

MINUTES REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

7:12 p.m.

June 9, 2026

Pursuant to Codified Ordinance Chapter 107 and ORC Section 121.22, notice of the following meeting was given on June 5, 2026.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Councilmen Kary and Luciano

Others Present: Law Director McConville, Service Director Knecht, 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 Luciano from tonight's meeting.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Ms. Sievers to excuse Councilman Kary 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 Councilwoman Sievers.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Garry and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2026.

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 – Absent.

Finance and Audit Committee, Mr. Tomaselli – No report.

Parks & Recreation Committee, Ms. Sievers – No report.

Personnel Committee, Ms. Sievers – No report.

Safety Committee, Mr. Tomaselli – Mr. Tomaselli requested a 30 minute committee meeting in July to discuss e-bikes and golf carts.

Service Committee, Mr. Anderson – No report.

WPCC Committee, Mr. Garry – No report.

Planning Commission, Mr. Kary – Absent.

CORRESPONDENCE: No correspondence.

PUBLIC PORTION: No one spoke.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-56 – Second Reading

A resolution approving Change Order No. 1 in the River Street Waterline Replacement and Soil Stabilization Project with Fabrizi Trucking & Paving Co., Inc. 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. 2026-56 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. 2026-56.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

NEW BUSINESS:**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-58**

A resolution repealing Resolution No. 2026-45 submitting to the electors of the City of Willoughby, the question of a renewal of a nine-tenths (0.9) of one mill tax levy for the purpose of current expenses, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Garry that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-58 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Resolution No. 2026-58.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-59

A resolution pursuant to Sections 5705.19 and 5705.191 of the Ohio Revised Code submitting to the electors of the City of Willoughby, County of Lake, State of Ohio, the question of a renewal of a nine-tenths (0.9) of one mill tax levy for the purpose of current expenses.

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Resolution No. 2026-59.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-60

A resolution repealing Resolution No. 2026-46 submitting to the electors of the City of Willoughby, the question of a renewal of a two (2) mill tax levy for the purpose of general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, and repair of streets, roads, and bridges in the City, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Garry and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-60 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Garry and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli to adopt Resolution No. 2026-60.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-61

A resolution pursuant to Sections 5705.19 and 5705.191 of the Ohio Revised Code submitting to the electors of the City of Willoughby, County of Lake, State of Ohio, the question of a renewal of a two (2) mill tax levy for the purpose of general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, and repair of streets, roads, and bridges in the City.

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Resolution No. 2026-61.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-62

A resolution authorizing the Director of Parks and Recreation to prepare specifications and to advertise for bids for Playground Equipment and Park Amenities necessary to the Daniels Park Playground, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-62 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli to adopt Resolution No. 2026-62.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-63

A resolution authorizing the City Engineer to prepare plans and specifications and to advertise for bids for the Lincoln Avenue Storm Sewer Replacement Project, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Garry that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-63 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Resolution No. 2026-63.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-64

A resolution authorizing the City Engineer to prepare plans and specifications and to advertise for bids for the 2026 Concrete Pavement Slab Replacement Project, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Anderson that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-64 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Anderson to adopt Resolution No. 2026-64.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-65

A resolution authorizing an expenditure in the amount of \$263,263.28 for the purchase of one (1) 2027 Pro Patch TCM 500-100-DHE Asphalt Patch Truck from Doggett Freightliner of South Texas LLC – Austin for use by the Street Department, 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. 2026-65 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. 2026-65.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-66

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Sutphen Corporation, in the amount of \$999,698, through the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program, for the purchase of one (1) 2026 Sutphen Pumper HS-8469 Stock 652 necessary to the operation of the Willoughby Fire Department, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Anderson that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-66 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Anderson to adopt Resolution No. 2026-66.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-67

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Lake County Landscape & Supply, Inc. in the amount of \$149,166 for the SOM Center Rd Commercial Sidewalk Project, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Garry that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-67 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Resolution No. 2026-67.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-68

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with CJ Excavating & Construction, LLC for the implementation of the 2026 Voluntary Concrete Sidewalk Repair & Replacement Program with an additional City option for one (1) year renewal option for 2027, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Garry and seconded by Ms. Sievers that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-68 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Garry and seconded by Ms. Sievers to adopt Resolution No. 2026-68.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-69

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and requesting the cooperation of the Director of the Ohio Department of Transportation to resurface Euclid Ave (US-20) from 240' east of the Lake County western line to the western gutterline of SOM Center Rd (SR 91) in the cities of Wickliffe, Willowick, and Willoughby in Lake County, and install pedestrian enhancements between Bellview St and 260' east of E. 300th St which includes curb, sidewalk replacement and site amenities, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Anderson that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Ordinance No. 2026-69 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Anderson to adopt Ordinance No. 2026-69.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-70

A resolution approving an agreement between the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (Service Department) and the City of Willoughby, Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-70 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. Tomaselli to adopt Resolution No. 2026-70.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-71

A resolution authorizing the Director of Parks & Recreation to make application to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources through the State of Ohio NatureWorks Fund for the purpose of acquiring financial assistance for the construction of an accessible fishing platform at Daniels Park, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Garry that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-71 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Resolution No. 2026-71.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-72

A resolution authorizing the Director of Finance to transfer funds from the General Fund to the Corporate Maintenance Fund, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Garry and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-72 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Garry and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli to adopt Resolution No. 2026-72.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-73

A resolution amending Resolution No. 2026-25 to provide for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Willoughby, Ohio during the period ending December 31, 2026, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Garry that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-73 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Resolution No. 2026-73.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-74

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Use Agreement between the City of Willoughby and the State of Ohio through the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) to provide financial assistance for the Willoughby Amphitheater, as part of the Todd Field Improvements Project, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-74 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli to adopt Resolution No. 2026-74.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-75

A resolution approving the use of submerged lands for purposes of shoreline improvements, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Garry that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-75 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Resolution No. 2026-75.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-76

A resolution authorizing an expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 from the Willoughby Sewer Fund for the Emergency Replacement of a Sanitary Sewer Main Structure, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Garry and seconded by Ms. Sievers that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-76 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Garry and seconded by Ms. Sievers to adopt Resolution No. 2026-76.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-77

A resolution approving Change Order No. 1 in the 2025 Pavement Marking Project Contract with J.D. Striping & Services, Inc., and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2026-77 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. Tomaselli to adopt Resolution No. 2026-77.

Roll Call 5 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 5 to 0

MAYOR'S REPORT – Absent.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Law Director McConville – Mr. Carr welcomed Mr. McConville to the City. Mr. McConville stated he appreciates how welcoming everyone has been.

Service Director Knecht – No report. Mr. Knecht thanked Council for the passage of legislation pertaining to the Service Department.

Mr. Carr commended the department for improvements to the animal trapping program, describing a recent personal experience with a raccoon issue. Within an hour of reporting the problem, the contractor responded promptly, demonstrated professionalism, and utilized advanced tools, including multiple traps and a trail camera. Two raccoons were captured overnight, and detailed information was provided regarding their movements, including timing and point of origin. Mr. Knecht credited Aly Cooper from the department for identifying and recommending the contractor. He stated that after a thorough review and interview process involving staff, the team felt confident in the selection. The new provider has exceeded expectations and represents a significant improvement over prior services. Mr. Carr asked about the use of funds associated with the SOM corridor. He suggested evaluating and prioritizing potential projects for the funds, including cleanup of the Big Turtle Two basin, sidewalk extensions to improve neighborhood connectivity, and possible sewer-related improvements.

City Engineer Lannon – Mr. Lannon stated that revisiting priorities for the SOM fund is a worthwhile initiative. He noted that a project list had been developed approximately three years ago when the fund was established and indicated staff will review and update that list for consideration.

Regarding a sidewalk project (in Mr. Lannon's memo) extending along Ridge Road from Wickliffe to SOM Center Road, Mr. Carr asked about the funding. Mr. Lannon explained that the project is supported by a Laketrans grant that was originally expected to cover the full construction cost. However, project estimates increased from approximately \$130,000 to between \$175,000 and \$200,000. As a result, the City has requested additional funding from Laketrans, approximately \$75,000 to bridge the gap. The request has been submitted for consideration at the board's June meeting, and, if approved, the City will be positioned to proceed with the project using the current bids.

Mr. Tomaselli asked about the ongoing Vine Street closure, asking about the anticipated duration of construction. Mr. Lannon stated that the initial timeline was approximately ten days, with completion ideally targeted for mid-next week, though not yet confirmed. Mr. Tomaselli also questioned whether traffic could have been maintained in one direction, but Mr. Lannon indicated that traffic volume, including bus routes, made a full closure the safer and more practical option.

Mr. Carr asked about the issue of sidewalk spalling and the status of corrective action. Mr. Lannon confirmed that the City is still withholding payment and is working toward a resolution with the contractor. The contractor attributed the issue to an ODOT concrete mix used in 2024, which has been independently corroborated. Contributing factors such as heavy salt exposure along Route 91 were also discussed. He stated he is hoping there is a remedy before October with either replacement or live with it.

Fire Chief Ungar – Chief Ungar thanked Council for the passage of Resolution No. 2026-66.

Police Chief Schultz – Chief Schultz stated that with the arrival of warmer weather and increased activity throughout the community, he stated the department is maintaining a strong and visible presence to support public safety. This includes downtown foot patrols, neighborhood bike patrols, and ongoing monitoring of Osborne Park, particularly in and around the active construction zone. The department has received recurring reports of trespassing and minor vandalism in that area, and while the department is addressing these issues proactively, he encourages continued community awareness and cooperation.

In addition, motorcycle units are deployed weekly and remain active in traffic enforcement to promote roadway safety. Through ongoing federal and state grant support, the department continues to focus on proactive enforcement at local hotels, as well as narcotics-related activity. Today, officers also assisted in the successful apprehension of an individual who had been wanted for some time. Mr. Garry thanked Chief Schultz for the extra patrol on Robinhood and Harmony. Regarding the new police station, Chief Schultz stated that some construction is on hold while they wait for permanent power in the building. Waterproofing of the outside of the building began yesterday with grading taking place soon.

Chief Building and Zoning Inspector Keller – Mr. Keller thanked Council for the passage of Resolution No. 2026-75. Mr. Tomaselli asked about the Valvoline location across from the hospital. Mr. Keller stated they had to run the sewer line to a different location.

Parks & Recreation Director Keller – Ms. Keller thanked Council for the passage of the resolutions pertaining to her department. She stated she will be putting a fishing pier survey on Facebook; please reshare the post. The first concert is tomorrow night at Osborne Park.

Mr. Tomaselli asked about updates regarding the former Andrews Nursery site near Daniels Park. Ms. Keller stated that a meeting is scheduled for June 22nd to review 30% design plans, at which time permit applications are expected to be submitted. Mr. Tomaselli asked whether work could proceed prior to permit approval, and Ms. Keller stated that permits primarily apply to elements such as river work and the bridge. Mr. Tomaselli asked whether the permitting timeline could mirror the extended delays experienced with the Osborne project. Ms. Keller stated that a pre-application has already

been completed, meaning the Army Corps is aware of the project and has a general timeline for its submission.

Finance Director Hoffman – Ms. Hoffman thanked Council for the passage of the resolutions pertaining to her department. Mr. Tomaselli asked about the potential use of TIF funds for sidewalk improvements at the Walgreens site, specifically whether those funds could have been used with the expectation of being reimbursed through tax revenues, or alternatively transferred to another fund. Ms. Hoffman stated that improvements funded through the TIF are considered the City's responsibility, whereas, in this case, the sidewalk installation is the responsibility of the commercial property owner. The intent in transferring funds was to facilitate payment upfront, with the expectation that the property owner would ultimately cover the cost through assessment. Mr. Tomaselli asked whether TIF funds are generally appropriate for sidewalk projects. Mr. Carr stated that such funding may be considered for residential areas, prior guidance has been that commercial property owners should bear the cost of their own sidewalk improvements.

COUNCILMEN REPORTS

Ms. Sievers – Ms. Sievers welcomed Mr. McConville. She asked residents to not jump the construction fence at Osborne Park as it's a safety concern.

Mr. Kary – Absent.

Mr. Tomaselli – No report.

Mr. Luciano – Absent.

Mr. Garry – No report.

Mr. Anderson – No report.

Mr. Carr – No report.

The Regular Council Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Date approved



Robert E. Carr, President


Clerk of Council
Robert A. Fiala, Mayor