

PORT CLINTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Port Clinton City Council held in the Linda Hartlaub City Hall Chambers. Lisa Sarty, President of Council, presided and the meeting opened at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Tarolli moved to appoint Beth Gillman as temporary City Council Clerk; seconded by Ms. Hovis. All agreed.

The roll was called, and the following Council members were present: Jerry Tarolli, Cathy King, Avery Robinson, Richard Morgan, Pat Hovis and Beth Gillman. Carmen Daft excused.

Mr. Tarolli moved to approve regular meeting minutes for June 23, 2026, regular meeting minutes and June 25, 2026, special council meeting minutes seconded by Mr. Robertson. All agreed.

The chair notes certification had been received regarding the compliance with the rules and notification of this meeting.

GUEST PRESENTATION

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Under first reading this evening:

- Ordinance 25-26 – Will not be assigned to a committee. It can go all three readings.
- Ordinance 26-26 – Administration asks that Council consider adopting at the second reading, due to it being time sensitive.
- Ordinance 27-26 – Will not be assigned to a committee. It can go all three readings.
- Ordinance 28-26 – Will not be assigned to a committee. Administration asks that Council consider adopting at the first reading. Mr. Below will speak on this ordinance.
- Resolution 26-5 – Will not be assigned to a committee. Administration asks that Council consider adopting at the first reading. This is on cyber security, training is required
- Resolution 26-6 - Will not be assigned to a committee. It can go all three readings.

Under second reading this evening:

- Ordinance 23-26 – Administration asked that Council consider adopting at the second reading. Mr. Below will speak on this ordinance.
- Ordinance 24-26 – Administration asked that Council consider adopting at the second reading. Mr. Below will speak on this ordinance.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Snider was not present.

President Sarty read Mayor Snider's report

Well in advance of Jim's departure I had made plans associated with my "day job" which will keep me away from tonight's meeting. Advanced warning, I will also be out of town on July 28.

FLOOD: It was amazingly impressive as to how well the police, fire, service, water and sewer departments worked to address the multiple issues that arose on Monday, July 6th. Not only was high water a concern but multiple ambulance calls and two roll-over accidents on S.R. 2 within 30 minutes of each other while the rain was still falling made for a very active environment. Thanks to Republic Services for coordinating the special clean-up day as well as making special consideration for "gate service" at the county landfill and curbside service for those property owners impacted by the flood waters.

In addition to the dumpsters that were in City Hall last Thursday –

- "Gate Service" or taking damaged items to the landfill located at 530 Camp Road is available until the end of business this Friday. \$80 per load / \$100 if stacked over the cab of the vehicle.
- Curb Service: Call 1-800-234-3429: bulk rates apply.

PC Lions Club has been awarded \$5000 in emergency flood relief funding through their National Lion's Foundation. This support will be issued as \$50 Wal-Mart Gift Cards. Anyone in need of assistance with clean-up can call Patti from the PC Lion's Club at 419-545-1025. This is open to anyone impacted by flood waters (inside or outside the city limits).

4th OF JULY – The PC Area 4th of July Committee is comprised of Kenny Holcomb, Debbie Tester, Heather Isbell, Greg Fox, Carol Fox, Annie Drummer, Amy Drummer and me. We hope everyone enjoyed the events of the day. A great deal of success & positive comments can be directed to those that donated funds towards the fireworks. Normally, the show is \$8500; this year was \$20,000! If you are interested in contributing to the fireworks to maintain the \$20,000 show, please send your donations to the PC Chamber of Commerce Foundation, 110 Madison Street, Port Clinton, OH 43452 with the memo "fireworks".

FLIP – At last week's bi-weekly conference call with our engineering firm, a date was discussed for bidding with respect to Plan B (the below ground stuff). Before you is an Ordinance authorizing the SSD to go out for bid for Plan B. I'd love to ask you to pass this tonight ... however, we are awaiting some additional info from the USDA. We will revisit any action on its second reading. Bottom line – IT'S HAPPENING!!!!!!!!!!!!

Bringing FLIP & the flood together ... The 100 blocks of both Oak and Hayes Streets took a sucker punch from the flood. We've been working with Erie Paving, US Department of AG, project engineers and others to make emergency repairs. Oak Street had an emergency patch as it took the worst of mother nature. Hayes Avenue brings up other issues as it is part of Plan B. It will be addressed by the Street Department on a very temporary basis.

The ditch between The Shores and the Ice Shanty as well as the ditch adjacent to S.R. 2 and Bette Lane – The City has been in conversations with the Ottawa County Soil and Water Conservation District and County Commissioners to petition these two ditches be cleaned. This is a long process and involves every property owner that drains to these ditches.

Mayfly Lights – Street lights were to be turned back on the week of July 6. However, storms in this area and throughout the Midwest have stretched manpower resources with First Energy. Consequently, the “turn on” process has been delayed by a week or two.

SSD – Brian Kloss will be sworn in as the next SSD for the City of Port Clinton in a brief ceremony on Monday, July 20th at 9 AM in Council Chambers. Brian and his family are from Strongsville but have had a second home in the area for quite some time. Brian is leaving his post as Director of the Emergency Operations Center for Cuyahoga County. Immediately following his swearing-in, Brian will conduct his first Weekly Supervisors Meeting and begin touring City facilities and learning faces & names. I personally can’t thank Jim Sass enough for his commitment to the city during his time as interim SSD. Jim has repeatedly stated that he is just a phone call away to help Brian and provide background and/or help when needed on a given issue/topic. A copy of the Press Release issued last week has been placed at each of your seats and has been published on the City’s website, social media outlets and distributed to traditional media throughout Northern Ohio.

Beach Cleaner – Last Thursday, while cleaning the beach, the motor died. It’s being shipped to a 3rd party vendor but will not be back in service for the remainder of the season. We are looking at alternatives – none are inexpensive and/or labor intensive.

Concession Stand – it’s open. I was the 3rd customer on Saturday – their first day in business!

Thank you – that concludes my report for this evening.

AUDITOR’S REPORT

Ordinance 21-26, 23-26, 24-26 authorizes and issue of our fees and contracts fully funded under the Urban Forestry grant award from the US Forest Service. At no cost to the city.

- Ordinance 21-26 is downtown tree canopy at \$500,000
- Ordinance 23-26 is tree maintenance at \$53,000
- Ordinance 24-26 is tree planting at \$90,000

Ordinance 28-26 comes from Bond Council (Squire, Patton & Boggs, Law Firm). The original note Ordinance 22-26, typically in that case, does not supply exact terms of proposed notes. But does supply thresholds like maximum principal amount and maximum interest rate. In this case the maximum interest rate is 6%. Locally Huntington National Bank offered 6.20%. The ordinance is amending the maximum interest rate to 7%, so there is no question the terms of the notes are authorized by Council. The closing of the notes is July 20, 2026. Payment is due July 22, 2026. Please consider adopting Ordinance 22-26 this evening.

On June 29, 2026, at the Safety & Service Committee meeting there was continued discussion about standing up a regular annual appropriation within the General Fund for Fire and EMS operations in 2027 and beyond. Council previously approved last month a \$225,000 transfer from the General Fund to the Fire Fund. Taking the total for the fiscal year to \$450,000. It is the view of the Auditor that standing up a new effective permanent allocation from the General Fund should only be made with understanding that other functions of departments rely on the General Fund. Could see necessary adjustments to help offset that potential permanent allocation to the Fire Department. Note that the potential impact to the General Fund staff/departments should have discussions on cost savings that can be realized.

Mr. Below advised he recommended to the Safety Service Committee to request a resolution drafted recommending the Safety Service Director and other City Officials to evaluate the feasibility of developing recommendations for cost savings and proposed allocation strategy for regular annual appropriation from the General Fund for Fire and EMS operations beginning in 2027. The Safety Service Director to report back to Council with those findings. This would include new revenue options as well. Intend to have a Resolution to Council later this month.

Mr. Morgan inquired on Ordinance 28 – 26, amending a previous ordinance for the Key Bank building. Please re-explain.

Mr. Below advised, Institutional buyers purchase these bonds. Currently there is one buyer who is interested. There was a clerical error in the original ordinance that set the cap at 6%. This ordinance is correcting this clerical mistake. These notes are up to 2.5 years. The previous ordinance was a 1-year note.

TREASURERS REPORT

As of July 14, 2026

Transient Occupancy Tax: \$ 118,445.89

Watercraft Tax: \$ 19,656

STR Registration Fee: \$ 28,500

Mrs. King inquired if we are on target with last year's figures.

Mr. Taylor advised the June numbers were in line with last year's figures. He didn't have the data for July's with him to advise.

Mr. Below provided the following revenue reports:

Income Tax: \$2,239,789.82

Parking Tickets: \$4,815

LAW DIRECTOR REPORT

Not present

SAFETY SERVICE REPORT

Not present

INCOME TAX COMMISSIONER

Not present

POLICE CHIEF

Not present

FIRE CHIEF

Not present

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Ms. Hovis

Nothing to present

Safety Service & Public Works Committee

Mr. Tarolli

There will be a committee meeting in the next two weeks to discuss Food Trucks. Date to be provided.

Economic and Community Development Committee

Mrs. Gillman

Next committee meeting will be held on July 28, 2026, after the Council meeting; to continue discussion on short term rentals.

CORRESPONDENCE

Planning Commission / Board of Appeals, June 11, 2026, meeting minutes

Architectural Review Board, May 28, 2026, meeting minutes

Financial Report, June 2026, provided by Gabe Below, Auditor

Mrs. Gillman moved to accept the Financial Report, June 2026, provided by Mr. Below; seconded by Mrs. King.

Results of the voice-roll call are as follows: Mr. Tarolli, yes; Mrs. King, yes; Mr. Morgan, yes; Ms. Hovis, yes; Mr. Robertson, yes; and Mrs. Gillman, yes. Motion carried 6-0: per Mrs. Sarty

Mrs. Gillman motion to approve the correspondence as stated; seconded by Mr. Tarolli. All agreed.

THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance 21-26

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF SAFETY AND SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR PROPOSALS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR DOWNTOWN STREETSCAPE TREE CANOPY IMPROVEMENT SERVICES, FULLY FUNDED THROUGH THE CITY OF PORT CLINTON URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY INFLATION REDUCTION ACT GRANT AWARD, WITH NO COSTS TO BE BORNE BY THE CITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Tarolli moved to retain the emergency clause of Ordinance 21-26; seconded by Mr. Robertson.

Results of the voice-roll call are as follows: Mr. Tarolli, yes; Mrs. King, yes; Ms. Hovis, yes; Mr. Robinson, yes; Mr. Morgan, yes; and Mrs. Gillman, yes. Motion carried 6-0: per Mrs. Sarty

Mr. Tarolli moved to adopt Ordinance 21-26; seconded by Mrs. Gillman.

Results of the voice-roll call are as follows: Mr. Tarolli, yes; Mrs. King, yes; Ms. Hovis, yes; Mr. Robinson, yes; Mr. Morgan, yes; and Mrs. Gillman, yes. Motion carried 6-0: per Mrs. Sarty

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance 23-26

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF SAFETY AND SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR PROPOSALS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR TREE MAINTENANCE SERVICES, FULLY FUNDED THROUGH THE CITY OF PORT CLINTON URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY INFLATION REDUCTION ACT GRANT AWARD, WITH NO COSTS TO BE BORNE BY THE CITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Tarolli moved to waive the three required readings for Ordinance 23-26; seconded by Mr. Robertson.

Results of the voice-roll call are as follows: Mr. Tarolli, yes; Mrs. King, yes; Ms. Hovis, yes; Mr. Robinson, yes; Mr. Morgan, yes; and Mrs. Gillman, yes. Motion carried 6-0: per Mrs. Sarty

Mr. Tarolli moved to retain the emergency clause of Ordinance 23-26; seconded by Mr. Robertson.

Results of the voice-roll call are as follows: Mr. Tarolli, yes; Mrs. King, yes; Ms. Hovis, yes; Mr. Robinson, yes; Mr. Morgan, yes; and Mrs. Gillman, yes. Motion carried 6-0: per Mrs. Sarty

Mr. Tarolli moved to adopt Ordinance 23-26; seconded by Mr. Robertson.

Mr. Tarolli advised that this is an amazing grant that Mr. Below obtained and is at NO cost to the city. This was presented to the Tree Commission, and they unanimously agreed to recommend adopting Ordinance 23-26.

Mr. Morgan inquired why the three ordinances that pertain to the tree grant were provided to Council at different times and not all at once.

Mr. Below advised he was able to create and provide Ordinance 21-26 first and the other two he could not create and provide until a later date.

Mr. Tarolli advised he still does not believe that people understand what the emergency clause is. The emergency clause allows the ordinance to go in effect today not 30 days from the time the ordinance is adopted.

Mr. Below advised on many ordinances that have an emergency clause, on the last section “be borne be it ordained” describes the emergency situation. Emergency doesn’t mean flooding, water in the traditional sense. It means there is a compelling reason to expedite. In this particular case there are time sensitive dollars will expire if we do not meet milestones. That is the reason for the request and is fully justified in the reading of the ordinance and it passes every test that a statutory city like City Council would face when passing the ordinance.

The grant that Mr. Tarolli mentioned was nearly one million dollars with zero cost share to the city. This type of grant from Agriculture Forest Services is unheard of. This is essentially free money. Tree Commission, Safety Service Director, Lucas Johnson and Mr. Below are working together to make sure we use every available dollar, and it is not lost.

Results of the voice-roll call are as follows: Mr. Tarolli, yes; Mrs. King, yes; Ms. Hovis, yes; Mr. Robinson, yes; Mr. Morgan, yes; and Mrs. Gillman, yes. Motion carried 6-0: per Mrs. Sarty

Ordinance 24-26

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF SAFETY AND SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR PROPOSALS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR TREE PLANTING SERVICES, FULLY FUNDED THROUGH THE CITY OF PORT CLINTON URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY INFLATION REDUCTION ACT GRANT AWARD, WITH NO COSTS TO BE BORNE BY THE CITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Tarolli moved to waive the three required readings for Ordinance 24-26; seconded by Mr. Robertson.

Results of the voice-roll call are as follows: Mr. Tarolli, yes; Mrs. King, yes; Ms. Hovis, yes; Mr. Robinson, yes; Mr. Morgan, yes; and Mrs. Gillman, yes. Motion carried 6-0: per Mrs. Sarty

Mr. Tarolli moved to retain the emergency clause of Ordinance 24-26; seconded by Mr. Robertson.

Results of the voice-roll call are as follows: Mr. Tarolli, yes; Mrs. King, yes; Ms. Hovis, yes; Mr. Robinson, yes; Mr. Morgan, yes; and Mrs. Gillman, yes. Motion carried 6-0: per Mrs. Sarty

Mr. Tarolli moved to adopt Ordinance 24-26; seconded by Mr. Robertson.

Results of the voice-roll call are as follows: Mr. Tarolli, yes; Mrs. King, yes; Ms. Hovis, yes; Mr. Robinson, yes; Mr. Morgan, yes; and Mrs. Gillman, yes. Motion carried 6-0: per Mrs. Sarty

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance 25-26

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 721.09 AND 721.13, CHAPTER 721 OF THE PORT CLINTON CODIFIED ORDINANCES, REGULATING TAXICABS

No action taken, Ordinance 25-26 will be moved to its second reading on July 28, 2026.

Ordinance 26-26

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF SAFETY AND SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE WATER AND SANITARY SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

No action taken, Ordinance 26-26 will be moved to its second reading on July 28, 2026.

Ordinance 27-26

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF SAFETY AND SERVICE TO ENTER IN A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LODGE NO. 79 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

No action taken, Ordinance 27-26 will be moved to its second reading on July 28, 2026

Ordinance 28-26

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 22-26 RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOTES AUTHORIZED IN THAT ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Tarolli moved to waive the three required readings for Ordinance 28-26; seconded by Mr. Robertson.

Results of the voice-roll call are as follows: Mr. Tarolli, yes; Mrs. King, yes; Ms. Hovis, yes; Mr. Robinson, yes; Mr. Morgan, yes; and Mrs. Gillman, yes. Motion carried 6-0: per Mrs. Sarty

Mr. Tarolli moved to retain the emergency clause of Ordinance 28-26; seconded by Mr. Robertson.

Results of the voice-roll call are as follows: Mr. Tarolli, yes; Mrs. King, yes; Ms. Hovis, yes; Mr. Robinson, yes; Mr. Morgan, yes; and Mrs. Gillman, yes. Motion carried 6-0: per Mrs. Sarty

Mr. Tarolli moved to adopt Ordinance 28-26; seconded by Mr. Robertson.

Results of the voice-roll call are as follows: Mr. Tarolli, yes; Mrs. King, yes; Ms. Hovis, yes; Mr. Robinson, yes; Mr. Morgan, yes; and Mrs. Gillman, yes. Motion carried 6-0: per Mrs. Sarty

Resolution 26-5

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM TO SAFEGUARD THE CITY'S DATA, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES, AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 9.64 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE

Mr. Tarolli moved to waive the three required readings for Resolution 26-5; seconded by Mr. Robertson.

Results of the voice-roll call are as follows: Mr. Tarolli, yes; Mrs. King, yes; Ms. Hovis, yes; Mr. Robinson, yes; Mr. Morgan, yes; and Mrs. Gillman, yes. Motion carried 6-0: per Mrs. Sarty

Mr. Tarolli moved to adopt Resolution 26-5; seconded by Mr. Robertson.

Results of the voice-roll call are as follows: Mr. Tarolli, yes; Mrs. King, yes; Ms. Hovis, yes; Mr. Robinson, yes; Mr. Morgan, yes; and Mrs. Gillman, yes. Motion carried 6-0: per Mrs. Sarty

Resolution 26-6

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE TAX COMMISSIONER TO PREPARE A SIDE-BY-SIDE ANALYSIS BETWEEN THE CITY'S CURRENT IN-HOUSE MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX ADMINISTRATION PROCESS AND THE REGIONAL INCOME TAX AGENCY (RITA) TAX ADMINISTRATION PROCESS TO DETERMINE THE COSTS, BENEFITS, AND AVAILABLE SERVICES THAT EACH ADMINISTRATIVE MODEL CAN PROVIDE TO THE TAXPAYERS OF THE CITY OF PORT CLINTON

No action taken, Resolution 26-6 will be moved to its second reading on July 28, 2026

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Morgan – Mr. Morgan spoke about severe flooding that took place on July 4, 1969. Property owners pumped their basement and asked what we can do to make our basements better. He doesn't remember hearing anyone say, "How did the city screw up". Now when something happens, the tendency is to blame the city, State and the Federal government for any little thing that goes wrong. Mr. Morgan stated there is nothing we can do about it but wanted to acknowledge it.

This coming Saturday, Water Street will be playing at The District from 6:00 – 7:30 pm.

Mr. Robinson – Nothing to present

Mr. Tarolli – Ordinance 26-26, this is the most excited that he has been in the last four years, it is in regard to the FLIP project.

Mr. Tarolli asked Mr. Below if the trees that are currently in pots downtown, can they be transplanted to other locations in the city and be covered under the grant?

Mr. Below advised maybe. Will they survive? He will look into this and advise.

July 14, 2026

Mr. Tarolli advised the Tree Commission will be purchasing trees in the near future but will not be planting until the Fall.

Mr. Tarolli, inquired about a salt contract for this year.

President Sarty advised an ordinance had already been passed to purchase salt for this year.

Ms. Hovis – Nothing to present

Ms. Daft – Not in attendance

Mrs. King – Nothing to present

Mrs. Gillman – PSA – if you eat something and have GI issues, there are a lot of local services that you can use. First point of contact would be your primary care physician, Urgent Care, Emergency Department.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Ms. Hovis moved to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. King. With all those in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Beth Gillman
Temporary Clerk of Council

Lisa Sarty
President of Council