

President of Council
MICHAEL KLINE

Vice President of Council
TANYA TAYLOR DRAPER

Council Clerk Pro Tem
NICHOLAS AIELLO

Council
JULIE A. BELICH
JOE JARMUSZKIEWICZ
DANIEL KNECHT
VICKI MILLER
KATHLEEN SIVO

City of Willoughby Hills

Working Committee of Council and Rules & Legislation

Minutes of January 22, 2026

The Working Committee of Council and Rules & Legislation was called to order on January 22, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. **Council President Kline** presided.

Call to Order 6:00 p.m. (0:08)

ROLL CALL (Audio: 0:19)

Members Present: Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz, Council President Michael Kline, Councilman Dan Knecht, Councilwoman Kathleen Sivo, Council Vice President Tanya Taylor Draper, Councilwoman Julie A. Belich

Also Present: Mayor Hallum and Finance Director Bruce Scott

Absent: City Engineer DiFranco and Councilwoman Vicki Miller

- **Council President Kline:** For those tuned into the meeting this evening wondering why we have started at 6:00 P.M. and why the Working Committee of Council is tonight - In our Organizational Meeting of Council, we changed some things around for the year. Our Working Committee of Council will now precede our Regular Council meeting on Thursday evening. As a normal practice, we have decided to start our Working Committee meetings at 6:30 P.M. however because of what is on the agenda this evening, we have decided we needed to move it up to 6:00 P.M. to give us enough time.

BEGINNING DISPOSITION: (Audio 0:50)

ORDINANCE 2026-001 - FIRST READING
AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN CITY SERVICES FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1ST THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST OF 2026; REPEALING ALL LEGISLATION INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

- **Council President Kline:** This is the 2026 budget. Finance Director Scott has provided Council with their budget books so Council can begin both the individual and collective review processes. We will be having two Finance Committee meetings - one with the Police and

Administration and the other one with the Fire Department and Service Department. We have not scheduled these yet. We have to coordinate with the availability of the department heads and schedule these in the next week or so. With Mondays open, it gives us more time to schedule. The plan is to go three readings on the budget which will go until the end of February. This will give Council plenty of time to do their reviews of the budget. As I have asked in the past, I ask everyone on Council and the public that has interest in looking at the budget to turn in questions/comments as you go through. These will be passed on to the department heads who can then provide the information so that when we have the Finance Committee meetings, this information will be available and it won't delay response and review. I will open this up for any comments or questions by Council.

ORDINANCE 2026-002 - FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF MICHAEL A. KENNY, JR., AS DIRECTOR OF LAW, THOMAS G. LOBE, AS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LAW, AND MICHAEL C. LUCAS, AS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LAW, FOR THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS, AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION THEREFORE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Have we always carried three law directors?
- **Council President Kline:** Actually, we have carried more.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Are they all on retainer?
- **Council President Kline:** We had three in 2020. When some of us came into office, there were three. Prior to that, no, but within recent years, yes.
- **Councilwoman Belich:** Can you elaborate and why we would have two assistant law directors in here? Would this be through the entire budget year? Would we maintain two?
- **Mayor Hallum:** Yes, this would be through the entire budgetary period. My understanding on how this would work is that both our law director, if he is confirmed, and our assistant law director Thomas Lobe would receive retainers whereas Mr. Lucas would be hourly only as needed.
- **Councilwoman Belich:** Can we talk about the reasoning for an additional individual needed hourly when we've got the two already?
- **Mayor Hallum:** There is some continuity there with Michael Lucas being our Law Director for the past five years. Plus, Mr. Lobe is not always in town so he is not always here to be able to back up when there is additional work to get done. We need someone who is experienced to be able to take on some of those tasks that are advantageous to the City.
- **Councilwoman Belich:** Thank you.
- **Council President Kline:** Also, Mr. Mayor, correct me if I am wrong but aren't there some legal matters that Mr. Lucas was working on which have not concluded at this point?
- **Mayor Hallum:** That is also true, yes.

ORDINANCE 2026-003 – AMENDED - FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS, OHIO AND RICHARD L. BOWEN + ASSOCIATES, INC. TO ACCEPT THE ARCHITECTURAL FEES PROPOSAL FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT RENOVATION AND EXPANSION PROJECT AND THE SERVICE GARAGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** The fees listed in here seem kind of high. I understand there are architectural fees. We are not obligated to pay anything unless we decide to go forward with the project, correct?
- **Mayor Hallum:** The fees in here are for the design phase. As they go through the design phase of this project, these fees are due.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** So, we would be paying almost \$2,000,000.00 to have it drawn and we may not have it?
- **Mayor Hallum:** It's not just drawn. There is much more to it than that.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** I am just trying to understand. We haven't really discussed whether we are doing this or not, how we can do it, how big of a scope we are going to do, or how much money is involved in it.
- **Mayor Hallum:** We have had several discussions about this project.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Right, it was around \$60,000,000.00 the one time.
- **Mayor Hallum:** I think it was \$30,000,000.00.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** The first one was really up there when they first came.
- **Mayor Hallum:** Perhaps. I recall \$30,000,000.00. In any case, the next phase is the design phase. Not only is this where we do the final designs but also where we decide what we may want to cut out of this to make it a little less costly for the build phase. A lot goes on in this phase. It will probably take the entire year to get through. Everything has to be ready and in place before we decide to build.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** But the full fee wouldn't be paid until we go ahead with the project?
- **Mayor Hallum:** It is paid in phases, until we decide what we are doing, not all up front. We don't pay until the work and phases are completed.
- **Council President Kline:** I have one question on this. We are moving forward with the project and the planning design phase. Are we also working on the financing aspect of this at the same time?

- **Mayor Hallum:** That is part of this. This is where we are going to be deciding how big this project is going to be and whether or not we are going to do all of this or some of it. We may cut back on some things to ultimately come up with what we are going to do, what it is going to cost, and how we are going to finance that cost. My belief is that we should be able to fund a large portion of this, and maybe half of it will be through bond if we decide to do everything as is.
- **Council President Kline:** With where we are at now, is this feasible?
- **Mayor Hallum:** I will let the Finance Director answer, but I believe so.
- **Finance Director Scott:** Based on current revenues and various streams that we have identified, yes.
- **Council President Kline:** What is the timing of the passage the administration desires and the actual work itself getting started?
- **Mayor Hallum:** Ideally, the earlier we get moving on this the cheaper it is. The longer we take on this, the more expensive it becomes because prices are still fluctuating weekly, if not, daily. It is ultimately up to you all. The sooner the better would be my opinion.

ORDINANCE 2026-004 - FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS AND THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY, AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES LOCAL 3058-2 AND OHIO COUNCIL 8, AFL-CIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Were all of the contracts negotiated now?
- **Mayor Hallum:** No, only three of the six are in front of you tonight.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Those are the only three that are settled?
- **Mayor Hallum:** Correct.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Are there any clauses on here that says if there is an additional amount to another unit, they get more?
- **Mayor Hallum:** There is no “Me Too” clause.
- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** Was there an analysis done based on similar cities of our size and population to determine if this is where most cities are?
- **Finance Director Scott:** For all of the agreements, I looked up as many of the collective bargaining agreements that I could find through State resources. At one point I had over twenty-two collective bargaining agreements that I was comparing to. AFSCME is a little bit harder to compare because the positions don’t lineup as well as police patrolmen or firefighters, but we feel that our rates are fair with this size of our city. The comparables that the union representative typically try to go with are some of our neighbors in Cuyahoga County which historically pay significantly more than we do for the same positions. That is why I built out as

many different comparables as I could find – to show that we were offering something that is not only fair but also something that the City could afford.

ORDINANCE 2026-005 - FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS AND THE TEAMSTERS LOCAL 436, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** I know on the Police and Fire Department there are still negotiations. Were there negotiations with these or just an offer? Did they actually meet individually or did they meet as a group?

- **Mayor Hallum:** AFSCME is on their own and we did meet with them and negotiate with them. The service also is on their own and we did meet with them and negotiate with them over several weeks to reach this agreement. Finally, the police started off together but the sergeants decided they wanted to wait and the patrolmen are also on a holding pattern. But the clerk's union has one person. She was in agreement with what we were offering. There was a fairly minor thing that we changed. We negotiated with all three. We started off with the same process for all of them. The bigger ones can take longer because you have to get more people to agree.

ORDINANCE 2026-006 - FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS AND THE OHIO PATROLMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION-DISPATCHERS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- No discussion.

Discussion of ordinance determining sanctioning hours.

- **Council President Kline:** We have been provided some information on this. We have a listing of organizations that have used the city facilities in 2025. We also have been provided with some information put together that show what groups have used city facilities at least once a month. With that information, I will open our discussion on sanctioning hours we want to put into place.

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** The whole questioning about sanctioning hours stems from the City allowing the usage of Community Center rooms for rental to Civil groups in our City. In exchange we ask for some volunteer hours for help to run some of our programs. I don't think it is outrageous. We have been doing this for years. We just want to put something in place because it has never really been defined how many hours someone would volunteer with some of our events such as the pancake breakfast, breakfast with Santa, etc. These hours would help us fill in positions for people to actually come and enjoy the event but also help out a little bit and give back in exchange for the City letting them use the rooms in the Community Center. We haven't really decided if we should have a set number of hours based on the number of people in the group, how many times they use the room, or whether we should just require them to volunteer at one event per year at least. That was the start of the discussion, but nobody had an idea of what exactly we wanted to do, which is what we are trying to do now. We will

then evaluate this after a year and see how it works out. We do not want to make this unfair for smaller or older groups. Some younger groups are already involved a lot with different things we do. But we are asking for some type of help for City events from people who are utilizing our rooms.

- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** Would you say it's fair to say that they are using the lighting in the room? We also have to pay a monitor to be there on the premises. It's not just the room; it is several other associated expenses that happen. I don't think it is unfair either to ask to give back and help with City events when volunteering is not as popular as it used to be. I think it is only fair, so I agree with you.
- **Council President Kline:** I think there is a consensus on that, but the question is what kind of hours should we put in place on the groups?
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** We thought we should start with four hours for the year just to start out and see how it works. We have sign-up sheets that are tracked by the sign-up genius to track hours. That is not an outrageous number. I still think this is not enough hours, but it is enough to get something in place and show people are willing to work with us.
- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** The biggest event we do is Music Fest. Could we say that volunteers have to be at Music Fest plus the four additional volunteer hours? That is our biggest event and it is all day whereas some of the other events we have are two-three hours. I think it is the hardest to get someone there all day. Could we say that they have to commit to giving a few hours at Music Fest at least plus one of the other events depending on how often they use the rooms at the Community Center?
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** We were proposing a list of events coming up for people to suggest which ones they would and wouldn't be available for. I would hate to focus on one day and say you have to be there at that specific event. What if they can't make it that week or nobody in their group could be there? Having the option to give them ten different events to choose from gives them more flexibility over the year on where they can spend their four hours. It could be two people spending two hours or four people spending an hour a piece. All we are looking for is four hours a group.
- **Mayor Hallum:** I do like the idea of giving a list to the groups of what we need volunteers for. I am wondering if maybe we can identify how many volunteer slots we have. Once they are filled, they have whatever is left available to choose from.
- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** So, you mean for all of the events?
- **Mayor Hallum:** Correct, so we would have X amount of slots for this event and Y amount for another event. That way, we don't end up with ten volunteers at an event where we only need three. I am throwing this out there as a way to make sure that we don't just have people volunteering and not getting any advantage out of it because perhaps we didn't need any more volunteers.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Right, because we might have too many volunteers.
- **Mayor Hallum:** Yes, that happens sometimes. It sometimes happens at the pancake breakfast.

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** I think Celia was looking into tracking who was signing up for which events. I think that is a way of presenting people a list ahead of times when they apply for sanctioning. That way, Celia could say whether there are openings for certain events people are looking to volunteer at.
- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** When would that have to be? What if it gets to the end of the year and there is nothing left to sign up for? Do you have to sign up when you turn your application in?
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** They have to volunteer when they turn the sanctioning in but we held this off a month to try to put this in place first. On February 1st, we are going to start taking the applications for sanctioning in. The events don't start until March.
- **Mayor Hallum:** Some places ask for a first, second, and third choice to volunteer. If they are all filled up, we can go back to them and ask which of the remaining events are available to help out with.
- **Councilwoman Belich:** What happens if any particular group does not meet the four hours?
- **Mayor Hallum:** The thought was they would not receive sanctioning for the following year.
- **Councilwoman Belich:** So, they won't have to go back and pay for it, rather, the following year, they will not be invited to receive it?
- **Mayor Hallum:** Correct. This is a privilege, not a right.
- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** So, if I am understanding correctly, with the application, the group president or leader has to sign up for at least one event?
- **Mayor Hallum:** That is what you all are deciding. If you decide that it is ten hours, then they can sign up and have five people there doing two hours each. We should set this up as a "minimum of."
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** That is why we were thinking a minimum of four hours. Some smaller groups meet there once a year and they may not even use the room.
- **Mayor Hallum:** What if we asked them how many times a month they use a room and then tie that to four hours? So, let's say the Lions group meet every month. When they get the room, there is value to that and a cost to us. What if we say for each time they use the room, we require four hours of volunteer time, or whatever you guys decide.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Some of the senior groups we wouldn't expect to put as many hours in. If we made it four hours a month, that would be 48 hours a year they would have to come up with. Over the period of a year, if they could do four hours and get to one event, that would be great. We would have to fine tune it over the next year and figure out how we want to do it but we just want to get it started and going. We want to put something in place. You can volunteer as much as you want, but we would like a minimum of four hours at one of our events as a result of using the Community Center for sanctioning events.

- **Council President Kline:** In 2025, there were fourteen organizations that used the facilities in the Community Center. If you are saying four hours on each group, than that is just under sixty hours to spread around. There have also been six groups that met monthly, so if you are charging by the meeting, that becomes a lot of hours that will never be utilized. Considering this is the first year, we could come back at this time next year and say that four hours just wasn't enough.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** We wanted to do this to see how it worked this year. There are a lot of groups that come and put more hours than the minimum of four. Boy Scouts come to both the pancake breakfast and there are probably ten people from each group at each event. They spend a lot of hours at the pancake breakfasts. Some of the older groups, such as the quilting and knitting groups, if they can come and work at the front desk for an hour or two, that would be great. We do not expect heavy labor. We just need people to man the door, count people coming in, hand out tickets and brochures, raffle ticket sales, etc.. There are a lot of little things we try to do that takes people to do it. We are going to keep track of who comes and when they come. Before it was a signup sheet but there is also a SignUpGenius and a book by the office you are supposed to sign too. We are going to try that for a year and see how that works.
- **Council President Kline:** We do have a draft ordinance on this, so we want to get into agreement on how many hours we want to have for the initial year so we can plug that in. This can be presented and discussed here at our next meeting.
- **Mayor Hallum:** Joe, is there some kind of timeframe that you need to know this information?
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** The sanctioning letters have not gone out yet to send the applications in. They wanted to send this out as soon as possible. We prefer to have something done as soon as possible or at least send the letters out now with the understanding that we are going to put something in there that requires four hours. That way, we can get the applications in and discuss it more when they start coming in in February.
- **Mayor Hallum:** I believe newly sanctioned groups have to come in before the body. Anybody that is renewing would just have to fill out a renewal form and we would need a letter to respond back to them letting them know about the change.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** I did mention something about having them all come in and explain this to them.
- **Mayor Hallum:** That is up to you, but that is the way we have done this in the past. If you guys are doing something different it's up to you.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** If we are establishing something like four volunteer hours, he would like to have them there to hear it and understand it.
- **Mayor Hallum:** I suggest at the very least, if you are going to fill out a confirmation renewal, that you have a form that they have to return initially where they understand that there will be four hours of volunteer time that they are responsible for with the City. However you decide to do it is fine, but I still think you should get them to initial this as part of sanctioning so that they

understand they must volunteer at City events in order to qualify for sanctioning for the next year. They must complete this number of hours at City events.

- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** I am looking at the application here, and there is no mention of the number of members you have. Is that unreasonable to ask them for that information? Let's say a group has twenty-five people and another group has ten. Of course, it is highly unreasonable to ask a group of ten people to work a years' worth of events, but if you have twenty people, you can divide those events up amongst the twenty people. This doesn't include that. Is that unfair or unreasonable? Maybe you really couldn't track that because members come and go. What are your thoughts on that?
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Say you have fifty people and they meet once a year, or, perhaps, a group has five people and they meet twelve times a year. It is hard to say - we are looking at the cost of the room, which is a hundred dollars and four hours of volunteer time would be more than enough to help substantiate it (the monitor, building, room, etc.) It also gives back to us by helping us in recreation.
- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** I don't anticipate this ordinance being perfect, I think once we have more information we can work through this and amend it. We can get an idea if this is working or not working. It doesn't have to be perfect right now.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** That is why we wanted to start with four hours a year and track it for a year to see how it works. If the sanctioning groups have questions, comments, or complaints, or if they just don't do it, then we will be able to look over the year and evaluate how it worked. We can see if it worked, if it was too much, not enough, fair, unfair, etc. from the feedback from the sanctioning groups.
- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** Okay.
- **Council President Kline:** Four hours has been thrown out. Is that the hour requirement Council wants to use?
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** I would say minimum four hours.
- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** Per year?
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Per year, correct.
- **Council President Kline:** If there is no more discussion, then we will go into the ordinance that we will have for the next meeting.

Discussion of motion to accept a \$10,000 donation from an anonymous doner to be used by the Police Department for the support of the K-9 program.

- **Council President Kline:** This is not the motion we had last month. This is a second anonymous \$10,000.00 donation for the K-9 program. This is an expensive program, and a second party has come forward to make a donation.

Discussion of motion authorizing the Clerk of Council to confirm with the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Liquor Control, that no objection and need for hearing is requested by the City regarding the Liquor Agency license transfer from Mannat Inc. 2865 Bishop Road Willoughby Hills OH 44094 to 7-Eleven Store #36233J 2865 Bishop Road Willoughby Hills OH 44092 under transaction number OCT TRFO 08003607-26.

- **Council President Kline:** This is a transfer of a liquor permit involving the 7-Eleven store at 6 and Bishop.
- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** This is a new owner as I understand. A new owner has bought the 7-Eleven.

Discussion of motion authorizing the Clerk of Council to confirm with the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Liquor Control, that the City agrees & accepts the transfer of the liquor permit from Sheffield Road LLC 128 E Front ST STE B Perrysburg OH, 43551 to Fischer Family Markets LLC Willoughby Hills Grocery Outlet 28241 Chardon Road Willoughby Hills, OH 44094 under the permit number OCT TFOL 10011041-1 as an economic development project; and the application is hereby approved in accordance with factors outlined in ORC 4303.29(B)(2)(b).

- **Council President Kline:** This is also a liquor permit. This one involves one of the new businesses coming in the Shoppes of Willoughby Hills called "Grocery Outlet." This is coming in slightly differently because this is coming in under an economic development project. However, this is still pertaining to a liquor license.
- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** How is that different? How does this matter that this is coming in as an economic development project?
- **Council President Kline:** Per talking with Assistant Law Director Lobe, because it's under an economic development project, the working has to be handled differently. Do you have any comments on this, Pete?
- **City Engineer DiFranco:** Each City has a quota. Willoughby Hills has met its quota for liquor licenses. This would be adding a liquor license to the City's quota. Economic development is one of the reasons and justifications to add to your quota. So, the applicant, Grocery Outlet, has applied to the State for the license. Before it can proceed, the City has to support their applications. This is just the first step. This does not mean they will be granted a license. The State will still then review the application and decide yes or no. The City will still have another chance to object or request a hearing after this.
- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** Thank you.

Discussion of motion to formally designate the Council Clerk as the City Council's official representative and custodian of records for the purpose of administering all requests made under the Ohio Public Records Act and ensuring compliance with all applicable Sunshine Laws.

- **Council President Kline:** Since we have a new Council that started this month, last year, our Council Clerk was appointed as the representative and City Council's official representative and

custodian of records for the purpose of administering all requests made under the Ohio Public Records Act. Since this is a new session of Council, we are going to ask for another motion to put this in place again to make certain that this is correct.

PUBLIC PORTION: (Audio 40:45)

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

Public Portion opened at 6:41 p.m.

- **Jenna Bing 36951 Beech Hills Drive:** I am a proud member of the Willoughby Hills Lion's Club. I came because I definitely wanted to hear about the sanctioning. I volunteered twice. Once at a craft fair and once helping out at the pancake breakfast. There are two things. I know there is a SignUpGenius but, the SignUpGenius doesn't show up until pretty close to the event. It is very hard for me to ask my fellow lions to volunteer on a specific day because every single one of them asks "why" and "what are we going to be doing?" "What kinds of things are we going to be doing if I volunteer that day?" I am usually not sure.
- I understand the volunteering at the craft show because I have done that. We tried to volunteer at Music Fest and I could literally not get an answer from anyone on if somebody were to volunteer that day, what would they be doing? It's not realistic and not very nice to ask an organization to volunteer at Music Fest if they don't know what they are going to be doing. That is really critical, so I am glad you are starting low on that. I will also say because our Lion's Club used to be very involved in having a pancake breakfast a long time ago, a lot of our current members are willing to help. We were flat-out told we could not think of coming the day of. There were slots open and they told us that Council did the cooking and there were no openings the day of. I offered to come and help set up, but I didn't know what that meant because I do not attend the pancake breakfast. It was hard to get the people there to instruct us on what to do next. They are not really set up for volunteers and they need to be if you are going to be asking people to do this. There needs to be a volunteer coordinator instructing volunteers on what they are going to be doing or else it is going to be hard to fulfill the volunteer requirements. That is all I am putting forward.
- We are more than willing to volunteer. If anyone wants to help, we are also collecting plastic, films, bubble wraps – those kinds of recyclables – for credit with the ultimate goal of making a bench. That bench we were thinking would come here. Where would this show up in there?

Public Portion closed at 6:45 p.m.

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** I know your concerns are on disorganization. We have gone through several recreation coordinators. We have a really good recreation coordinator now. She is very organized and thorough with her work. We are going to try to put together a list of the events, functions, and duties ahead of time so people can see where there is a need for volunteering. Sometimes, it can be a problem if we get too many people at an event. My idea would be to get this out ahead of the beginning of the year and have people pick what they want to be involved with. Then, we fill in the rest after with the SignUpGenius. The SignUpGenius actually breaks down the event, hours, and details. I am not sure if she can do that ahead of time so that we can know how many volunteers we are going to have for those events. These are all things we are trying to work on. Like I said, we are starting slowly and trying to work our way up.
- Over this year, we are going to evaluate what works, what doesn't work, and what we need to change. Until now, it has been hit or miss. The SignUpGenius is just thrown out there before the event. Sometimes twenty to fifty people show up and sometimes ten volunteers show up. We are hoping to try and spread it out a little bit more over the year and get all the events covered. I appreciate all the groups that have come to the events and put the time in. The pancake breakfast seems to be a big draw

for a lot of people. We need a lot of help setting up and tearing down. Over this year, we will try to get this straightened out and make this a much smoother process.

LEGISLATION: (Audio 46:55)

- No comments were made.

Motion made by **Council Vice President Taylor Draper**, seconded by **Councilwoman Belich** to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the appointment of a public official and inviting all of Council, the Mayor, the Finance Director and Michael A. Kenny Jr.

Roll Call: **AYES:** Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich
 NAYS: None
 Vote: 6/0

- The aforementioned motion has passed.

Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the appointment of a public official and inviting all of Council, the Mayor, the Finance Director, and Michael A. Kenny Jr. was entered at 6:49 p.m.

Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the appointment of a public official and inviting all of Council, the Mayor, the Finance Director, and Michael A. Kenny Jr. has ended and the meeting was reconvened at 7:16 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: (Audio#2 0:15)

- **Motion** made by **Councilman Knecht**, seconded by **Council Jarmuszkiewicz** to adjourn the January 22, 2026 Working Committee of Council and Rules & Legislation.

Roll Call: **AYES:** Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich
 NAYS: None
 Vote: 6/0

The meeting was adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

APPROVED: FEB 12, 2026
Date



Michael Kline
President of Council

ATTEST: Nick Aiello
Nicholas Aiello
Clerk of Council