# CITY COUNCIL

## November 2, 2026

The November 2, 2026 City Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers by Julia Lemire, 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 Kenneth Wessler, Tom Karcher, Aaron Korte, Julia Lemire, Scott Moore, Kate Niederkohr, and John Walker.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Ben Buckland, Law Director; Nickie Coppler, City Auditor; Todd Jenkins, Peterman Associates; Greg Knestrick, Peterman Associates; Kayla Weaver; Amanda Watson; Deb Michener; Bob Michener; Sharon Huffman; Carrie Rinderknecht; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the October 19, 2026 City Council meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were approved as received.

The minutes of the October 19, 2026 Service Committee meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

The minutes of the October 26, 2026 Tree Commission meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

The minutes of the October 26, 2026 special Planning Commission meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

The minutes of the October 30, 2026 Civil Service Commission meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

Mr. Todd Jenkins, Peterman Associates, Inc., provided the following report:
Interceptor Sewer Construction Project

- Contract was a unit price contract so actual payment is based on actual quantities used.
- Initial bid was $4,802,821.70
- Based on the initial desired location being out of the pavement as much as possible there were many conflicts with other utilities (gas, electric, fiber, etc.)
- Utility companies were not going to be able to meet the schedule for moving their facilities
- Sewer alignment was revised to its current location to avoid the conflicts and to be more accessible for the Collections Department resulting in a contract amount of $5,827,575.70
- Additional changes such as full pavement replacement on Houpt Drive due to existing pavement conditions, waterline replacement due to condition and type of pipe in the trench area, and manhole modifications were tracked and appeared to be in line with the grant amount in late September and early October (estimated to be approximately $6.15M)
- Final walk through was conducted on October 20th to determine the restoration limits
- Calculations of the actual quantities/costs for the restoration limits were determined on October 23 and were showing an additional need of approximately $250,000 over the grant amount ($650,000 total)
- Worked with the contractor to reduce the scope and cost as much as possible (Reduced by approximately $160,000)
- Actual quantities of the limits determined/requested resulted in higher quantities than the estimated quantities resulting in extra costs above the grant amount by approximately and additional $88,000 above last month's estimate of what was needed (final contract approximately $6.42M)

WWTP Tertiary Filter

- Filter has been ordered
- Filter ship date is expected on or about March 8, 2027

- Adjustments are needed for the overhead door threshold due to the door being set back further into the building. The door closed on open grating which left room for the weather and cold air to enter the building through the grating. The cost provided for this was $3,451.97

Mrs. Amanda Watson addressed City Council and inquired about protections for water and sewer service outside the City, and she suggested the establishment of an outside utility ordinance to address these services provided outside the City.

Mrs. Deb Michener inquired about how much the Louis Dreyfus Company (LDC) was paying towards the Interceptor Sewer Project and the Tertiary Filter Project. Mrs. Michener was informed that LDC paid for engineering for the Interceptor Sewer Project, a grant was awarded to pay for the project, and the City is responsible for any overage not covered by the grant. Mayor McColly indicated that he is going to talk to LDC about the overage explained by Mr. Todd Jenkins earlier in this meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Walker, seconded by Mrs. Niederkohr, to place Ordinance No. 95-14 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL WAGE AND SALARY ORDINANCE NO. 45-14 (AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES, WAGES AND THE RATES OF PAY FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF UPPER SANDUSKY, OHIO, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026 AND DESIGNATING THE POSITIONS FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY OF UPPER SANDUSKY).", 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. 95-14 for the second time by title only.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mrs. Niederkohr, for the adoption of Ordinance No. 95-14. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The President declared the motion carried and Ordinance No. 95-14 was duly adopted.

A motion was made by Mrs. Niederkohr, seconded by Mr. Korte, to place Resolution No. 96-14 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. 96-14 for the second time by title only.

A motion was made by Mr. Karcher, seconded by Mrs. Niederkohr, for the adoption of Resolution No. 96-14. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The President declared the motion carried and Resolution No. 96-14 was duly adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Korte, seconded by Mr. Walker, to place Ordinance No. 97-14 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 933.05 COMMERCIAL UNIT CHARGES AND 933.06 INDUSTRIAL UNIT CHARGES OF CHAPTER 933 WATER SERVICE RATES AND OTHER CHARGES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES, 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. 97-14 for the first time by title only.

A motion was made by Mr. Korte, seconded by Mrs. Niederkohr, 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.

A motion was made by Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Karcher, to place Ordinance No. 97-14 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. 97-14 for the second time by title only.

A motion was made by Mrs. Niederkohr, seconded by Mr. Karcher, for the adoption of Ordinance No. 97-14. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The President declared the motion carried and Ordinance No. 97-14 was duly adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Karcher, seconded by Mrs. Niederkohr, to place Ordinance No. 98-14 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN EASEMENT TERMINATION AGREEMENT FOR A SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.", 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. 98-14 for the first time by title only.

A motion was made by Mrs. Niederkohr, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, to place Ordinance No. 99-14 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING NEW RATES FOR SEWER SERVICES TO BECOME EFFECTIVE ON JANUARY 1, 2027.", on its first reading by title only. Upon Roll Call, all members voted as follows:

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| Mr. Wessler | - | Yes |
| Mr. Karcher | - | No |
| Mr. Korte | - | Yes |
| Mrs. Lemire | - | Yes |
| Mr. Moore | - | Yes |
| Mrs. Niederkohr | - | Yes |
| Mr. Walker | - | No |

The President declared the motion carried by a 5-2 vote. The Clerk read Ordinance No. 99-14 for the first time by title only.

Mr. Korte suggested consideration of a salary increase for the Mayor's position to take effect beginning in 2028. Mr. Korte shared comparisons of Mayor's salaries from similar sized communities. Mr. Korte stated that he believes a salary increase from $60,000.00 to $80,000.00 to be acceptable. City Council members will review the most recent Ordinance addressing an increase in the Mayor's salary at the November 16, 2026 City Council meeting and discuss this matter further.

Ms. Carrie Rinderknecht inquired about the current vacancy in the Zoning Inspector's position and stated that she is uncomfortable with an individual serving in two roles, including the Economic Development Director. Ms. Rinderknecht also asked if the position will be filled by January 6, 2027 and how long is too long for the position to be vacant. Mayor McColly indicated that one interview has been conducted for the Zoning Inspector position, and a timeframe has not been set to fill the position as he is looking for someone who is a good fit for this position and understands the City's zoning code.

Ms. Kayla Weaver inquired about how City officials get outside their circles to fill vacancies. It was noted that positions are advertised on the City's website and through social media.

Mayor McColly shared a copy of a Capital Needs Assessment regarding the Fairhaven property from American Structure Point, Inc.

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

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Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk Julia Lemire, President