of the week. The semi-trucks will be going down Eaglewood to Beachview to the back of the park.

Finance Director Hoffman – No report. Mr. Carr thanked Ms. Hoffman for taking time to meet with the court regarding their budget.

COUNCILMEN REPORTS

Ms. Sievers – Absent.

Mr. Kary – No report.

Mr. Tomaselli – Mr. Tomaselli thanked Chief Schultz, School Resource Officer Popik, Service Director Palmisano and members from Willoughby-Eastlake schools for meeting to discuss challenges with traffic at Grant Elementary.

Mr. Merhar – Absent.

Mr. Garry – No report.



Mr. Anderson – No report.

Mr. Carr – No report.

The Regular Council Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Date approved 3/18/25


Robert E. Carr, President


Clerk of Council

Robert A. Fiala, Mayor