

CITY COUNCIL

January 20, 2026

The January 20, 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 Julia Lemire, Scott Moore, Kate Niederkohr, John Walker, Kenneth Wessler, and Tom Karcher. Aaron Korte Scott Moore was absent.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Ben Buckland, Law Director; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the January 2, 2026 Organizational City Council meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were approved as received.

The minutes of the January 5, 2026 City Council meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were approved as received.

The minutes of the January 5, 2026 Safety Committee meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

The minutes of the January 5, 2026 Service Committee meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

The minutes of the January 5, 2026 Planning Commission meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

The minutes of the January 12, 2026 Park Board meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

The minutes of the January 12, 2026 Downtown Committee meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

Mayor McColly reported that he will be attending a meeting tomorrow in Lima, Ohio with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) regarding the US 23/US 30 and State Route 199/North Warpole Street Interchange Ramp Intersections, and up to three City Council members can participate in the meeting via zoom at the Municipal Building or a link can be sent to those interested in participating.

A motion was made by Mr. Walker, seconded by Mrs. Niederkohr, to place Ordinance No. 51-14 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A LABOR AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS, LOCAL 4523, FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2028, COVERING FIREFIGHTERS FOR THE CITY, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE SUCH AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, 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. 51-14 for the first time by title only.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mrs. Niederkohr, to suspend the rules of 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 Mrs. Niederkohr, seconded by Mr. Karcher, to place Ordinance No. 51-14 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. 51-14 for the second time by title only.

A motion was made by Mr. Karcher, seconded by Mr. Moore, for the adoption of Ordinance No. 51-14. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The President declared the motion carried and Ordinance No. 51-14 was duly adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Wessler, to place Ordinance No. 52-14 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A JOHN DEERE 333 P-TIER COMPACT TRACK LOADER AND ACCESSORIES THROUGH THE STATE PURCHASING PROGRAM.”, 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. 52-14 for the first time by title only.

A motion was made by Mrs. Niederkohr, seconded by Mr. Moore, to place Ordinance No. 53-14 entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INSTALL 3-WAY STOP CONTROLS AT THE US 23/US 30 AND STATE ROUTE 199/NORTH WARPOLE STREET INTERCHANGE RAMP INTERSECTIONS.”, 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. 53-14 for the first time by title only.

Appointments by City Council and Mayor McColly to the Income Tax Board of Review were addressed at this time as follows:

- Mrs. Lemire nominated Mrs. Barb McColly as a City Council appointment to the Income Tax Board of Review (2 year term), seconded by Mrs. Niederkohr.
- Upon Roll Call, on the nomination of Mrs. McColly as a City Council appointment to the Income Tax Board of Review (2 year term), all members voted Yes. The President declared the motion carried.
- Mayor McColly indicated that his appointment to the Income Tax Board of Review (2 year term) will be Mr. David Outland.
- A motion was made by Mrs. Lemire, seconded by Mrs. Niederkohr, to approve Mayor McColly’s appointment of Mr. Outland to the Income Tax Board of Review (2 year term). Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The President declared the motion carried.

Mayor McColly indicated that he has contacted an individual regarding the current vacancy on the Board of Zoning Appeals and he is waiting on a response.

City Council members reviewed the Income Tax Collections Report as of December 31, 2025.

It was noted that Mr. Buckland has submitted the 2025 Annual Report of the Law Director.

City Council members also reviewed the Finance Report for December 2025.

Mayor McColly reported that he recently visited St. Peter School’s second grade classroom during the Right to Read Week and spent time with the class and read a book to them.

Mayor McColly stated that he continues to meet with representatives from the Louis Dreyfus Company about their water and wastewater needs for their soybean processing facility currently under construction to the west of the City in Salem Township. Mayor McColly indicated that the City will be looking at an upcoming expansion to the City’s Water Treatment Plant.

Mayor McColly also reported that he will be presenting the State of the City address at the February 2, 2026 City Council meeting.

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

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Julia Lemire, President