

CITY COUNCIL

August 18, 2025

The August 18, 2025 City Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers by Kate Niederkohr, President. A moment of silence was observed followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. City Council members present were Kate Niederkohr, John Walker, Kenneth Wessler, Tom Karcher, Aaron Korte, Julia Lemire, and Scott Moore.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Ben Buckland, Law Director; Nickie Coppler, City Auditor; Brad Taylor, Street and Sanitation Supervisor; Heidi Moore; Jack Helmer; Susan Bucher; Jim Stauffer; Lonnie McMillan, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the August 4, 2025 City Council meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were approved as received.

The minutes of the August 4, 2025 Safety Committee meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

The minutes of the August 11, 2025 Park Board meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

The minutes of the August 11, 2025 Downtown Committee meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

Mrs. Heidi Moore addressed City Council and encouraged livestreaming of the City's meetings to allow people to watch the meetings at their convenience and to stay informed. Mrs. Moore stated that this would provide full transparency.

Mr. Jack Helmar addressed City Council indicating that he is a sixteen year resident of the City and he wants to see the City grow.

A motion was made by Mr. Karcher, seconded by Mr. Korte, to place Ordinance No. 26-14 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE A BID SUBMITTED FOR THE WESTSIDE WATERLINE EXTENSION PROJECT.", on its second reading by title only. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes; the President declared the motion carried. The Clerk read Ordinance No. 26-14 for the second time by title only.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, for the adoption of Ordinance No. 26-14. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The President declared the motion carried and Ordinance No. 26-14 was duly adopted.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lemire, seconded by Mr. Karcher, to place Ordinance No. 27-14 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE SUBDIVISION PARTICIPATION AND RELEASE FORM FOR THE PURDUE DIRECT SETTLEMENT.", on its second reading by title only. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes; the President declared the motion carried. The Clerk read Ordinance No. 27-14 for the second time by title only.

A motion was made by Mr. Korte, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, for the adoption of Ordinance No. 27-14. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The President declared the motion carried and Ordinance No. 27-14 was duly adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Walker, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, to place Resolution No. 28-14 entitled, "A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.", on its second reading by title only. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes; the President declared the motion carried. The Clerk read Resolution No. 28-14 for the first time by title only.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lemire, seconded by Mr. Karcher, to place Ordinance No. 29-14 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDINANCE NO. 23-14 REGARDING COMMERCIAL USE OF PUBLIC SIDEWALKS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY, AND DECLARING THIS ACT AN EMERGENCY.", on its first reading by title only. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes; the President declared the motion carried. The Clerk read Ordinance No. 29-14 for the first time by title only.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lemire, seconded by Mr. Karcher, to suspend the rules of the Municipal Charter calling for separate readings on different days. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes; the President declared the motion carried. The Clerk read Ordinance No. 29-14 for the second time by title only.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, to suspend the rules of the Municipal Charter calling for separate readings on different days. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes; the President declared the motion carried. The Clerk read Ordinance No. 29-14 for the second time by title only.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lemire, seconded by Mr. Karcher, for the adoption of Ordinance No. 29-14. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The President declared the motion carried and Ordinance No. 29-14 was duly adopted.

Mr. Brad Taylor, Street and Sanitation Supervisor, addressed City Council regarding the City's skid steer and noted that at the time the current machine was purchased many years ago it suited every service departments' needs. The current machine is too small for the work being done by the Street Department to mill roadways. The Street Department worked last week to mill and fill on Commerce Way and North Sandusky Avenue, and they were able to borrow the county's larger skid steer on the second day and with this equipment they were able to complete the project a day earlier than if they had used the City's smaller skid steer. Mr. Taylor noted that he was quoted a price of \$75,000.00 for a used large skid steer with the cost of a new larger skid steer being \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00 more than the purchase of a used skid steer. Several members of City Council witnessed first hand the mill work that was done and agreed that a new machine should be budgeted for 2026.

Considerable discussion was held regarding the ¾% income tax increase to be voted on during the General Election to be held on November 4, 2025. City Council members shared their feedback from residents and voiced their opinions and support of the measure.

Mr. Korte reported that the subcommittee being formed to promote the ¾% income tax increase will be getting together later this week for the first time. Mayor McColly indicated that he believes the ¾% income tax increase is the proper vehicle to move forward.

Mrs. Coppler reviewed the Finance Report for July 2025 and noted that at the City has been operating at deficit spending for several years. Mrs. Coppler indicated that at the next City Council meeting an Ordinance will be presented to amend the accounts for payroll for the Mayor, City Auditor, Human Resources, and Auditor Assistant and a potential Ordinance will be presented to amend the 16% income tax allocation to the Parks Department for the remainder of 2025. Mrs. Coppler also suggested the possibility of furlough days for employees as a cost saving measure. Mayor McColly stated that a plan for cost saving measures will be developed and presented in two weeks at the next City Council meeting.

Mayor McColly congratulated Mr. Mike Wheeler on being selected as the Wyandot County Senior Citizen of the Year.

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Kate Niederkohr, President