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Vice President of Council
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City of Willoughby Hills

Council

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JOE JARMUSZKIEWICZ

DANIEL KNECHT

VICKI MILLER

KATHLEEN SIVO

Working Committee of Council and Rules & Legislation

Minutes of June 25, 2026

The Working Committee of Council and Rules & Legislation was called to order on **June 25, 2026 at 6:31 p.m.** in Council Chambers. **Council President Kline** presided.

Call to Order 6:16 p.m. (0:10)

ROLL CALL (Audio: 0:16)

Members Present: Councilwoman Vicki Miller, Councilwoman Kathleen Sivo, Council Vice President Tanya Taylor Draper, Council President Michael Kline, and Councilman Dan Knecht

Also Present: Law Director Michael A. Kenny Jr. and Finance Director Bruce Scott

Absent: Mayor Christopher Hallum, Councilwoman Julie A. Belich, Councilman Joe Jarmuszkiewicz, and City Engineer Pete DiFranco

BEGINNING DISPOSITION: (Audio 0:50)

ORDINANCE 2026-038 – FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO SIGN ANY AND ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) PROJECT NO. 125062 PROVIDING FOR THE LAK-SR-091-00.00 MULTI MODAL PATH PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Council President Kline:** This ordinance relates to the multi-modal path, and is a precursor to the agreement, which will come soon. Is that correct, Mr. Scott?
- **Finance Director Scott:** In talking with the City Engineer, yes, that is my understanding.

ORDINANCE 2026-039-AMENDED – FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 1381 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS TO REGULATE HISTORIC PROPERTIES AS SHORT-TERM RENTAL FACILITIES.

- **Council President Kline:** This ordinance gives historical sites in the City, which right now are limited to the Frank Lloyd Wright Homes, the ability to be rented as short-term rentals. Willoughby Hills is extremely unique because of the nine Frank Lloyd Wright homes in the State of Ohio, six of them are private residences, so the public has no access to them. The seventh is part of the Oberlin College property, and the final two are right here in Willoughby Hills. This ordinance will continue to allow interested parties the ability to rent these short-term rentals.
- **Council President Kline:** This ordinance is a land-use zoning change. This ordinance will be passed on to the Planning and Zoning Commission for their review. If they so choose to approve this, they will hold a public hearing on it. Then, it will be returned to Council. Upon coming back to Council, Council will hold a public hearing on it before any vote is taken. This will go out for a number of meetings by both Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission.

ORDINANCE 2026-040 – FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1 OF ORDINANCE NO. 2026-001 TO COMPLY WITH STATE BUDGETARY LAWS REQUIRING MUNICIPALITIES TO MAINTAIN POSITIVE ACCOUNT BALANCES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR; REPEALING CONFLICTING LEGISLATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Finance Director Scott:** The approval of the Police Ballistic Armored Tactical Transport Vehicle, although there was money reserved for it, was not incorporated for this year. This ordinance would add that to the 2026 budget, as well as some clean-up items regarding the entire department.

ORDINANCE 2026-041-AMENDED – FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE CONSENTING TO THE ASSIGNMENT OF THE COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT CONTRACT AGREEMENT FROM CHARDONNAY WILLOUGHBY HILLS INDUSTRIAL, LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, TO FIP MASTER FUNDING LXXVIII, LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY OR ITS ASSIGNEE OR NOMINEE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Council President Kline:** This relates to the real estate where Produce Packaging operates out of. The property came under the Community Reinvestment Act in which they were granted tax abatement. That tax abatement relates to the real estate, and the benefits go to the owner of the property. There have been some changes over the years when the property has been sold. One of the requirements of the original agreement is that City Council has to approve of the transfer in order for the Community Reinvestment Act contract to continue on. That is why this has come up. This does not have any impact on the operations of Produce Packaging.
- **Law Director Kenny** noted that they have been working hard on the preparation of this ordinance.

ORDINANCE 2026-042-AMENDED – FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) 2026 ENERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Council President Kline:** This type of ordinance has come up in the past. I will open up for any questions or comments on this ordinance.

- **Councilwoman Miller:** Was this a grant that we applied for, and we have to specify what we are using it for?
- **Finance Director Scott:** Being a member of the NOPEC community, this is an annual grant that NOPEC provides to the City. All we have to do is approve it, and then we have the ability to use it on energy efficiency, and those types of improvements around the City Campus.

RESOLUTION 2026-010 – THIRD READING

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A TAX BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 FOR THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS.

- **Finance Director Scott:** The underlying tax budget needs to be submitted to the County. The format changed, but the numbers have not changed. They are wanting more detail in the numbers. That is all this document is; that was the only change.
- **Councilwoman Miller:** Is this ready to be passed on third reading?
- **Finance Director Scott:** Yes please.

RESOLUTION 2026-011 – FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING THE WILLOUGHBY HILLS MIND CHALLENGE TEAM WHO, THROUGH THEIR COMBINED KNOWLEDGE AND PERSEVERANCE, BROUGHT HOME THE FIRST PLACE PRIZE OF TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500) AND WAS ACCEPTED BY THE FINANCE DIRECTOR PURSUANT TO SECTION 135.30 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CITY'S SENIOR CENTER AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Council President Kline:** The team won the first place prize of \$2,500 and this is the third prize that the team has won over the years. We have previously won two \$1,500 second place finishes. The team has brought to the City \$5,500 over the last five or six years. We want to show our appreciation with this Resolution.

PUBLIC PORTION: (Audio 12:35)

An opportunity for the public to address Council with any comments, issues, or concerns.

Public Portion opened at 6:44 p.m.

- Nobody spoke for Public Portion.

Public Portion closed at 6:44 p.m.

LEGISLATION: (Audio 13:00)

- No discussion.

ADJOURNMENT: (Audio 13:40)

- **Motion** made by **Councilman Knecht**, seconded by **Councilwoman Miller** to adjourn the June 25, 2026 Working Committee of Council and Rules & Legislation.

Roll Call: **AYES:** Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Kline, Knecht
 NAYS: None
 Vote: 5/0

The meeting was adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

APPROVED: July 9, 2026
 Date


Michael Kline
President of Council

ATTEST: Nicholas Aiello
Nicholas Aiello
Clerk of Council